

**APPROVED
MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**May 13, 2008 – 4:00 P.M.
Dutch Inn Restaurant – Collinsville, VA**

ATTENDING: Aleen Wilson, Jerri Crews, Jerry Womack, and Sharon Shepherd

OTHERS ATTENDING: Henry Ayers (PARC), Lynda Edgehill (Goodwill), Donna Hodges (EHS), Carla Hodges (EHS), Jeannie Odachowski (Family Preservation Services), Joseph Mayo, Jr. (Mayo Residential), Angie Furrow (Didlake, Inc.), Will Childers and Jenny Mays (Hope Tree Family Services), Sara Ingram (Creative Family Solutions), Sherry Miles (Regional Advocate), and Jim Rountree and Becky Lovell (Piedmont Community Services).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rob Hiatt, Jim Potter and Nancy Davis

Chairman Aleen Wilson brought the meeting to order.

I. Approval of Committee Minutes – Aleen Wilson

After reviewing the minutes for the February 12, 2008 meeting, a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve them as presented.

II. CBS Activities – Jim Rountree

- a. Jim reported that the opening of the new PCS office in Franklin County is on schedule. The Court Street, Maple Avenue and Church Street offices will be combined at the new 30 Technology Drive location. A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for June 9, 10 am. – 12 Noon.
- b. Six residents moved into the new Wanda Jones Place group home in March.
- c. PCS will soon be breaking ground on a new office building in Patrick County. Clark Construction will be the contractor on the new office that will be located in Patrick Springs. The property purchased by PCS contains approximately 20 acres. A group home may later be constructed on the property also.
- d. Greg Preston has been promoted to Director of the Community Support Division at PCS. He was previously the area coordinator for Martinsville, Henry County and Patrick County. Sonny Moore, who previously held the position, recently retired from PCS.
- e. Most everyone has moved back into the Church Street Square Apartments since the January fire. Anyone that has not already moved back in will do so by June 19.
- f. Jim reported that he is investigating one complaint and it appears to be unfounded at this time.

III. Regional Advocate's Report – Sherry Miles

- a. Sherry reported that the deadline to register for the self-paced online training is May 15. The Department of Mental Health is not sponsoring this training. Sherry also advised everyone that they must have a person on site trained to do investigations.
- b. Group home affiliates were reminded to check the temperature settings on their hot water heaters. They should be set no higher than 120 degrees. She suggested that they check this immediately to make sure no one is burned.
- c. Sherry reminded everyone that they must report peer-to-peer incidents. "If one of the people involved says "ouch", then the incident should be reported."
- d. There are five LHRC members with terms that expire June 30. Four of these are eligible to serve an additional term. Sherry will take these requests to the next meeting of the State Human Rights Committee (SHRC) for approval. Rob Hiatt's position is not eligible for reappointment. Sherry reported that she has received a referral of an interested person to fill this position, and she plans to proceed in getting this person interviewed and approved for membership.
- e. Committee members and affiliates were provided with updated "Blue Books". Additional copies can be obtained by contacting Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director for the Office of Human Rights.

IV. Service Updates

- a. Lynda Edgehill, Goodwill of the Valley, reported that they are now offering two new programs: (1) Adult Development Learning Services and (2) Specialized Day Services. These services are \already covered under their license.
- b. Jim Rountree reported that PCS is offering two new services: (1) Therapeutic Day Treatment for Children and Adolescents and (2) Ambulatory Crisis Stabilization for an on-going problem, not just an emergency. This program is aimed at keeping people out of the hospital.

VI. Other:

- a. Aleen suggested that the LHRC consider changing the bylaws to allow for seven members instead of nine. She cited the difficulty of finding qualified members and the committee can operate effectively with fewer members as it did in the past. This will be discussed further at the August meeting.
- b. Aleen led a discussion regarding the annual assessment of \$125 for affiliates. After discussing the matter, Becky was asked to send statements out in June.
- c. Affiliate Reports:
Lynda Edgehill reported that Goodwill plans to restructure their entire agency. She also reported that she will attend all district LHRC meetings effective July 1 for Goodwill.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, August 12, 2008, 4:00 p.m. – 24 Clay Street – 1st Floor Training Room

Tuesday, November 4, 2008, 4:00 p.m. – 24 Clay Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. James E. Rountree, Sr.