

**Piedmont Geriatric Hospital**  
A LEADER IN GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY

**LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE:** 09/16/09

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** VCBR

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** J. Fyfe, Chair; Vice Chair, M. Nevins; J. Dyson; D. Patterson; E. Patterson; J. Garofalo

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** D. Nelms

**OTHERS PRESENT:** S. Herrick, PGH Director/VCBR Acting Director; J. Ayers, PGH Administrator/VCBR Acting Chief of Operations; W. Small, Advocate; C. Young; L. Coleman, Recorder

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/INFORMATION	ACTION/RESPONSIBILITY	DATE
<b>Approval of minutes</b>	J. Dyson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting, as written, seconded by D. Patterson and passed unanimously by the committee.	No further actions required.	
<b>PGH Facility Report</b>	<p>Dr. Herrick gave an update on the patient abuse allegation that was reported to the committee at the June 17, 2009 meeting. The case has gone to trial and the former employee was given a reduced sentence.</p> <p>Dr. Herrick announced that since the last meeting, PGH had a full Joint Commission Accreditation visit in which PGH did very well and is working on the plan of report back to Joint Commission on minor items they were cited on.</p> <p>There were questions, from the committee, regarding moving patients from Eastern State Hospital to PGH. Eastern State had to reduce their census since the construction of their new building and they also had a waiting list. PGH receives patients from the Northern Virginia Region which were going to Eastern State. Bids have been received for a new building at PGH for 150 beds.</p> <p>There are plans to consolidate PGH and VCBR Human Resources and Financial Services in the near future.</p>	No further actions required.	
<b>Presentation</b>	M. Nevins was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her dedicated services to the LHRC. She has served over 20 years on the LHRC.	No further actions required.	
<b>VCBR Facility Report</b>	Dr. Herrick announced that two weeks ago he was approached by the Commissioner of Mental Health to serve as Acting Facility Director for VCBR due to Mr. Murphy's retirement. Dr. Herrick will serve as Director of both facilities until further notice. Mr. Murphy is currently on leave until his retirement date of October 1, 2009. Dr. Herrick has asked Mr. Ayers to serve as Chief of Operations at VCBR. The Facility Director's	No further actions required.	

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	<p>position at VCBR has been abolished for one year.</p> <p>Mr. Ayers briefed the committee on his duties at VCBR. He stated that the campus has been protected from the drastic budget cuts. VCBR had some role over monies that were saved from last year and PGHs general fund portion was pretty small, which helped to prevent layoffs. The population at VCBR is rapidly growing.</p> <p>Mr. Ayers commended Ms. Young for the great job she is doing at VCBR with Resident Complaints.</p> <p>VCBR has received two female residents. The SVP Program was not designed for females; it was essentially designed for mentally competent convicted felons to reach their mandatory parole dates. The mission of the facility is to provide treatment to the SVP and hope that one day they can be placed in the community safely. VCBR has had three residents conditionally released and three possible conditional releases.</p>		
<b>Executive Session – Interview candidates for committee vacancies</b>	<p>J. Dyson made a motion for the LHRC to go into closed Executive Session pursuant state code 2.2-3711A, paragraphs 4 &amp; 15 for the purpose of interviewing LHRC applicants, seconded by D. Patterson and passed unanimously by the committee. The committee interviewed the two LHRC applicants.</p> <p>The committee unanimously agreed to go back into regular session.</p>	No further actions required.	
<b>Other Business</b>	<p>Mr. Small explained to the committee the new Blue Book procedures. The Blue Book (VA Code 12 VAC 35-115) has the Rules and Regulations that the LHRC should only follow regarding residents.</p>	No further actions required.	
<b>Elections</b>	<p>J. Dyson nominated and motioned to vote J. Fyfe as Chair and D. Patterson as Vice-Chair, no other nominations were presented. The committee unanimously voted J. Fyfe as Chair and D. Patterson as Vice-Chair.</p>	No further actions required.	
<b>Advocate's Report</b>	<p>Mr. Small congratulated and welcomed the two newly elected members to the LHRC.</p> <p>Mr. Small reported that since the last LHRC meeting VCBR had 258 complaints from the residents; 99 of those 258 complaints were Human Rights Complaints and 16 of the 99 were founded. There were 159 non Human Rights Complaints.</p> <p>PGH had 3 Human Rights Complaints since the last LHRC meeting and they were unfounded.</p> <p>Mr. Small informed the committee of a letter received from Crossroads, to add two additional programs. They are having some day programs</p>	No further actions required.	

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	<p>with Buckingham School Systems. Currently the day treatment program is located at Buckingham Middle School and they want to expand to two other locations, which are already licensed. The policies and procedures are already in place. Since they are expanding they have to be affiliated with the LHRC. There were discussion and questions from the LHRC regarding the request. Mr. Small will draft a letter stating that Crossroads is affiliated with the LHRC and those two locations will be added to the affiliation.</p> <p>Mr. Small disseminated PGH forms to the committee for review and approval; the LHRC unanimously approved the PGH forms with revisions.</p>		
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.		

Respectfully Submitted:

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 L. Coleman, Recorder

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 J. Fyfe, Chair