

**Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee
Minutes
August 19, 2009
R&S Helping Hands, Coeburn VA
2:00-4:30 p.m.**

The Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at 2:03 p.m. at R&S Helping Hands Coeburn Virginia.

Committee Members Present: Elvera McLees,
Margaret Schenck
Tracy Mullins
Charles Stapleton

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Carlos Wade, R&S Helping Hands
Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services
Phyllis Boone, R&S Helping Hands
Thelma Bond, R&S Helping Hands
Deborah Jones, DBHDS Human Rights Advocate
Sid Rhoten, Mountain Connections Inc.
Sherry Dye, DePaul Community Resources
Sharon O'Keefe-Hicks, Creative Family Solutions
Rod McMurray, Family Preservation Services Inc.
Rebecca Scott, Dickenson County Behavioral Health
Glenda Pollard, VA Baptist Children's Home
Quentin Reed, Pressley Ridge
Diane Wilson, Holston Family Services
Janice Payne, Rachel's Haven
Kim Smith Rachel's Haven
Sharon Taylor, Frontier Health-PD1

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. McLees welcomed the Committee and Affiliates. Introductions were made to Deborah Jones, DBHDS Human Rights Advocate.

II. Call to Order

The Chair, Dr. McLees called the meeting to order.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of June 17, 2009 were approved as presented.

IV. Advocate's Report:

Ms. Jones introduced herself. Region appointments are still under discussion, but she is currently appointed to 24 private providers, 5 community service boards, Southwest

Virginia Mental Health Institute, Ridgeview, and Clearview. Site visits will be conducted in collaboration with the Office of Licensing.

V. **Receipt of Notice of New Locations or Services**

Lorie Horton, requested the Committee's approval to extend Highlands Community Service's affiliation to include Patrick Henry High School. Motion was made by Margaret Schenck and second by Tracy Mullins to extend the affiliation to include the above location. Motion carried.

VI. **Review of Program Rules**

Sharon Taylor distributed the revised House Rules for Polly Summit House and Pierce House. The revision prohibited the use of tobacco within the homes. The revision was presented to the residents for input. A summary of those meetings was also distributed to the Committee. Residents will be allowed to use tobacco on a covered deck outside the homes. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and Ms. Schenck to accept the revision presented as it applies to the program rules for Summit and Pierce House. Motion carried.

VII. **Other Business**

Committee Recruitment

Sharon Taylor, PD1-Frontier stated an application is being sent to the individual discussed at the previous meeting. Rod McMurray, Family Preservation Services indicated that his agency was continuing to look for a potential committee member.

The next meeting will be October 21, 2009 at Rachel's Haven, Pound VA.

VIII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. McLees adjourned the meeting at 2:28.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Horton,
Staff Liaison

Dr. Elvera McLees
Committee Chairperson