

ALEXANDRIA LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 19, 2008 meeting
Community Services Board Offices
Alexandria, Virginia

Committee Members Present: Gerylee Baron (Chair), Debbie Sikes, Molly O'Shea, G. Scott Singleton, Amrita Banerjee, Marisa Brown, Andrea Rakhmanov

Also present: Deb Lochart, Regional Advocate; Melissa Unruh, CSB liaison; Alima Palmer, Heritage Multicultural

Committee Members Not Present: Jim Ewalt (excused), Mary LoCicero (excused), Kelly Hauck, (excused).

Call to Order: A quorum was declared and the meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:15 PM.

Marisa moved to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Molly, and passed unanimously.

Welcome and Introductions:

Welcome to Deb Lochart, Regional Advocate, attending on behalf of Tim Simmons.

Deb Lochart explained that "House Rules" can be placed in effect without LHRC approval, it is up to the LHRC to request and review.

Melissa Unruh provided LHRC members with copies of the New Change Agent Bulletin & West End Times.

Executive session:

At 7:29 Molly moved and Marisa seconded that the committee go into executive session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711(A)4 for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely for the purpose of discussing a restrictive behavior plan pursuant to the regulations. The motion was adopted.

At 7:45 Andrea moved and Debbie seconded that the committee come out of executive session. The motion was adopted. Each member of the committee certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only private business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only private business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session were discussed in executive session.

Scott moved and Debbie seconded that the committee reviewed the restrictive behavior plans and makes no recommendations at this time having found no human rights violations; contingent upon the CSB sending the signature pages to the Chair prior to implementing the restrictive behavior plan.

Report from the CSB:

There were two investigations. The first was an issue of peer to peer violence and was handled in-house. No human rights violations were found. The second investigation involved a consumer reporting a rights violation which was determined to be unfounded.

Report from the Regional Human Rights Advocate:

Deb Lochart, the Regional Advocate, will clarify the exact regulations regarding the use of time-outs for minors.

There will be a training offered at NOVA training center on January 15 from 7-9 PM.

Due to State budget cuts, there will be a rezoning of Virginia from 6 regions to 5 regions.

Deb Lochart to provide the LHRC with a draft bylaws template.

Other Business: – *No formal action taken*

Alima Palmer from Heritage Multicultural presented an overview of their program, staff and training. Heritage is planning to attend training from Tree of Life Council. Heritage will use multi-language human rights disclosures. The Regional Advocate will clarify the exact regulations regarding the use of time-outs for minors.

The Committee has asked Heritage to report every 6 months on their behavior plans.

Molly moved and Debbie seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.