

Suffolk Regional
Local Human Rights Committee
Western Tidewater CSB – 7025 Harbour View Blvd., Suite 119
Suffolk, VA 23435
08/13/2019 at 9:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Georgiana Smith – Chairperson
Steven Alexander – Vice-Chair
Benicia Gill – Member
Dr. Natacha Dolson – Alternate Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sebrina Edwards – Member
Odulia Brown – Alternate Member

OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Carlton J. Henderson – Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS
Reginald Daye – Regional Advocate, DBHDS
Taneika Goldman – Deputy Director, DBHDS

OTHERS PRESENT

John Barrett – SHRC Chairperson
Carrie Yates – Louise Eggleston (provider)
Lana Anderson – Louise Eggleston (provider)
Darlene Rawls – Western Tidewater CSB
Theresa Murch – Western Tidewater CSB
Shenandoah Taylor – Western Tidewater CSB
B.A. – Next Friend designee
C.R. – Individual

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Smith, Chairperson, called meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Those in attendance made introductions to include their name and title.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The August 13, 2019 agenda was motioned to be accepted by Dr. Dolson, seconded by Mr. Alexander, and unanimously approved by the committee members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the May 14, 2019 minutes were motioned to be accepted by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Dr. Dolson, and unanimously approved by the committee members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

REGIONAL ADVOCATE ANNOUNCEMENT/ ADVOCATE REPORT:

Mr. Daye made the announcements:

- Welcomed Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Goldman, and provided both an opportunity to address the committee
 - Mr. Barrett thanked the committee for their service and discussed the LHRC Tour, a process initiated by the SHRC to observe and support the LHRC's
 - Mrs. Goldman thanked the committee for their service and discussed her experience working with an LHRC prior to joining the Office of Human Rights in a professional capacity
- Discussed and reiterated the SHRC's re-alignment effort and their request to collapse two of Region 5's six (6) LHRCs.
 - The remaining Region 5 LHRC's will be Southeast Alliance, Williamsburg Regional, Southeastern Virginia Training Center and HPR 5.
 - Explained that Suffolk Regional is being proposed to collapse due to a lack of activity compared to the other LHRC's.
 - Interested members who are part of the collapsed LHRCs' (Suffolk Regional & Virginia Beach Area) may fill vacancies on the remaining committees, or serve as alternates, per the approval of the SHRC.
- Bernadette Lege joined the Office of Licensing. Her last day with the Office of Human Rights (OHR) was Friday, August 9, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Yates discussed Eggleston's current policy on surveillance and introduced a proposed addendum.

- The addendum would allow for camera's to be added to the agency's fleet of vehicles to allow for monitoring of Individuals to ensure safety.
- A motion to approve the addendum was made by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Dr. Dolson and unanimously approved by the committee members.

OLD BUSINESS

None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Dr. Dolson, seconded by Mr. Alexander, and unanimously approved by the committee members that the Suffolk Regional LHRC go into closed session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711(A), for the purposes of protecting the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely for the purpose of reviewing a next friend designation for an individual receiving services through Western Tidewater CSB.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The committee reconvened in open session by unanimous vote on a motion by Dr. Dolson and seconded by Mr. Alexander. Each member certified that to the best of each member's knowledge, only private business matters, lawfully exempted from statutory open session requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened, were considered in the closed session, namely to review the next friend designation for an Individual receiving services through Western Tidewater CSB.

- Recommendation: Motion made by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Dr. Dolson, and unanimously approved by the committee members as follows:
 - Approve the next friend designation.
 - Western Tidewater CSB will present an update at the end of the first 90 days to discuss the status of the designation, and progress or lack thereof.
 - The CSB will be advised of their options for attendance at a LHRC meeting should the SHRC vote to collapse the Suffolk Regional LHRC.

NEXT MEETING

No meeting is scheduled as it is proposed that this LHRC be collapsed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion made to ADJOURN the meeting by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Dr. Dolson at 10:30 a.m. with the unanimous approval of the committee members.