

**SOUTHEAST ALLIANCE**  
**LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**5:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 12, 2006**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room, CSB Central**

Members Present: Martha Tennille – Presiding  
Nathaniel Parker  
Timothy Dorsey  
Shirley Atkins

Members Absent: Maude Robinson  
Richard Flournoy

Affiliates Present: Linda Major  
Fred Mitchell  
Stephanie Selmer  
Willie Barnes – Advocate  
Gianna Mitchell – Advocate  
Michael Fragala  
Julie Palmer  
Eloise Eppes-Foster  
Rachel Gholston  
Chuck Hall

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Tennille called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Brief introduction were made. A holiday dinner was provided by the affiliates for all present.

Timothy Dorsey and Linda Major noted that corrections on the November 16<sup>th</sup> minutes needed to say Linda Major instead of Linda Williams. Timothy Dorsey stated that he would post the change on LHRC website.

**ACTION:**

A motion was made as follows: “Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on September 12, 2006, October 3, 2006, and November 16, as circulated.” The motion was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dr. Tennille announced to the committee members that she will be rotating off in June as the chair and nominations are now opened for the Office of Chair.

Timothy Dorsey nominates Nathaniel Parker for the position of Chair.

Dr. Tennille states that Maude Robinson is absent today but Joshua Cartwright will be coming on in January as a new member.

A motion was made and duly seconded as follows: "Motion that Nathaniel Parker be elected as Chair of the Southeast Alliance LHRC." Without further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Tennille states that the Office of Vice-Chair is open for nomination. The current Vice-Chair, Sandra Malloy, has resigned due to her moving next month.

Dr. Tennille opens the discussion for the nomination of Vice-Chair.

Shirley Atkins nominates Timothy Dorsey as Vice-Chair.

Motion was made and duly seconded as follows: "Motion that the LHRC elect Timothy W. Dorsey as Vice-Chair of the Southeast Alliance LHRC." The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Tennille nominates Shirley Atkins as secretary for the LHRC. Shirley Atkins is a new member to the committee.

Motion was made and duly seconded as follows: "Motion that the LHRC elect Shirley Atkins as Secretary of the Southeast Alliance LHRC." The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Tennille announces that Fredrena Blow is the new secretary for Linda Major; she will be taking minutes and providing support to the LHRC as well.

Dr. Tennille states that the LHRC secretary takes the minutes when there are closed sessions.

Willie Barnes asks if the elections are going to continue to be off schedule. She states that the elections are supposed to take place so the new officers rotate in at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Mr. Timothy Dorsey quotes the bylaws and states that LHRC does not have an established fiscal year. Dr. Tennille states that discussion on the election of officers will be discussed at the March meeting.

### **AGENCY REPORTS:**

ARC-Julie Palmer states that ARC had 11 reportable incidents (4- medication errors, 2- allegations of neglect, 3- restraints for safety reasons, and 2- medical injuries

Dr. Tennille states that as she scans through the report for ARC, she notices that there are a lot of staff reprimands/ quite a lot. She asks Julie Palmer if they have regular training sessions for the staff. Julie states that they have regular training in addition to medication training and that a

couple of the medication errors were unusual situations. She also states that they have suspended a couple of the staff relating to one of the incident and terminated the other employee. The ARC reported that Hollywood House has been certified as an ICF-MR and that another house review resulted in no deficiencies and they are awaiting notice of certification.

Serenity House- Stephanie Selmer reports one formal complaint due to client not receiving medication and one complaint.

Colonial Services Board- Fred Mitchell reported that there was one general complaint dealing with inappropriate discharge of client, one community complaint, and three deaths (one-at home-died from leukemia, one died in the community but no neglect was found on Colonial part) and two serious injuries.

H-NNCSB-Linda Major reported six formal complaints during the last quarter; two abuse complaints, two neglects, one treatment with dignity, and one failure to allow client to participate in decision making. Four of the cases were unfounded. One of the physical abuse complaints was founded; the employee resigned. The second physical abuse case was unable to be determined, staff was reassigned. There were seven deaths- all in the community-all adult case management clients. Two cause of death were unknown and the rest were determined to be of natural cause.

H-NNCSB is in the process of moving. Four out of six Campus buildings occupied at this point and probably in January, we will have our PACT program and HRC moved out to the campus. HRC is our outpatient SA practice minus Methadone, which is not moving to the campus. H-NN CSB does not anticipate that Admin will be moving before August or maybe in September, so we will be having other meetings in the board room, as far as we know.

Linda Major stated that she appreciated everyone coming out for the called meeting in November. It was a terrible rainy night. As a result, SEFP has begun to implement the Tobacco Free Program and that is going well. Dr. Tennille stated that the Tobacco Free Program was amazing and most interesting.

Lutheran Family Services had no reports of neglect or abuse to discuss at this meeting.

## **ADVOCATE REPORTS**

Willie Barnes introduces her new employee, Gianna Mitchell. She asked if the committee would consider requests from Mr. Daye's office for accepting additional affiliates. The providers would be in-home and outpatient programs.

Dr. Tennille suggested that the affiliates start their own LHRC. Ms. Barnes indicated that it is difficult to find committee members.

Mr. Dorsey asked how many providers for outpatient and in-home services could be anticipated? Ms. Barnes was unable to provide a number. She stated that this request was coming as a courtesy at this point but when the new regulations come out the LHRC may not be asked but required.

Mr. Dorsey asked for a poll of the affiliates, recognizing that the affiliates have no say in whether or not to admit other affiliates. Mr. Hall stated that he would be opposed to the addition of

affiliates due to the increased strain on committee members and affiliate staff. He stated that he would be willing to offer legal support to support his views.

Mr. Fragala echoed Mr. Hall's sentiments. Mr. Mitchell likewise echoed the opinion that the committee serves two large CSBs with numerous programs.

There was further discussion that the DMHMRSAS needs to take the lead regarding required resources for the assurance of the rights of persons served.

Mr. Dorsey asked if there is any motion on the floor to revisit previous decisions by the SEA LHRC to remain closed to other affiliates. None was voiced.

Dr. Tennille asked the committee if there is any other business.

Dr. Tennille moved to ratify the prior decision of recommending officers for next year for election. Tonight, Dr. Tennille resigns as Chair and Tim Dorsey resigns as Secretary.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30p.m.