

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
July 19, 2012

Chair Larry Phillips opened the July 19, 2012 meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 4:00 p.m. at the State Office Building, Main Conference Room, 2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Members Present: Chair Larry Phillips, Vice Chair Mary Auth, Annette Becherer, Janet Manning and George Roth

Members Absent: Babette Leek, Sandra Dixon, Sandra Kopels, and William McSurley

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf

Guests: None

Chair Larry Phillips stated that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings to protect the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Introductions were made.

MINUTES:

Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to approve the May 17, 2012 meeting minutes; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

The last three executive meeting minutes were reviewed. Since the HRA did not meet in closed session during those meetings, documentation of not meeting in closed session was voted to be approved to be made public.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications

None

New Complaints

12-060-9013 - Public Transit System - An advocacy newspaper documented that a public transit authority stamps "Disabled" across the bus passes used by people with disabilities. It is large enough that other patrons can read the "Disabled" on individual passes. The coordinator tried contacting the writer by email three times to ask how we could assist. There was a return email explaining that the writer had been busy and would get back to the coordinator. That did not happen. This complaint has been pending since January 2012. George Roth made a motion to not accept; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

12-060-9015 - CILA Home - The complaint alleges that an individual living in a CILA was hit by another consumer. This was not the first time he was hit by the same resident. Staff at the home have given the consumer medications that had been ordered to be discontinued by his physician. The complainant stated she has called OIG twice and has pending cases. The complainant is trying to assist individual in moving to a different home. A release has been received. OIG has given approval for the HRA to investigate rights issues on cases that may be open with OIG, but asked that we share the information that is gathered. It was decided to table to the next meeting because the individual was being moved.

12-060-9016 & 12-060-9017 - Both are intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled (ICFDD) owned by the same corporation - These complaints included 6 pages regarding both ICFDD's listing 15 main complaints for the HRA to consider for investigation. The complaints are from a former complainant who is in a judicial battle over retaining co-guardianship against the other co-guardian. The facilities are supporting the co-guardian who is not the complainant and appear to be retaliating against the complainant for making a HRA complaint. Both co-guardians have either had limited access or no contact orders from the individual who has lived in these facilities by the court. Both the Director and the Chairperson reviewed these complaints with the Coordinator and it was determined that there are only 3 potential complaints that could be investigated because the rest are tied to the court case regarding guardianship and/or would be out of the scope of what the HRA could investigate. The 3 possible complaints are inappropriate transfer, missing property and inadequate grievance process.

The Coordinator obtained a release to talk to Equip for Equality and has been in contact with an attorney from that agency. The attorney is considering providing representation for the individual in the guardianship case to protect his rights. It was decided by the HRA to table to the next meeting because of the court's involvement.

13-060-9001 - Hospital Psychiatric Unit - The complaint alleges that a 7 year-old child with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, who was experiencing active hallucinations and suicidal ideation, was discharged because the staff at the facility stated the program that they had available was not the most appropriate for the child at this time. The complainant agreed that was true, but returning to his home without structure, staff, therapy opportunities and a safe unit was even more inappropriate. The child was still discharged. The parent asked which would be more appropriate and was given no answer. The parent attempted to obtain records for the child and it was denied. She asked for a copy of the child's rights and it was denied. She wanted to present a statement of grievance and it was denied. George Roth made a motion to accept; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CASE PROGRESS REPORTS:

11-060-9009: Veteran's Administration - The report is in progress.

11-060-9012: The Pavilion - The report is in progress.

12-060-9005: Crosspoints - The report is in progress.

12-060-9006: Crosspoints - The report is in progress.

REPORT OF FINDINGS:

10-060-9004: Decatur Memorial Hospital - The report was discussed. Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to accept the report; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-060-9012: Champaign School District - The report was discussed. Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to accept the report; the motion was seconded and carried.

CASE CLOSURES:

10-060-9005: Decatur Manor Healthcare - Annette Becherer made a motion to close the case and make the report public; the motion was seconded and carried.

11-060-9011: St. Mary's Hospital - Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to close the case, to send a copy of the report to Illinois Department of Public Health and make the report public; the motion was seconded and carried.

OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

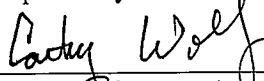
None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Larry Phillips made a motion to adjourn at 5:02 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted



Cathy Wolf, Recorder

**EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
EXECUTIVE MINUTES
July 19, 2012**

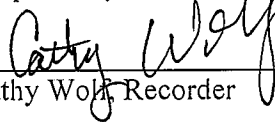
Pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act, and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority did *not* meet in closed session. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, Main Conference Room, 2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

Members Present: Chair Larry Phillips, Annette Becherer, Sandra Dixon, Sandra Kopels, William McSurley, and George Roth

Members Absent: Vice Chair Mary Auth, Babette Leek, and Janet Manning

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf

Respectfully Submitted



Cathy Wolf, Recorder