

# METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

February 7, 2013 MINUTES

The Chairperson, Thomas Cannady, called to order the February 7, 2013 meeting at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was held at Cannady and AuBuchon, Belleville.

## PRESENT

David Bollone, Member  
Thomas Cannady, Chairperson  
Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary  
Beverly Sweatman, Member

## STAFF PRESENT

## ABSENT

Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson  
Margaret Merrell, Member  
Emil Wilson, Member  
Carol Neudecker, Member  
Karen Kelly, Member

## GUESTS

Michael J. Pintar, Coordinator

## INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairperson recognized that a quorum was not present.

The Coordinator read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those disabled persons on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

The Chairperson asked for changes in the agenda there were no suggested changes

## MINUTES

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the December 13, 2012 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Members present agreed to approve the minutes with suggested corrections based on a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Marguerite Riley.

COMMUNICATIONS: Members discussed changing the regular meeting date from February 14<sup>th</sup>, which is Valentines Days to a week earlier, the 7<sup>th</sup>.

## NEW BUSINESS:

12-070-9037 - In February 2012, the media announced that Gov Quinn had decided to close a state operated facility to move residents into community group homes. This was a budget decision, not based on the needs of residents. A letter from the agency Director dated February 24, 2012 indicates that the family will be contacted by Department of Human Services and still the residents and/or families have not received additional correspondence. No one has followed through on this promise or provided additional information. The HRA had a discussion, trying to determine the best way to proceed. Tabled at the last meeting. Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Kingston Schmid, member voted to table case

opening

13-070-9007 - A young lady with mental illness lives at home and she has become dangerous. Regional agencies are not assisting the family for placement and instead point the finger at one another that the other should be handling placement. In the mean time, the daughter has threatened to harm herself and her father. She was taken to an area emergency room and after assessment they discharged her home, did not offer the family a petition for involuntary admission. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, members voted not to accept the complaint for investigation.

13-070-9019 - a consumer states that inaccurate information was written in his file by a staff person who does not work on his unit. The false statement states that the consumer intentionally antagonized a peer which was taken way out of context. The consumer stated that the staff does not like him and holds a personal grudge. Upon a motion by Dave Bollone seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, members voted not to investigate the allegations.

13-070-9020 - a resident states that the hospital will not allow her to have an electric razor without her doctor's approval through a treatment team meeting and that she is supposed to meet with her team once a week. The staff routinely cancels her meetings and thus she is denied razor and other privileges. The consumer's room is locked during the day while other patients are allowed to stay in their rooms during day programming. . Upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members voted to investigate the allegations

13-070-9021 - a nursing home has a private guardian who is unrelated. That guardian and nursing home only allow the husband to visit her one hour per week. Both the man and his wife want daily visits. . Upon a motion by Dave Bollone seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, members voted to investigate the allegations

13-070-9022 - staff requires a consumer who lives in a managed apartment to turn over her food stamps and will only allow her to spend them when they decide. . Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady seconded by Dave Bollone, members voted to investigate the allegations

13-070-9023 - a consumer who had earned weekend privileges and was preparing for discharge. While on leave from the facility the consumer was impregnated, not by another consumer or staff. When her pregnancy test came back positive, the facility removed her privileges which stalled her chance of discharge.

13-070-9024 - a consumer cannot understand why the posted rights says he can use his money as he pleases, however, the facility will not allow him to buy or sell anything amongst his co-habitats. . Upon a motion by Dave Bollone seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, members voted to table case opening.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 721 of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley, seconded by Thomas Cannady, the Authority went into closed session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

Case Progress Reports:

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Case progress reports

12-070-9016 - Madison County Housing - a consumer was evicted & return property

12-070-9034 - Alton Mental Health Center - continuing education/computers

13-070-9001 - Alton Mental Health Center - cancelled computer

13-070-9002 - Alton Mental Health Center - rights on the unit

13-070-9006 - Equip for Equality - guardians oppose interactions at WM Center

13-070-9008 - Community Link - discharge

13-070-9009 - Alton Mental Health Center - no discharge plan

13-070-9010 - Madison County Housing - eviction notice

13-070-9013 - Alton Mental Health Center - dentures

B. Reports of Findings:

12-070-9016 - Madison County Housing - evicted & refused to return property

13-070-9008 - Community Link - discharge & notify OIG of allegation of abuse

C. Case Closures:

13-070-9005 - Alton Mental Health Center - dental services

13-070-9012 - Alton Mental Health Center - blankets (personal property)

The HRA returned to open session at 7:51 p.m. upon a motion by Dave Bollone, seconded by Beverly Sweatman.

Upon returning to open session:

B. Reports of findings:

12-070-9016 - Madison County Housing - evicted & refused to return property. Upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley, seconded by Thomas Cannady, members voted to accept the report.

13-070-9008 - Community Link - discharge & notify OIG of allegation of abuse. Upon a motion by Beverly Sweatman, seconded by Dave Bollone, members voted to accept he reports as written.

C. Case Closures:

13-070-9005 - Alton Mental Health Center - dental services

13-070-9012 - Alton Mental Health Center - blankets (personal property)

Upon a motion by Beverly Sweatman, seconded by Dave Bollone, members voted table case closures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

The next meeting will be March 14, 2013 at Thomas Cannady's Law Office 1931 West Main Street, Belleville

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary