

**HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
NORTHWEST REGION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

**Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
4302 N. Main St., Conference Room
Rockford, IL 61103**

PRESENT: Sang Capone, Christine Dungey, Colleen Magee (**Co-Chair**), and Colleen Parks

ABSENT: Kacie Jensen (**Chair**) and Dr. Erin Wade

STAFF: Nicole S. Weathersby, DRM

GUESTS: N/A

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Northwest Region was called to order at 4:27pm by the Co-Chair – Colleen Magee. Introductions and greetings were completed. It was determined that a quorum was not present, but appropriate business could be conducted. Nicole S. Weathersby, the NW Disability Rights Manager, read the confidentiality statement. It was discussed and all parties were reminded that the proceedings are confidential. All motions were carried out by proxy vote via follow-up telephone calls to absent members (Kacie J and Dr. Wade) who provided the necessary numbers to suffice a majority of HRA members in agreement for the motions presented.

Minutes

Executive and regular meeting minutes from March 5, 2024 and April 30, 2024, were tabled due to not having a quorum. **The motion to table the above-mentioned minutes and approve at the next meeting with a quorum was entered by Colleen P, and seconded by Sang C. The motion was carried via a telephone proxy vote of excused members. The minutes will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications

Complaint Closures

- 1) #23-080-9010
- 2) #24-080-9010
- 3) #24-080-9015
- 4) #24-080-9024
- 5) #24-080-9025

Complaint Acceptance/Denial

- 1) #24-080-9019
- 2) #24-080-9020
- 3) #24-080-9021
- 4) #24-080-9022
- 5) #24-080-9023

Draft Report Acceptance

- 1) #24-080-9003
- 2) #24-080-9009

Report Response Acceptance

- 1) #23-080-9011

The motion was entered by Colleen P, and seconded by Sang C., to table all ratifications until the next meeting in the presence of a quorum, motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members.

Agenda Updates/Changes:

There were updates and changes for the agenda (outstanding case ratifications that need addressing)

New Complaint:

#24-080-9026 – According to the complainant, after receiving treatment on the medical unit, was transferred to the behavioral health unit (unnecessarily) and just want to be released. DRM spoke with complainant, no complaint at this time, but requested Legal Advocacy Services to assist in getting released. **Colleen P. moved to not accept and close complaint, due to not having enough information or evidence Sang seconded the motion. The motion of not opening and nonacceptance of complaint was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#24-080-9027 – According to the complainant, while on the behavioral health unit, received inadequate care ((not getting meds for 2 days and the unit having only 1 group in 3 days), and felt pressured by hospital staff into signing a voluntary after her initial court date. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to an appropriate voluntary admission was not completed nor offered. Right to an adequate and humane care in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual plan was denied. Sang moved to table the complaint, send a certified inquiry of interest letter to the complainant(3rd attempt) and Colleen P., seconded the motion, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.*

#24-080-9028 – According to the complainant, while on the behavioral health unit, “emergency restraints was used and was given shots of medication for no reason and was additionally put in a wheelchair and taken from his room for this purpose of receiving this dosage in the middle of the night. He said he was told he was “not in reality.” He did not know the medication he was administered but brought up to me that he is allergic to Haldol. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right not to be subjected to restraints was ignored and the right to refuse medication was ignored.* **Colleen P. moved to table the complaint, send a certified inquiry of interest letter to the complainant(3rd attempt) and Sang C., seconded the motion, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

Comments from the Public:

There were no guest present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Closed Session

No quorum was present to enter closed session pursuant to Section 120/2(a) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2). The meeting continued in open session, discussing draft reports, case progress, case closures and other matters while maintaining and protecting the confidentiality of recipients and complainants.

Case Progress

#24-080-9012 – HRA Member who attended site visit from May 15, 2024, shared their insight and voiced concerns on some policies and procedures of the hospital regarding mandating reporting and the pending request for service animals’ policy.

24-080-9022 = Colleen P. , moved to deny and not accept complaint, due to not having enough evidence or information at this time from the complainant and Sang C., seconded the motion. The denial motion of opening and nonacceptance of complaint was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

#24-080-9023= Colleen P. moved to deny and not accept complaint, due to not having enough evidence or information at this time from the complainant and Sang C., seconded the motion. The denial motion of opening and nonacceptance of complaint was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

Draft Reports for Acceptance:

#24-080-9002- HRA Committee voted to accept the draft report, pending the approval of by the Deputy Director and send to the facility for a response within 30 days of draft report receipt, moved by Colleen P, seconded by Sang and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The report approval will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

Closure/Accept Response/Make Available to the Public

There were no facility responses received by the start of the meeting.

Other Unfinished Business, Announcements and Comments

Discussed recruitment efforts and the need to engage and seek new members, so that a quorum will be present, due to losing committee members in the fall.

DRM reminded all committee members that all required training needs to be completed before October 31, 2024, and will follow-up to ensure all HRA members log-in credentials are reset.

Colleen M. will be on a short vacation in June but will be present at the July meeting. .

Sang will be on vacation from late June through early July.

Adjournment

Sang moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:52pm, seconded by Colleen P and motion carried via unanimous roll call of “ayes” by committee members present in the room, meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at the Office of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, 4302 N. Main St., Conference Room - Rockford, IL at 4:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole S. Weathersby

Nicole S. Weathersby
Disability Rights Manager