

PEORIA REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
March 20, 2024

The regular stated meeting of the Peoria Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 10:04 am Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the Macomb City Hall Community Room 232 Jackson Macomb, Il 61554.

ROLL CALL

Present: Meri Tucker, Jim Runyon, Shannon Dault, Sharon Tear, and Rod Joos

Absent: Tracy Wright, Heather Choi and Connie Hardy

Staff: Erin Nowlan

Guests: None

Rod Joos read the confidentiality statement: Illinois law protects the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the Human Rights Authority conducts investigations. The Authority welcomes concerned citizens wishing to present information. We remind all citizens and guests that public reference to any name, description, or other information, which would identify an eligible person or the family without consent, is strictly prohibited.

Introductions were made.

The motion was made by Meri Tucker to enter closed session at 10:10am am pursuant to Section 120/2 (c) (4) and (10) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 20), Section 3955/10 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955) and Section 110/5 of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (740 ILCS 110); the motion was seconded by Shannon Dault and carried. The purpose of the closed session was to discuss confidential aspects of cases with guests attending representing their agency. Board returned to Open Session at 11:20am.

MINUTES

Motion to approve January 17, 2024 Open Meeting Minutes made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Sharon Tear.

Ratifications:

None.

New Cases:

24-090-9007 – Behavioral Health Unit – Inadequate treatment planning, psychiatrist on the behavioral health unit refuses to coordinate with the patient's outpatient psychiatrist about psychotropic medications. Rights violation, a female patient was placed in seclusion without clothing and monitored by male staff, had their scrubs thrown at them and asked if they were going "to behave." Complaint also alleges that a patient was "beat in the stomach" by security during the elevator ride from the ED to the behavioral health unit. Motion to close case due to no release made by Sharon Tear. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Case closed.

24-090-9009 – Supported Living Arrangement – (1) Inadequate treatment and (2) Resident rights violation. The allegation states a facility used biased information from another tenant when contacting emergency behavioral health services which resulted in an involuntary admission for the service recipient to the hospital. The allegation further alleges that the facility is not giving a tenant their \$90 monthly allowance that they are entitled to per Social Security Administration regulations. Motion to open allegation #2 Residents rights violation made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Shannon Dault. Case open.

24-090-9010 – Public Transportation – Inadequate paratransit transportation services, including picking up passenger at incorrect, unscheduled times and failure to pick up passenger, The public transportation system is not picking up a passenger with a disability at the scheduled time. When efforts are made to discuss the issue the company indicates that they do not have adequate staffing to meet scheduling needs. A passenger in need of this transportation service is arriving late to work or not at all due to this scheduling issue. Motion to table case opening pending release made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Jim Runyon.

24-090-9011 - Behavioral Health Unit – Inadequate treatment planning, the complaint alleges that an individual was receiving court ordered medications during an inpatient hospitalization, but the treatment team did not discuss medication side effects or treatment plan goals. 2) Patient Rights Violation, the complaint alleges that an individual who involuntarily admitted for behavioral health care was in seclusion for 4-6 hours and did not receive a rights restriction form.

24-090-9012 – Skilled Care Facility – Resident rights violation, Resident rights were violated when the facility restricted a family visit and failing to get informed consent for physician ordered medications. The facility refused a visit outside of the facility, with family, saying the POA had restricted the visit, but the person the facility was communicating with was not the legal POA. The service recipient did eventually get to go on the visit after the police were called. The complaint further alleges a nursing home resident had orders for MiraLAX two times per day. They lost 30 lbs. since admission to the facility and had no control of their bowels resulting in watery diarrhea and soiling themselves regularly. The nursing home did not adjust the medication that was causing this. The facility did not get informed consent from the resident on the use of this medication (or others). Inadequate treatment planning, the facility admitted the service recipient from an area hospital based on information from a Power of Attorney (POA) that was not the legal decision-maker. The facility did not verify the POA paperwork. The resident did not feel comfortable communicating with staff at the facility when he was suffering from bowel issues from a medication. The service recipient lost weight and his dietary needs were not adequately assessed. Motion to open case made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Shannon Dault. Case open.

24-090-9013 - Behavioral Health Unit – Improper involuntary admission for behavioral health treatment - complainant alleges the service recipient was admitted involuntarily, based on poor information from a POA. This person was not legally a POA. Service recipient's rights were violated during the involuntary admission when they were transported to the hospital and not communicated with about their plan of care. Improper discharge plan – a hospital discharged the service recipient to a nursing home which is a more restrictive placement. This resulted in the individual being placed in a skilled care facility was made in partnership with a person who attested they were the POA but were not the legal POA. Motion to open case made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Sharon Tear

24-090-9015 - Hospital ED – 1) Improper involuntary admission process, an individual was involuntarily admitted, after seeking medical care. The patient was involuntarily admitted after 'someone called into the hospital that she was a threat to herself', which was untrue, the patient was then transferred to a different location for behavioral health care for unknown reasons. The complaint alleges the patient felt bullied by the hospital before the involuntary admission. 2) Improper use of medications, an individual was given medication against their wishes and was not provided with a rights restriction or explained why the medication was being given. Informed consent was not received. 3) Patient Rights violation when communication with person of choice was restricted by hospital staff. The hospital did not issue a rights restriction on visitation. The allegation states the patient was unaccounted for by the hospital for three days. Motion to open case made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Case open.

24-90-9016 - Behavioral Health Unit – 1) Improper involuntary admission process, individual was transferred to another facility and involuntarily admitted without explanation of the admission by the new facility. 2) Inadequate Treatment planning, a patient was not allowed to have a Family Meeting to discuss treatment plan goals for discharge from inpatient behavioral health care. 3) Patient Rights Violation when communication with person of choice: family, pastor, and partner was restricted by hospital staff without cause. A patient's diet provided by the hospital was not gluten free due although the individual's medical diagnosis of Lupus and Hashimoto's Disease requires this. Motion to open case made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Case open.

Draft Report:

23-090-9012 - Knox County Jail – Motion to approve draft report and send to provider made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Shannon Dault. Motion passes.

24-090-9001 - Gateway at RiverCity – Motion to approve draft report and send to provider made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion passes.

Case Closures:

23-090-9003 – McLean County Jail - Motion to table case closure pending further third response made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Shannon Dault. Motion passes.

23-090-9015 – McLean County Jail – Motion to table case closure pending response made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion passes.

23-090-9019 – Carle Bromenn Hospital – Motion to close case and make report public made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion passes.

Other Business:

Mandatory 2024 trainings for board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Rod Joos adjourned the meeting at 11:35am

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Dault', is written over the printed name.

Shannon Dault, Secretary