

ILLINOIS GUARDIANSHIP AND ADVOCACY COMMISSION

**Michael Bilandic Building
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COMMISSION MINUTES- TELECONFERENCE

August 12, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL

Kenley R. Wade, Acting Chair
Susan B. Mc Mahon, Secretary
Saul Morse

MEMBERS ABSENT

Glenn Jackson- proxy
Joanne G. Perkins- proxy
Seymour Bryson Ph. D.- proxy
Susan B. Tatnall
Representative Mary Flowers
Senator Todd Seiben, Treasurer- proxy

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL

John H. Wank, General Counsel, Deputy Director for Programs and Acting Director
Helen Godlewski Brownfield, Director of the Office of State Guardian
Teresa Parks, Director of the Human Rights Authority
Laura Zorich, Private Secretary
Gina Rossi, Confidential Assistant to the Director

MINUTES

The August 12, 2003 meeting of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission (IGAC) convened at 10:00 am via teleconference. **Commissioner Wade** Vice Chairperson, presided.

OPENING REMARKS

Acting Director, John H. Wank welcomed the Commissioners and staff and stated that the purpose of the teleconference was to discuss concerns which surfaced during the last commission meeting, surrounding the appointment of prospective HRA member, D. Krandle who has a familial relationship with a current member (J. Krandle) of the East Central HRA, and who also has completed six years of service on this particular authority. During the last meeting after engaging in some discussion it was decided that the matter be best discussed when more commissioners were present.

HRA APPOINTMENTS

A packet of information concerning the Krandle appointment was distributed and reviewed by all members. **Commissioner Mc Mahon** had concerns over the mother son relationship, and

remarked that since the last meeting there has been three new applications for appointments, thereby alleviating the crisis in attendance the authority seemed to be facing, two months prior. **Commissioner Wade** asked if all applicants had been approved by the HRA. Teresa Parks stated that the authority was recommending the applicants. **Commissioner Mc Mahon** stated that appointing all members aside from Krandle alleviated the crisis, so perhaps it is best not to appoint Krandle. Teresa noted that HRA member, Lianne Anderson, who intended to attend the conference call but couldn't due to an emergency, had written a letter of recommendation for the appointment to D. Krandle to the authority despite the existence of a familial relationship. Teresa Parks paraphrased the letter.

Commissioner Morse weighed into the discussion stating he had a real concern. On one side of the coin, the need to appointment members expediently is now diminished, as the Authority has enough members to function properly, yet, the applicant has unique abilities and the HRA members had voted for appointment. He expressed concerns about setting precedent in this area, although these family members did not live together, what would happen when that situation arose where members did live together, and a precedent to allow family members to serve on the same authority already existed? He also mentioned the appearance issue to be considered. Two out of nine members compile 28% of a vote, that is 28% of a vote coming from one family, and that is an unsettling reality. Therefore, **Commissioner Morse** was against the appointment, especially considering that there are qualified people who have applied and whom the HRA has approved.

Commissioner Mc Mahon made a motion to appoint the three new members, and **Commissioner Morse** seconded and carried the motion.

John Wank then felt he should share the information that **Commissioner Bryson** felt that D. Krandle should be appointed and he had expressed that in the last meeting and written it on his proxy. **Commissioner Mc Mahon** then made the motion to deny the Krandle appointment based on the appearance of impropriety, **Commissioner Wade** seconded and carried the motion.

Commissioner Morse then brought up addressing D. Krandle on the situation. John stated that the commission would be sure to inform her that this decision was based on sound organizational reasons and that the decision, in no way reflected her capabilities to act as an HRA member. Teresa agreed to handle communication with both D Krandle and her son J. Krandle.

CLOSING

The next stated commission meeting will take place in Chicago in September, Laura Zorich. Private Secretary, agreed to begin to make arrangements through email to decide on a date. **Commissioner Morse** stated that he was concerned about the poor attendance from commissioners. John H. Wank stated that he would speak to the Office of the Governor about the vacant positions, and that he felt that attendance was important as it exemplifies that this is an active board.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Wade**, and seconded and carried by **Commissioner Mc Mahon** to adjourn the meeting

