

# **METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY**

## **AUGUST 11, 2011 MINUTES**

The Chairperson, Emil Wilson called to order the August 11, 2011 meeting at 7:10 p.m. This meeting was held at Illinois Department of Transportation, Collinsville.

### **PRESENT**

Emil Wilson, Chairperson  
Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson  
Dr. Marguerite Riley, Member  
Margaret Merrell, Member  
Carol Neudecker, Member  
Sandy Burbank, Member  
Thomas Cannady, Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Michael J. Pintar

### **ABSENT**

David Bollone, Member  
Karen Kelly, Member

### **GUESTS**

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairperson recognized that a quorum was present and 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. The Coordinator noted that cases 11-070-9019 and 11-070-9032 both with the Department of Human Services' Division of Rehabilitation were combined after the investigation was completed and the report of findings

### **MINUTES**

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the June 16, 2011 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Upon a motion by Kingston Schmid seconded by Sandy Burbank, members present voted to approve the minutes.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The Coordinator noted that the Illinois Department of Transportation has changed its policy and it no longer provides evening time building security which means that accessibility to the building may be impeded. Tonight for instance, the guard, who is stationed in East St. Louis, drove to DOT to allow the HRA access, but he was not able to get into the building at first and, after gaining entrance, he could not open the regional conference room, which is why the HRA moved its meeting to the break room. The HRA will monitor progress and ensure the HRA meeting place allows access to the persons it serves.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

12-070-9001 - a consumer lost privileges because she wrote a love letter to another patient. That patient gave the letter to staff to have it shredded and a staff

person retrieved it prior to shredding and used it against the letter writer. Emergency opened via email. Ratify vote. Upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley, seconded by Kingston Schmid, members voted to ratify the initial case opening agreement.

12-070-9002 - a consumer states she is not hallucinating has been seeing all white vision, she's weak spitting up blood they won't take her to hospital. In the middle of the night for no reason a staff person awoken the consumer by prodding at her and telling her to show her hands, the consumer has been on 2 to 1 observation for three months and it is driving her crazy. The consumer told the HRA that she has called OIG to report these issues and that agency does not take her seriously. The HRA voted not to accept the case because the staff abuse and neglect are OIG issues. Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Kingston Schmid, members voted to not to accept the case for investigation.

12-070-9003 - a consumer was admitted to a facility who failed to notify the guardian of the admission. Upon a motion by Sandy Burbank, seconded by Kingston Schmid, members agreed to 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 Kingston Schmid, the Authority went into closed session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

#### **Case Progress Reports:**

##### V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

###### A. Case progress reports

1. 11-070-9008 - Atrium - discharge
2. 11-070-9010 - Alton Mental Health Center - privileging (search)
3. 11-070-9016 - Alton Mental Health Center - level & communication
4. 11-070-9017 - Alton Mental Health Center - lost privilege (\$)
5. 11-070-9027 - Gateway Medical Center - involuntary admit & medication

###### B. Reports of Findings:

1. 11-070-9019 and 11-070-9032 - DRS Department of Human Services - denied services

###### C. Case Closures:

1. 11-070-9008 - Atrium - discharge
2. 11-070-9026 - Community Link

The HRA returned to open session at 8:18 p.m. upon a motion by Kingston Schmid, seconded by Carol Neudecker.

Upon returning to open session:

C. Reports of findings:

1. 11-050-9009 - Alton Mental Health Center - restraint. Upon a motion by Kingston Schmid seconded by Carol Neudecker, members voted to table report approval.
2. 11-050-9019 & 9039 - Illinois Department of Human Services - Department of Rehabilitation (combined cases) Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Carol Nuedecker, members voted to accept the report of findings with suggested revisions pending administrative approval.

D. Case Closures:

1. 10-070-9021 - Alton Mental Health Center - property - no music upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Kingston Schmid members voted for case closure.
2. 11-070-9008 - Atrium - discharge this case was recommended for closure without having completed a report of findings.
3. 11-070-9026- Community Link - Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Kingston Schmid, members voted for case closure.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:**

The next meeting will be September 8, 2011 at Illinois Department of Transportation

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary