**Springfield Regional Human Rights Authority**
**Meeting Minutes**
**September 24, 2013**

**Members Present:**
Jan Little, Chairperson
Donna Lynn, Vice Chairperson
Tara Dunning, Secretary
James Bakunas, Member
Annie Brooks, Member
Javed Irshad, Member
Linda O'Rourke, Member
Janet Shelton, Member
Debbie Weiner, Member

**Staff Present:**
Michael Pintar, Coordinator

**Call to Order:**
Chairperson Jan Little recognized that a quorum was present and called the regular meeting of the Springfield Regional Human Rights Authority to order at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2013. The meeting was held at Lake Pointe Grill in Springfield, Illinois. Welcome and introductions were made.

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

**Changes to the Agenda:**
Chair Little reviewed the agenda and asked for any changes. Hearing none the agenda was accepted as written.

**Approval of Minutes:**
The minutes of the August 27, 2013 meeting distributed for review. **A motion was made by Shelton to accept the minutes with corrections. The motion was seconded by O'Rourke. Motion carried.**

**Communications:**
Pintar distributed information about two trainings; one specifically for HRA members on September 26th in Springfield and the second on September 18th in Springfield by the Illinois Guardianship Association.

Pintar also shared information about a free training for parents being provided by the University of Illinois at Chicago about affecting legislative change. It is being held in Chicago on October 15th and Urbana on November 12th.

**New Business – Election of Officers:**
Pintar reported that terms have expired for Debbie Weiner, Janet Shelton and Jan Little. This will be the last meeting for each of them. Since Jan Little is currently the chairperson, elections will have to be held to replace him.

**A motion was made by O'Rourke to elect Donna Lynn as the new chairperson and James Bakunas as vice chair. The motion was seconded by Shelton. Motion passed.**

**New Complaints:**
14-050-9006 – Two consumers live in different homes owed by different companies. They male and female have had a relationship for several years and they have expressed a desire to have a sexual relationship. The male's guardian says "no" he cannot have sex. The female does not have a guardian; however, the agency where she lives states that they will allow sex under certain conditions.

This case was opened at the August 27th meeting however paperwork has not been sent advising the facility of the open investigation yet. A motion was made to open this case in two parts. One against the female's facility (case 14-050-9006-A) and one against the male's facility (case 14-050-9006-B).

**A motion was made by Weiner and seconded by Lynn to open two cases to investigate each facility in regards to this complaint. Motion carried.**

14-050-9007 – A guardian reports she is concerned about changes to the policies of guardians/parents access to medical records at the facility where her son lives. She feels the new policy is violating the Confidentiality Act and the Mental Health Code. HRS agreed to take it under advisement and directed Pintar to speak directly with the administration about the new policy. If he is met with resistance, then the case will be opened for investigation.

**A motion was made by O'Rourke and seconded by Shelton to not accept case 14-050-9007 for investigation but to refer it to the Metro East HRA. Motion carried.**

14-050-9008 – A consumer attempted suicide and the facility will not address his sister's concerns and her request for one-on-one supervision. The sister lives out of town and worries the facility is not providing appropriate supervision. The sister states that the consumer is hopeless because he foresees no chance of release because his public defender will not assist him or return his calls.

**A motion was made by Shelton and seconded by Weiner to table case 14-050-9008 until Pintar can gather further information. Motion passed.**

14-050-9009 – a guardian has asked the physician to stop prescribing Depakote to their loved one because of the side effects the family has witnessed. After a recent hospitalization, the physician prescribed 3000 mg however the discharge instructions

stated 1000 mg per day. When the family pointed out this error no one was able to confirm the correct dosage.

**A motion was made to open case 14-050-9009 for investigation by Shelton and seconded by Brooks. Motion carried.**

**Closed Session: A motion was made by O'Rourke and seconded by Brooks to enter into closed session at 7:30 p.m.** pursuant to Section 721 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss confidential and potentially identifiable information. Motion passed and the committee went into closed session.

**Case Progress Reports:**
Pintar reported there are six open cases to be investigated at McFarland. He will schedule a full day at the facility to investigate cases:
13-050-9013
13-050-9014
13-050-9020
13-050-9024
14-050-9002
14-050-9004

Other outstanding cases that need follow up include:
13-050-9018
14-050-9003
14-050-9005
14-050-9006

**Draft Reports of Findings:**
13-050-9015 – a written report was approved during the August 27th meeting however suggested revisions need to be made.

13-050-9022 – a written report was approved during the August 27th meeting however Pintar is waiting for clarification from DHS before he will send the report.

**Case Closures:**
13-050-9009 – Pintar reported it has been less than 30 days and no response has been received.
13-050-9017 – Pintar reported it has been less than 30 days and no response has been received.

**Open Session:**
**A motion was made by Brooks at 7:40 p.m. and seconded by Lynn to come out of closed session. Motion carried.**

**A motion was made by Brooks and seconded by Bakunas to table case 13-050-9015 and case 13-050-9022 until clarification can be made by DHS.**

**A motion was made by Dunning and seconded by O'Rourke to table case closures on 13-050-9009 and 13-050-9009 until a response to the written report has been received.**

**Adjournment:** At this time the meeting of the HRA was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on October 22, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara Dunning

Tara Dunning, Secretary

10-29-13

Date Approved