

METRO EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

MINUTES –August 13, 2015

The regular stated meeting of the Metro East Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 5:27 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2015 by, Chair, Karen Kelly.

This meeting was held at Developmental Disability Service of Metro East (DDSME), 2900 Frank Scott Parkway West Suite 928 Belleville, IL.

HRA Members Present: Jane Nesbit, Lou Ruocco, Karen Kelly, Catherine Goebel and Mike Pintar .

HRA Members Absent: Beverly Sweatman, Margaret Merrell, Andrea Frazier, and Christine Anderson.

Guests: None

Staff Present: Jo Ann Russell-Baum

INTRODUCTIONS

Karen Kelly recognized that a quorum was present.

Karen Kelly 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.

Karen Kelly asked for any changes in the agenda. No changes made.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the stated meetings of June 11, 2015 were reviewed and, upon a motion by Member Catherine Goebel, seconded by Jane Nesbit, members voted to accept the minutes as written.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications

None

New Complaints The HRA considered the following cases for acceptance:

15-070-9024 -- Juvenile Detention Center -- The complaint states that a juvenile is not receiving counseling services while detained in the center. “The youth had a falling out with his/her mother, and witnessed her die unexpectedly of an illness before they could make amends.” The teen received grief counseling services before his detainment, but none are offered at the center. Jane Nesbit made a motion to open the case, Catherine Goebel seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case accepted.

15-070-9026 – Residential Care Facility—The complaint stated that the facility was aware of sexual abuse of a recipient by another recipient and did not notify the guardian. The recipient was moved from one home to another on the basis that the new home would be a better environment for the client. The guardian feels that this was the facility’s attempt to separate the victim from the perpetrator. An OIG investigation was completed, although the guardian claims to not have been notified of the investigation. The incident occurred several years ago. The facility liaison investigated the situation at the time and reported its results to OIG. OIG determined that the incident in question did not meet the criteria for neglect on the part of the facility. OIG recently contacted the guardian and advised that charges could be filed with the police. The guardian contacted the police who did not feel they could pursue the matter. Catherine Goebel made a motion to not open the case, Lou Ruocco seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Case not accepted.

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 Catherine Goebel, seconded by Lou Ruocco, the Authority went into closed session at 5:50 pm to discuss case progress, report of findings, provider responses and case closures.

The HRA returned to open session at 6:24 p.m. having taken no case action in closed session. A summary of closed session discussion is as follows:

Case Progress Reports:

15-070-9010 – Madison County Jail – medication and treatment. Site visit complete, ready for report.

15-070-9012 – Alton Mental Health Center – discharge planning, fitness determination. Site visit complete, ready for report.

15-070-9013 – Alton Mental Health Center – diets. Site visit complete, ready for report.

15-070-9016 – Caseyville Nursing Home – POA agent; physician services. Site visit complete, additional site visit being considered, possible formal complaint to be made to IDPH.

15-070-9020 - Molina Health Care – benefits covered, medical condition, etc. Site visit complete, ready for report.

15-070-9023 – Touchette Regional Hospital – safety precautions. Site visit complete, ready for report.

15-070-9025 – Alton Mental Health Center – property. Site visit complete, ready for report.

Draft Report Review

15-070-9007 – Alton Mental Health Center – water turned off. A draft report was reviewed.

15-070-9009 – Alton Mental Health Center –property. A draft report was reviewed.

15-070-9015 – Department of Rehabilitation Services – worker issues, complaint process. A draft report was reviewed.

Reviews of Provider Responses

Provider responses were reviewed for the following cases:

14-070-9014 - Alton Mental Health Center - property and visitation. Response provided, none required.

Upon returning to open session the HRA considered the following actions:

Motions Regarding Report Approvals

15-070-9007 – Alton Mental Health Center – water turned off. A draft report was reviewed. Motion made by Jane Nesbit to approve the report. Catherine Goebel seconded the motion and the motion carried. The HRA approved the draft report.

15-070-9009 – Alton Mental Health Center –property. A draft report was reviewed. Motion made by Jane Nesbit to approve the report. Catherine Goebel seconded the motion and the motion carried. The HRA approved the draft report.

15-070-9015 – Department of Rehabilitation Services – worker issues, complaint process. A draft report was reviewed. Motion made by Mike Pintar to approve the report. Lou Ruocco seconded the motion and the motion carried. The HRA approved the draft report.

Case Closures

15-070-9014 – Alton Mental Health Center – water turned off. Motion was made by Jane Nesbit to

close the case making the findings a part of the public record; Mike Pintar seconded the motion and the motion carried. Response received, none required. Response accepted. Case Closed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS and ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2015, 5:00pm at Bella Milano Restaurant. Jane Nesbit made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Catherine Goebel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Jane Nesbit
Secretary