

ILLINOIS GUARDIANSHIP AND ADVOCACY COMMISSION

**James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph Street, Room 9-036 Chicago, Illinois
500 ½ Stratton Bldg., Springfield, IL.
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale**

Video Conference

**Minutes
June 19, 2007
1:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Saul Morse (Springfield)
Kenley Wade (Springfield)
Glenn Jackson (Springfield)
Seymour Bryson (Carbondale)
Representative Kathy Ryg (Chicago)
Inez Torres Davis (Chicago)

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Chicago

Dr. Mary Milano, Executive Director
John H. Wank, General Counsel, Deputy Director for Programs
Bobbie Fox, Acting Director for Human Resources
Helen Godlewski Brownfield, Director of the Office of State Guardian
Danielle Welliever, Private Secretary to the Director
Gina Rossi, Confidential Assistant to the Director

Springfield

Carol R. Tipsord, Director of Fiscal Operations
Teresa Parks, Director Human Rights Authority

MEETING CONVENED

The meeting of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission convened at 1:10 pm, June 19, 2007, in the James R. Thompson Center, Chicago, Illinois, Room 9-036, and 500 ½ Stratton, Springfield Illinois, and 206 Pulliam Hall, Carbondale, IL through videoconference. Chairman Saul Morse presided.

In the interest of time, Chairman Morse asked if the Commission would agree to take the action items ahead of the other agenda items. In addition to the listed action items there would be two items that had come to his attention that would be handled in closed session.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve the March Commission minutes was made and seconded. No discussion. Minutes were approved as written.
2. All regional HRA nominations and reappointments were considered en bloc. Commissioner Morris disclosed that he was a cousin of Lawrence Kamer, a Chicago Regional HRA nominee, asking that the record show that he abstained from voting on Mr. Kamer's appointment. A motion was made to nominate and reappoint all regional HRA members as listed. The motion was seconded. No discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.
3. The Egyptian HRA asked to have a case that had been referred to them to be transferred to the Metro East HRA based on a conflict of interest. A motion was made and seconded to grant the case transfer. The Chairman asked if the staff concurred with the request. No other discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Enforcement Referral, Peoria Regional Human Rights Authority, Case # 05-050-9035, regarding Sharon Healthcare Pines.

Background: The HRA received complaints regarding a number of issues. There were substantiated finding concerning inadequate policy and procedures relating to the resident's personal belongings and inadequate grievance policies and procedures, both rights protected under the nursing home care act. The provider did not respond to the HRA letters even after several requests.

Action: There was a motion to approve the referral to the Illinois Department of Public Health for enforcement. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

5. Enforcement Referral, Springfield Regional Human Rights Authority, HRA Case # 07-050-9001, Achievement Unlimited.

Background: Complaints were made to the HRA that resident's rights were violated when they were required to sign the form "Acknowledgement of Responsibility for Leave from the Facility and/or Leave from the Facility against Professional/Medical Advice" before gaining access to the community. After an HRA investigation a letter was sent to the provider. The provider came to several HRA meetings and continued to stand on their practice.

Action: Chairman Morse for asked for a motion to refer the matter to the Illinois Department of Human Services. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. HRA Case #06-030-9031

Commissioner Inez Torres Davis made a motion to disapprove the Chicago HRA's refusal to accept the Cermak/Cook County jail case (HRA Case #06-030-9031) and instruct the Chicago HRA to cease such action pursuant to Section 5(c) of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955/5 (c)) by opening the case at its July 2007 meeting. Commissioner Kenley Wade seconded the motion and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ONE

The Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss an HRA matter where confidential case information would be discussed. Staff members Milano, Wank, Parks and Rossi were asked to remain. All other staff members were dismissed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TWO

A second executive session was convened to discuss a confidential personnel issue. All GAC staff were excused. The executive session concluded at approximately 2:50 pm. Staff persons were recalled to the meeting.

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

Because the video conference link was to end at 3:00 pm, Commissioner Morse, with agreement from other Commissioners, asked that reports from executive staff and program directors be compiled and distributed to commissioners via e-mail.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:58 pm. Commissioners were reminded of the next meeting date, Sept. 11th 2007.