

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DRUG REHAB RECOVERY HOMES

Minutes of the Meeting
October 22, 2015
10:00 a.m., House Hearing Room 1

Members Present:

Senator Nancy Barto
Senator David Bradley
Albert Black
David de la Torre
Laura Hartgroves
Thomas Litwicki

Representative Noel Campbell, Chair
Representative Karen Fann
Representative Eric Meyer
Heidi Skelley
Sharon Unterreiner
Jim Wallin
Dale Wiebusch
Alison Zelms

Members Absent:

Senator Steve Pierce
Penny Free
Karen Hellman

Emily Jenkins
Kathy Waters

Staff:

Ingrid Garvey, House Research Analyst
Emily Mercado, Senate Research Analyst

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and attendance was taken.

Ingrid Garvey, House Research Analyst, gave an overview of the Committee purpose.

Chairman Campbell requested that the Committee members introduce themselves.

Committee Discussion On Best Practices Regarding Recovery Housing Providers

Gary Hees, Licensed Counselor, Clinical Director, Decision Point Center, explained his background, distributed a handout entitled "What Did We Learn from Our Study on Sober Living Houses and Where Do We Go from Here?" (Attachment A) and gave a presentation regarding the need for structured sober living rules and standards. Mr. Hees answered questions posed by the Committee.

Heidi Skelley, Co-founder, Skelley House, Member, Arizona Recovery Housing Association, distributed a handout entitled “Inspection Criteria/Quality Standards, Arizona Recovery Housing Association” (Attachment B), gave an overview of Skelley House and non-medical sober living and explained the Arizona Recovery Housing Association. Ms. Skelley answered questions posed by the Committee.

Albert Black, Owner, Recovery In the Pines, gave an overview of his background and the recovery situation in Prescott, Arizona. Mr. Black answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by the Arizona Department of Health Services

Colby Bower, Chief Legislative Liaison, Assistant Director, Public Health Licensing, Arizona Department of Health Services, distributed and explained a handout entitled “Arizona Department of Health Services, Public Health Licensing Overview” (Attachment C). Mr. Bower answered questions posed by the Committee.

Steve Collins, Owner, Kokopelli Group Home, Executive Council member, AzRHA, gave an overview of his facilities, explained reservations about being registered and suggested defining housing terms. Mr. Collins answered questions posed by the Committee.

Upcoming Meetings:

Representative Campbell impressed upon the Committee how important this subject is and reiterated the purpose of the Committee. Representative Campbell announced the next meeting would be held on November 4th, at 10:00 a.m.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their position on the presentations (Attachment D).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Ponce
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)