

DRAFT
CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 16, 2009

ATTENDANCE: Rev. Jeffrey Ingraham, Chair, Carol Frank, Nancy Burke,
Barbara Hudgins

STAFF: Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 3:19 p.m.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MINUTES

**** MS. FRANK MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MINUTES**

**** MS. HUDGINS SECONDED.**

The following correction was noted:

Page 1, under Old Business, please change the following: “ add the number of units of apartments.” To : “ add the number of affordable units of apartments at Reed Putnam.”

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MINUTES AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FHO MONTHLY REPORT

Atty. Suib said that she had been very busy with the Housing Authority. Two of the residents are disabled. She gave a brief overview of the two cases and also said that she was working on the various plans required by the Federal Governments with the Housing Authority attorney. There have been some difficulties working on these plans. Atty. Suib said that the next public hearing for the Housing Authority is scheduled for the night of the budget hearings, so that she and Mr. Bovilsky will be submitting their written comments to the Committee since their presence is required at City Hall. Discussion followed regarding this issue.

Atty. Suib announced that Fair Housing Association of Connecticut would be having their 30th anniversary conference in April. It will be an all day event held in Cromwell.

She said that the current president, who has served since the inception of the Association will be retiring.

The BET meeting for Fair Housing is scheduled for this Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Atty. Suib said that she would be presenting the budget but requested that one of the Commissioners be present if possible. Ms. Burke and Ms. Hudgins said that they might be able to attend. The public hearing on the budget will be held on March 25th at 7:30 p.m. Atty. Suib said that she would be able to attend on behalf of the Fair Housing Authority.

Atty. Suib pointed out that there had been a newspaper article on March 8th about the reductions in the Fair Housing budget. She included a copy of the article in the information packet, along with an email from a Norwalk resident regarding this. Atty. Suib also commented that Connecticut has a law that protects the residents' sources of income.

The discussion then turned to the letters about the Work Force Housing sent to Zoning. Atty. Suib said that she had sent the letters to the Chair of the Zoning Commission but had not heard anything in reply.

Ms. Frank asked if the scheduling of the Showing of Brick by Brick had been confirmed. Atty. Suib said that she had called the theater owners and that she was still trying to schedule a date in late April.

**** MS. HUDGINS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MONTHLY REPORT OF THE FAIR HOUSING OFFICER.**

**** MS. FRANK SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION RE: FY2009-2010 FAIR HOUSING BUDGET

Rev. Ingraham then asked for an update of the budget process. Atty. Suib proceeded to give the Commission an update and outlined some of the concerns about the budget.

B. DISCUSSION RE: ZONING WORKFORCE HOUSING REGULATION

Rev. Ingraham said that the Commission should invite the Chair of Zoning Commission to attend a meeting.

C. DISCUSSION OF A COMMISSION ANNUAL EVENT

Showing of movie, "Brick By Brick: a Civil Rights Story"

A discussion about the Association of Connecticut Realtors participation in the program and who would be invited to the film followed.

D. DISCUSSION OF COMMISSION FY 2008-2009 WORK PLAN

Atty. Suib said that she had been keeping a running tally of the events that have occurred.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss. Rev. Ingraham announced that the next meeting will be April 20th.

ADJOURNMENT

Rev. Ingraham adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services