



**FAIR HOUSING OFFICE**

**SPECIAL MEETING – FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**AGENDA**

**APRIL 29, 2025, 3:00 PM**

**HYBRID BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING & NORWALK FAIR HOUSING OFFICE 137 EAST  
AVENUE 2ND FLOOR NORWALK CT 06851-5702**

**Attendance:** Rev. Richard Clarke, Joseph Mann, Alexandra Sollazzo, LMSW, Jalin T. Sead (Chair)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Sead called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Sead called the roll and announced there was a quorum present.

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. Special Meeting – March 24, 2025**

**MOTION:** Rev. Clarke moved to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2025, special meeting.

**SECOND:** Joseph Mann seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimously approved.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no one from the public who wished to address the Commission at this time.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Fair Housing Month Event**

Fair Housing Officer Zabrina Román reported that while a large-scale event was not held due to timing, the office marked April with a formal Fair Housing Month proclamation and banner displayed at City Hall. She shared plans to launch monthly themed events leading up to April 2026, focusing on *Intersectionality in Housing*. The goal is to address housing from various community perspectives—including developers, immigrant groups, and families—through both educational and outreach programming.

City of Norwalk  
Fair Housing Commission  
Special Meeting  
April 29, 2025

The first event will be held during the first week of June and will feature the CT Commissioner of Housing, a Fair Housing 101 tailored to Norwalk, and a breakdown of the roles of the Fair Housing and Fair Rent offices. Invitations will be sent to prior attendees and partners.

Alexandra Sollazzo offered the use of Family & Children's Agency's community space for future events, especially for family- and youth-centered programming.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Fair Housing Officer Report**

Román provided an overview of her first three weeks:

- Frequent issues involved familial status, disability accommodations, and confusion between Fair Rent and Fair Housing jurisdiction.
- Notably, some landlords are proactively seeking guidance before taking enforcement actions, creating opportunities for early education and intervention.
- A training collaboration with the Norwalk Housing Authority is in development to address retaliation and Section 8-related concerns.
- Román is collaborating with the Fair Rent Officer to streamline referrals and improve community understanding of both offices.

She also reported on office limitations, including outdated technology. Chair Sead clarified that although the office does not fall under city IT, the redevelopment agency has funds available, and quotes will be obtained to move forward with necessary purchases. Román shared upcoming participation in the City of Norwalk's Affordable Housing & Resource Fair and discussed branding needs like a tablecloth, flyers, and giveaways. Commissioner Mann noted the NAACP may be able to support printing or materials if budget constraints arise. Sollazzo recommended that Román join Lamond Daniels' weekly Community Provider Call and receive the accompanying email updates. Román agreed, and Sollazzo offered to forward the most recent correspondence.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Joseph Mann moved to adjourn the meeting.

**SECOND:** Rev. Richard Clarke seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Zabrina Román

Fair Housing Officer, City of Norwalk

City of Norwalk

Fair Housing Commission

Special Meeting

April 29, 2025