



**FAIR HOUSING OFFICE**

**REGULAR MEETING – FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**AGENDA**

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 3:00 PM**

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

**Attendance:** Alexandra Sollazzo, LMSW, Carol Frank, Jalin T. Sead (Chair), Joseph Mann, Brenda Penn-Williams

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Fair Housing Advisory Commission was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair Jalin T. Sead.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Sead called the roll and announced there was a quorum present. Commissioners present were Alexandra Sollazzo, LMSW, Joseph Mann, Carol Frank, and Brenda Penn-Williams (arrived later during meeting).

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting – March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The minutes of the March 16, 2026 meeting was reviewed. A motion was made by Joseph Mann to approve the minutes of the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Alexandra Sollazzo and approved unanimously.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

One member of the public was present. No public comments were made, and no written comments had been submitted in advance.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**Fair Housing Month Community Resource Fair:** Members discussed the successful Fair Housing Month Community Resource Fair. Participating organizations included: Fair Rent Commission, ADA Commission, Health Department, Redevelopment Agency, Planning & Zoning, Norwalk Housing Authority, Connecticut Legal Services, Open Doors, Family & Children’s Agency, and Alliance for Community Empowerment. Although attendance was smaller than hoped, families who attended received valuable services and resources. Some attendees were able to register for an upcoming job fair. Partner agencies also networked effectively. Zabrina Román, Fair Housing Officer reported receiving numerous new inquiries following the event, many through referrals from participating agencies. Commissioners praised the event and encouraged continued annual growth.

**BET Budget Meeting Update:** The Board of Estimate and Taxation has not yet voted on or finalized the grant budget. A scheduled meeting was canceled and rescheduled for Wednesday. Updates will be shared once available.

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### VI. Executive Session

A motion was made and seconded to enter Executive Session. The Commission returned from Executive Session at 3:27 PM. No motions were passed and no decisions were made during Executive Session.

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

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

**New Intake Process:** Ms. Román announced a new online intake system now available on the Fair Housing webpage through a “Submit an Inquiry” form. The purpose of the form is to: improve response efficiency, free phone lines for residents needing direct assistance, better analyze cases before callbacks, collect demographic data to identify community needs, improve long-term service tracking, and promotion of the new system will begin next week.

**Connecticut Housing Legislative Update:** Ms. Román provided an update on pending state housing legislation, including Senate Bill 339, commonly referred to as the “Golden Girls Bill. The proposed legislation would allow owner-occupied single-family homeowners to rent up to three bedrooms for long-term tenants without local zoning approval. The bill aims to: expand affordable housing options, support older homeowners, and increase housing availability statewide. The Commission will continue monitoring potential impacts on Norwalk.

**Regional Fair Housing Leadership Recognition:** Commissioners noted that Ansonia is modeling its Fair Housing Office and Commission after Norwalk’s program and consent decree framework. Members highlighted Norwalk’s leadership role in advancing fair housing practices statewide.

**Additional Announcements:** Members briefly discussed participation in a future NAACP Housing Crisis event planned for June.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Zabrina Román  
Fair Housing Officer, Norwalk Redevelopment Agency

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