

**CITY OF NORWALK  
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 20, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:** Jalin Sead, Chair; Rev. Richard Clarke, Carol Frank, Daisy Franklin, Joe Mann

**OTHERS:** Atty. Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Sead called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present from the public.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**\*\* MS. FRANK MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2023 MEETING.**

**\*\* MS. FRANKLIN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2023 MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**• Discussion on Zoning presentation**

Mr. Sead said that he was sorry to hear that Zoning had pulled the 'up-zoning' concept from the presentation. Atty. Suib said that without the up-zoning, spot zoning will remain. This will impact areas with a higher density and where those who are less likely to have a voice in the process. Discussion followed.

Ms. Frank reminded everyone how important it is for everyone to vote. The Mayor of the City appoints the Zoning Officials. Mr. Sead pointed out that the Fair Housing Committee could help unify the groups that are not being heard. Discussion followed about encouraging the constituents when there are small gains.

Atty. Suib said that she would like to have Erin Boggs to come and give a presentation. She also reminded people that the 8-30(g) requires 10% of affordable housing, but that is the base amount, not the optimum. The City should be working on including more affordable housing to cover the growing segment of the residents who make too much for public housing and not enough for the market rate rates.

Discussion followed about having the City create a list of community needs that the developers can contribute to the community. There were also concerns expressed about holding elected officials accountable.

Atty. Suib reminded everyone that she had suggested that the developers come to Fair Housing to check about the HUD requirements for new buildings. She said that it would cost the City nothing to have the developers meet with her so they could have access to the information.

**\*\* MS. FRANKLIN MOVED TO INVITE THE NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE TO COME AND MEET WITH THE FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION TO EXCHANGE IDEAS.**

**\*\* MR. MANN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Sead suggested that they consider inviting the various Norwalk Districts candidates to come to address the

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Atty. Suib then gave a brief overview of recent States changes for landlord/tenant relations. The Department of Housing will be issuing a standardized, plain language lease.

Atty. Suib suggested that the Board Members read a book titled "The Color of Law" by Richard Rothstein. The author has just released a follow up title.

Atty. Suib said that Pastor and Ms. Sollazzo were both up for reappointment. Ms. Frank thanked Ms. Franklin for her willingness to serve on the ADA Committee.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. MANN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MS. FRANKLIN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk  
Fair Housing Advisory Commission  
Regular Meeting  
June 20, 2023