

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 17, 2023**

ATTENDANCE: Jalin Sead, Chair; Rev. Richard Clarke, Carol Frank, Daisy Franklin, Joe Mann, Sheri McCready-Pritchett

OTHERS: Atty. Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Said called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present from the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• February 21, 2023

**** COMMISSIONER MANN MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2023 MEETING.**

**** COMMISSIONER FRANK SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR (CLARKE, FRANK, AND MANN) IN FAVOR AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS, (FRANKLIN AND MCCREADY-PRITCHETT).**

OLD BUSINESS

• Review of Protected Classes/New Handout

Atty. Suib gave a brief overview of the history of the passage of the Protected Class Act of 1968. In 1980, it was amended to include #6- 9. She noted that in Connecticut, there are additional protections, such as age, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, veteran status, and legal source of income. Discussion followed about the details of the various categories.

The Commission has a goal of ending housing segregation. Integration through gentrification is not the solution. Luxury units are more likely to have short term occupants. For those who are over 62 in a residence of over five units, seniors are protected from not having their lease renewed.

Atty. Suib said that one thing the Commission could focus on is watching the zoning changes. Theoretically the City is required to look at the underlying reasons of the zoning changes.

Commissioner Frank left the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

The discussion moved to the impact of additional housing on the infrastructure and what the community needs from the developers.

Commissioner Sead said that there was a great deal of confusion regarding what actually is the law and how there are concerns about integration of work force housing.

NEW BUSINESS

• Update on Commission appointments

Atty. Suib said at the present time, there is a full complement of Commissioners.

REVIEW OF FAIR HOUSING MONTH EVENT.

The discussion moved to the lack of a YMCA or Boys and Girls Club in Norwalk.

There was an additional discussion regarding a past seminar about incorporating the ADA compliance requirements in design for developers.

Rev. Clarke left the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Atty. Suib suggested having the Open Communities Alliance come to address the group.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER FRANKLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COMMISSIONER MANN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services