

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 20, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Rev. Jeffrey Ingraham, (via phone) Carol Frank, Cesar Ramirez, Daisy Franklin

OTHERS: Attorney Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one from the public present.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 14, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**** COMMISSIONER FRANK MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 14, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES.**

**** COMMISSIONER FRANKLIN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 14, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES PASSED WITH TWO IN FAVOR (FRANK AND FRANKLIN) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (RAMIREZ).**

OLD BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ON FY 2019/2020 BUDGET

Atty. Suib said that she had been told that the budget was approved with the exception of Atty. Suib's salary. She reviewed the details with the Commissioners.

B. UPDATE ON MAYOR REORGANIZATION PROCESS

Atty. Suib said that the original reorganization plan proposal had eliminated the Fair Housing Office. The NAACP attorney has not agreed to any changes to the position.

C. UPDATE ON 2019 FAIR HOUSING EVENTS (JUNE AND SEPT)

There will be two events this year. One will be on June 4th at 5:45 p.m. in the Community Room. It will be a short movie called "Segregated by Design" based on a book titled "The Color of Law". Atty. Suib said that Connecticut was the third most

segregated state in the country. Ms. Erin Boggs from the Open Outreach Alliance will be speaking about the situation in Connecticut and this will be followed by a discussion.

Atty. Suib said that the Race and Social Justice Committee from St. Paul's Church had requested her to address their group. They also asked if there was any way they could help the Fair Housing Office. She said that it would be good to invite them to attend the event and also to become more involved in the communities. Atty. Suib suggested that everyone think about other groups that they might be able to work with.

In September there will be an event coordinated between the DOJ, HUD and the FBI focused on sexual assaults in public housing. Atty. Suib said that they had presented the program at the Connecticut Fair Housing meeting. She said that she was considering inviting not only the Norwalk Housing Authority, but those from the neighboring towns. While it will be important to have the front line staff, it will also be important to have the maintenance staff present too. To the residents, the maintenance staff have power. Commissioner Ramirez suggested that the Police Departments send representatives because the officers are involved from the start. Discussion followed.

Rev. Ingraham suggested that it might be a good idea to invite the residents, also.

NEW BUSINESS

Atty. Suib said that she was working with the Redevelopment Staff on the new Fair Housing plan.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER FRANK MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** COMMISSIONER RAMIREZ SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services