

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 20, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Rev. Jeffrey Ingraham, Chair; Carol Frank; Nancy Burke; Daisy Franklin; Jaylin Sead (via phone)

STAFF: Atty. Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 12:06 p. m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 17, 2017

**** MS. FRANK MOVED TO ACCEPT THE JANUARY 17, 2017 MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.
** MS. FRANKLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No member of the public came forward to comment.

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND VOTE RE MAYOR'S REQUEST TO MODIFY FHO ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2015/16

Rev. Ingraham stated that he, Ms. Suib, and Ms. Franklin met with the mayor a few weeks ago. He stated that the mayor had expressed concern over the inclusion of discussion regarding the Ms. Suib's salary in the annual report. He stated that Ms. Suib had expressed concerns regarding her salary compared to those in similar positions in the city of Norwalk. Rev. Ingraham stated that the mayor is adamant, in a nice way, that we approve an amended report that does not include the salary discussion. The mayor feels that the report should be about items that directly deal with Fair Housing actions and accomplishments.

Ms. Suib stated that the salary issue is directly related to the work of the Fair Housing Office. Ms. Suib stated that the salary discussion part of the report could be temporarily redacted with a statement being put in its place stating "The following section regarding salary is temporarily redacted pending the resolution of this longstanding issue."

Ms. Suib stated that she submitted her W-2 forms from 2008 and the following years to show what her salary was with the city. She stated that Mr. Barron requested her W-2 from 2005. She stated that Mr. Barron has claimed that she got a \$30,000 raise in one year.

**** MS. FRANKLIN MOVED TO REDACT THE FAIR HOUSING OFFICER SALARY SECTION FROM THE FHO ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2015/16 AND ADD "THE FOLLOWING SECTION REGARDING THE FAIR HOUSING OFFICER'S SALARY IS TEMPORARILY REDACTED PENDING THE RESOLUTION IN COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF NORWALK OF THIS LONGSTANDING ISSUE."**

**** MS. BURKE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE ON BUDGET PROCESS FOR FY 2017/18

Ms. Suib stated that she, Ms. Franklin, and Rev. Ingraham met with the Board of Estimate and Taxation last week. One request we got from Mr. Feigenbaum was that we needed to talk more about the work that we do. Ms. Suib stated that she talked more about the financial numbers than the work that the FHO does. Mr. Camacho requested that Ms. Suib provide emails that were sent regarding her salary.

She stated that an administrative assistant is needed. The administrative assistant would do the same type of work that any other administrative assistant in the city would do. She stated that the members of the BET did not think that an administrative assistant was necessary.

Ms. Suib stated that she got a complaint from a member of the public because the meeting was held in the afternoon. She stated that if the meeting was held in the evening, more members of the public could attend.

DISCUSSION RE FAIR HOUSING MONTH EVENT ON 4/27/2017 AND SECOND EVEN IN MAY OR JUNE, 2017

Ms. Suib stated that the state wide conference is being held on April 26th. Discussion followed on which commissioners would be able to attend.

In May or June, because of the increase in anti-semitic threats and incidents, THE FHO will organize an event to be held with two Norwalk temples.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. BURKE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. FRANKLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk
Fair Housing Advisory Commission
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