

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2018**

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

STAFF: Attorney Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

There was no one from the public who wished to comment at this time.

**DISCUSSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FAIR HOUSING OFFICER
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2016/17.**

Atty. Suib said that the report was presented in the same format as it was last year. Despite the Mayor's request, there were no reports from the various City Departments, so the information for that section was culled from their department minutes. Atty. Suib then gave an overview of the information in the report to the Commissioners.

The Resident Access Mobility Program (RAMP) has received funding and Atty. Suib explained that she was able to partner with Mr. Carney at the Redevelopment Agency to provide some of the accommodation for those residents who are disabled. This can include ramps, window guards or other access equipment someone may need.

Atty. Suib said that she was still in contact with the attorney who was involved with the discrimination testing and is currently waiting on potential attendance for the workshop.

Atty. Suib said that she was pleased that the Norwalk Housing Authority decided to discontinue their drug testing program. Relying on the hair follicle testing gave a false sense of security. Ms. Burke thanked Atty. Suib for her persistence in this matter. Ms. Franklin said that her concern with this decision was that the residents' voices were not included in the decision. Atty. Suib said that she felt there was a missing step because the residents were not aware that the Housing Authority had other means of handling drug users. Discussion followed.

Atty. Suib indicated that there was also a summary of the various things that the Commission had done during the past year. She noted that the difficulty with the

expanding role of the Commission is that her work load has also increased but there is no additional support staff. Atty. Suib said that there was no mention of the Fair Housing Commission in the development of the City's upcoming ten year plan.

The Commissioners discussed their suggestions regarding the report. Atty. Suib noted the changes.

**** MS. FRANKLIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FHAC ANNUAL REPORT**
**** MS. BURKE SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF FY 2018/2019 FHAC BUDGET

Atty. Suib then distributed copies of the Fair Housing Budget. She said that the first meeting was scheduled for January 17th at 9:00 a.m. with Mr. Barron, the head of the Finance Department. She then narrated a summary of the proposed budget including the request for administrative support.

**** MS. FRANK MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FY 2018/2019 FHAC BUDGET AS SUBMITTED.**
**** MS. FRANKLIN SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. BURKE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** MS. FRANK SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk
Fair Housing Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
January 16, 2018