

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR RENT COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 2, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Patricia Genuario, Chair; John Church, Vice-Chair;
Mary Geake; Martin L. Bernard; Brenda Penn-Williams;
Fran Collier-Clemmons, Richard J. Stumpf;

STAFF: Adam Bovilsky, Director; Lawrence Patterson, Field Investigator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2009 MEETING.

The following corrections were made electronically and noted:

Page 1, Under Staff: delete "Atty." and replace with Mr. (and throughout)
Page 3, "In the News" heading: paragraph 2 delete "additional"
Page 4, paragraph 1, delete location from line 3, and "they have" from line 4.
Under New Business, change Mr. Suib to Ms., delete "Atty" and replace with Mr.
Page 5, delete "Atty." and replace with Mr.

**** MR. BERNARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2009 MEETING WITH CORRECTIONS NOTED.**

**** MR. STUMPF SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Genuario then read the following report into the record:

Good evening and thank you for your attendance this evening. As you know, we cancelled the July and August meetings since there was very little business to discuss and I prefer not to call out the commissioners unless there are items on the agenda worthy of a meeting. Of course this decision is always made following discussions with the Fair Rent staff.

This evening we do have several things on the agenda that need our attention, so I will turn the meeting over to our Director, Adam Bovilsky.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Genuario, Chair

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Bovilsky presented his report to the Commission including statistics for the current fiscal year with comparisons versus the last year and prior year. He highlighted that there is a modest increase in routine work and a substantial increase in intakes and follow-up contacts due to referrals from other agencies and groups including the housing court. He summarized the following changes in commission members:

Re-appointed Commissioners (3-year term): Brenda Penn-Williams, Jeannette Jean-Pierre; John Church, Vice-Chair (former alternate—Appointed as Regular Member);

Mr. Bovilsky thanked the following Commissioners for their distinguished service:

Stacy Parrigin and Ben Guerrero

Mr. Bovilsky added that Mayor Moccia is aware of the two vacancies and term expirations. In addition, he noted that the department Bilingual Secretary, Nilsa Martinez has resigned to accept a job with the City's Corporation Counsel Office and he thanked her for her four years of dedication and service. He added that her position is now classified as Administrative Aide II and is open and has been posted to the general public.

Mr. Bovilsky stated that the feedback from the recent Section 8 Landlord training was very well received. He added that the Free Landlord Seminar was well attended and very informative relative to education of Section 8 programs and on how to handle problems with tenants.

In the News:

Mr. Bovilsky noted news articles on the housing market, foreclosures, and bed-bug sniffing dogs. He also provided a rent survey based on July newspaper advertisements.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bernard commented on the annual dinner and stated that it was good to see old friends and new people on the commission. Mr. Patterson added that Mr. Whitman is looking into reopening the Silvermine Tavern.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Genuario asked for three volunteers from the Commission to serve on the Nominating Committee. Ms. Geake agreed to chair the Committee with Mr. Stumpf and Ms. Penn-Williams. Mr. Bovilsky added that prior to the next meeting the commissioners should be notified of the recommended slate by e-mail with the next month's agenda and meeting packet. Mr. Patterson offered the use of the conference room by the Committee.

Mr. Patterson stated that new carpet tiles were being installed in the office and over the upcoming weekend all furniture was being packed up and moved. He added that phones

and computers would be disconnected on Friday and would be down for the weekend until the installation was completed.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND MOTIONS ON OPEN CASES

Mr. Bovilsky stated that there were no open cases.

PRESENTATION OF NEW CASES

a. Case #1594-09

Mr. Patterson gave a brief update on case #1594-09: Wright, 19 Betts Place #2 which was filed 08/07/09 and he informed the Commissioners that the reason the complaint has been filed was due to the bed bug epidemic that has affected many buildings in Fairfield County. He added that it is the landlord's responsibility to exterminate if an inspection shows an outbreak in more than one unit or if infestation is found in common areas. He then recommended that this case be heard.

**** MR. BERNARD MOVED TO HEAR CASE #1594-09.**

**** MR. CHURCH SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. GEAKE SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox
Telesco Secretarial Services