

**CITY OF NORWALK
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: Carol Frank, Chair; Rahoul Dupervil; Rev. Julius Gamble;
Peter Halladay; Yvonne Rodriguez; Timothy Buzzee (by phone);
Karen Tobin (6:40 p.m.)

STAFF: Adam Bovilsky, Fair Rent/Human Relations Director;
Anna Keegan, Civil Rights Investigator

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Frank called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

**** MS. RODRIGUEZ MOVED TO TAKE THE AGENDA OUT OF ORDER
** REV. GAMBLE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

NEW BUSINESS

a. Report from Nominating Committee

Rev. Gamble reported that the Nominating Committee unanimously voted to slate Ms. Frank as Chair, Ms. Franklin as Vice Chair and Mr. Halladay as Secretary. He asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none the nominations were closed.

b. Election of Officers

**** MS. RODRIGUEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF MS.
FRANK AS CHAIR
** REV. GAMBLE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Commissioners congratulated Ms. Frank. Ms. Frank said that Ms. Franklin was unable to attend this evening's meeting, due to the passing of her father.

**** MR. HALLADAY MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF MS.
FRANKLIN AS VICE CHAIR
** MR. DUPERVIL SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- ** REV. GAMBLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF MR. HALLADAY AS SECRETARY**
- ** MS. RODRIGUEZ SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Buzzee left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Ms. Tobin joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 21, 2016

The following correction was made to page 5:

Under adjournment it should read as follows:

- ** COMMISSIONER TOBIN MOVED TO ADJOURN**
- ** REV. GAMBLE SECONDED**

- ** MR. HALLADAY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**
- ** REV. GAMBLE SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MR. DUPERVIL AND MS. RODRIGUEZ)**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Ms. Frank said that Ms. Franklin's father passed away and that she was in Virginia.

Ms. Frank did not have a report from the Fair Housing Commission. She said that they will begin the budget process soon.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Bovilsky reported that last night, the staff, Fair Housing and the Housing Authority held a landlord seminar in the Community Room. About 30 people in attendance. Language access training took place today and it was very well attended.

CASE UPDATE AND MOTION

- a. No. 239-15E: Jeefnysse Pierre v. Hilton Garden Inn

Ms. Keegan reported that all parties agreed on the written language. One party signed and they are waiting for the other party to sign.

PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present this evening.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Report from Fair Housing Advisory Commission Representative

Ms. Frank said that she did not have anything to report.

b. IHR Day Committee Update

Mr. Bovilsky reported that the International Human Rights Committee met and the leading topic as of that meeting was white privilege. He said that they will try to hold the event in the Community Room on December 8th. He noted that seven topics were discussed, but this one had the most traction.

c. ADA Committee Update

The Commissioners discussed ADA updates to school and said that they can't wait five to 10 years to make the updates. Ms. Tobin said that people who have a disability may not advocate for themselves. Mr. Bovilsky said that he will send the list to the Commissioners and will identify which projects are remaining.

Ms. Frank said that the second floor ladies room handicap stall needs signage and a hook.

Ms. Frank said that there is a request from someone who wants to join the ADA Commission, but there are no guidelines for joining the Commission. An application form will be created and the Commission will be asked to review the form.

Mr. Bovilsky announced that ADA training will be held on November 17th for City Hall employees.

Ms. Frank asked the Commissioners if there is anything they feel should be addressed by this Commission. Ms. Tobin said that the Norwalk Police Taser people seven to eight times more than in other towns. Ms. Frank suggested inviting the Police Chief to speak to the Commission. Mr. Bovilsky added that he spoke to the Police Chief who has information to share and said that he would be happy to speak to the Commission. The Commissioners agreed that hearing from the Chief would be helpful.

Mr. Dupervil asked how they determine if the 10% affordable housing requirement has been achieved. Mr. Bovilsky said that the City is over the 10% mark. The Zoning regulations were recently changed that the 10% requirement applies to the entire City.

Ms. Tobin asked, of the 10% requirement, what is senior housing and what is affordable housing. Ms. Frank said that affordable housing units should be part of each project going up and the units should be the same as the market value units.

Mr. Bovilsky said that he will invite Ms. DeLuca to speak to the Commissioners about disaster preparedness and the Police Chief to talk about the use of Tasers.

Ms. Frank asked the Commissioners to think about topics that impact the community. She suggested some initiatives; however, Mr. Bovilsky noted that while the staff is unable to take on more initiatives, he can bring in speakers.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. HALLADAY MOVED TO ADJOURN**
- ** MR. DUPERVIL SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services