

**CITY OF NORWALK
FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Rev. Ingraham, Chair; Daisy Franklin,
STAFF: Atty. Margaret Suib, Fair Housing Officer
OTHERS: Jason Moorfoot, Knobserver; Leslie Moorfoot, Knobserver.

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Ingraham called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. A quorum was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

APPROVAL OF MAY 20, 2019 MINUTES

Because there was no quorum present, these will be held over to the next meeting.

**INTRODUCTION OF FILM COMPANY, LEIGH MOORFOOT
DIRECTOR/PRODUCER WITH KNOBSERVER**

Ms. Moorfoot came forward and said that she and her husband, Jason, were working on a film that would show the impact of integration in residents lives. She said that unlike a previous film that had focused on various official's vision for the redevelopment of Washington Street, this documentary would look at how integration would actually impact other parts of Norwalk.

UPDATE ON MAYOR'S REORGANIZATION PROCESS

Atty. Suib gave a brief overview of the current status of the reorganization. She said that the Mayor had invited her to participate in the reorganization meetings.

UPDATE ON 20119 FAIR HOUSING EVENTS (JUNE AND SEPT)

Atty. Suib said that the Richard Rothstein film was very well attended. There were people present from the Race and Social Justice Committee that meets at St. Paul's Church also attended.

Atty. Suib said that her comments about fair housing was included in an article in Nancy On Norwalk titled “Opinion: Norwalk’s master plan cannot ignore fair housing needs” (<https://www.nancyonnorwalk.com/2019/09/opinion-norwalks-master-plan-cannot-ignore-fair-housing-needs/#more-84232>)

Ms. Franklin pointed out that they need integrated housing throughout the City. Atty. Suib said that almost 50% of Norwalk residents were paying more than 30% of their income for housing. Atty. Suib pointed out that the State of Connecticut has some goals about affordable housing that need to be included in the Plan of Conservation and Development, which is also known as the Master Plan.

Atty. Suib said that she was pleased with the Race and Social Justice Committee that are moving forward with their interest regarding housing. Atty. Suib said that it would be important to convey that the City needs more affordable housing that is not limited to South Norwalk. Ms. Franklin agreed. Discussion followed.

Atty. Suib said that there an event scheduled for September 18th which will focus on sexual harassment in housing developments. This situation is most likely to occur with low income tenants or single women. Key speakers will be Atty. Nancy Gifford, Assistant U.S. Attorney with the US Department of Justice; Atty. Ndidi Moses, Assistant U.S. Attorney with the US Department of Justice; Greg Kanaan, HUD FHEO Equal Opportunity Specialist and Atty. Erin Kemple, Connecticut Fair Housing Center Executive Director. She said that they expect to have over 100 attendees, split between the two sessions.

UPDATE ON FY 2019/2020 BUDGET

Atty. Suib distributed copies of the budget and reviewed the details with the Commissioners. Atty. Suib said that she was expecting to receive the testing report by October 15th. Ms. Franklin asked Atty. Suib to email the event flyer to the NAACP.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to consider at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Rev. Ingraham adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services.

City of Norwalk
Fair Housing Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
September 16, 2019