



Social Services Commission
Sandra Peterkin, Chair
Benjamin Aponte
Kathleen Lombardo
Caroline Temlock Teichman

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

888 Washington Blvd.
Stamford, CT 06901

Minutes for August 11, 2015

ATTENDEES:

Commission Members

Benjamin Aponte
Kate Lombardo
Sandra Peterkin
Caroline Temlock Teichman

Public Safety Staff

Ellen Bromley, SS Commission Coordinator
Kathy Ruther, Public Safety Secretary

Health Department Staff

Sharona Cowan, Director, Mandated Services

Members of the Public

Michelle James, Executive Director,
Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut

Chair Sandra Peterkin called the meeting to order at 4:15p.m.

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes from June, 2015 meeting were approved.

Motion – Commissioner Lombardo made motion to accept minutes, seconded by Commissioner Temlock Teichman. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

The Commission agreed to make the “Public Comment” portion of the Agenda, a permanent agenda item going forward.

Michelle James from the Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut introduced herself to the Commission. They have won the State grant award for Stamford and will be Stamford’s CAP agency going forward. She described their process for establishing in the community, and reviewed the Energy Assistance program with the Commission.

Old Business

Fair Rent Case Update - Ellen Bromley reported that there are no new Fair Rent complaints. She received a question about legality of landlord access to rental units. She discussed publicizing Tenants Rights through Adult Ed classes, and the Commission discussed Senior Centers being a possible target audience as well.

Ellen discussed proposed changes to Stamford Ordinances. The changes define minority groups that are protected in various Ordinances, in line with State definitions, and highlighting LGBT members. Ellen offered to send a letter of support on behalf of the Commission, should the Commissioners agree.

Survey Project – The Commissioners reviewed and discussed some of the survey results. The Commissioners made progress in compiling answers to some questions on the survey.

New Business

Commissioner Lombardo described her impressions of the JCC Back-to-School “shop” program.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:24pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Kathy Ruther