



**Social Services Commission**  
Sandra Peterkin, Chair  
Moira Colangelo  
Kathleen Lombardo  
Daniel McCabe  
Caroline Temlock Teichman

## **SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

888 Washington Blvd.  
Stamford, CT 06901

### **Minutes for August 19, 2014 Meeting**

#### **ATTENDEES:**

##### **Commission Members**

Sandra Peterkin, Chair  
Moira Colangelo  
Kate Lombardo  
Caroline Temlock Teichman

##### **City of Stamford Staff**

Anne Fountain, Director, Health Department  
Vikki Cooper, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Sharona Cowan, Director, Mandated Services  
Kathy Ruther, Commission Recording Secretary

##### **Members of the Public**

Martin Levine

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Meeting came to order at 4:10pm and was presided over by Commissioner Sandra Peterkin. Commissioner McCabe absent.

#### **Acceptance of Minutes**

Minutes from July 15, 2014 meeting were approved with corrections.

**Motion** – Commissioner Colangelo made motion to accept minutes with corrections, seconded by Commissioner Temlock Teichman and motion carried (04:10).

#### **Old Business**

##### **Vikki Cooper Report (05:05)**

Vikki Cooper appears before the Commission to answer their question regarding whether they have subpoena powers across state lines. Vikki explained that CT General Statutes grant subpoena powers to officers of the Court. The Commission has authority to subpoena parties, so if and when the Commission wishes to subpoena an individual, they should notify Vikki and the Law Department will assist in getting that filed appropriately. However, just like any officer of the Court in CT, those powers do not cross state lines. If the Commission wishes to subpoena someone living out-of-state, they would need to work with the courts of that state, likely a complicated process.

Vikki reviewed additional information she had discussed with the Commission in the past – audio and video recording of hearings is permissible; participation of parties by phone is a courtesy that the Commission may extend if it wishes and at its discretion.

Sharona Cowan, Director of Mandated Services, Health Department (19:15)

Sharona presented the Interim Investigators Report (Attachment A), and reports one new Fair Rent complaint since last meeting (FR201408001), which case appears to be close to settlement. Case FR201406001 is now referred to the Social Services Commission with recommendation to hear the case as the parties were unable to reach an agreement during Reconciliation Meeting.

**Motion** – Commissioner Lombardo made motion to hear Case FR201406001 at the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Colangelo and motion carried (24:50).

Social Services Commission will hear Fair Rent Case FR201406001 at their next meeting on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:00pm following their regular meeting.

Update on Survey Projects (28:50)

Commissioner Colangelo introduced a draft survey that she and Commissioner Temlock Teichman developed since the last meeting (Attachment B). Commissioner Temlock Teichman reviewed the survey with the Commission, and opened up for comments and changes. The Commission discussed the survey questions and wording. Commissioner Peterkin will investigate Google Survey and develop a draft for testing. Commissioners Colangelo and Temlock Teichman will draft a cover letter to send out with the survey.

Social Services Coordinator (01:04:20)

Posted position has now closed, applications are being reviewed and interviews will begin this month.

Commission on Aging (01:04:54)

Commissioner Temlock Teichman contacted Michelle Piskin, member of the Commission on Aging. Their top concerns for Seniors are Senior Housing, Transportation, and Emergency Preparedness (especially for those living home alone). Michelle is willing to discuss collaborating with the Social Services Commission. Commissioner Temlock Teichman will invite her to the next meeting, at a time that is convenient for her.

Commission Involvement in City Meetings (01:12:54)

The Commission discussed the Hoarding Task Force and Housing Task Force, Sharona will send an invitation to Commissioner Colangelo to participate in the next meeting of the Hoarding Task Force.

Public Comment Opportunities (01:17:17)

The Commission discussed opportunities for them to get public comment during the meetings. Commissioner Lombardo inquired how some other Boards incorporate public comment into their monthly meetings. The Commission decided to initiate a 3-month trial for a regular public comment period during Commission meetings. 24-hour notification will be met with a posting on the Commission's web site, as well as a line item on the Agenda. The Commission is under no obligation to respond to the comments, but can respond and ask questions if they wish to.

**New Business**

Resignation of Commissioner (01:27:33)

Commissioner McCabe contacted Commissioner Peterkin to say he was resigning from the Commission, but the Mayor has not received a resignation letter yet. Commissioner Peterkin will check her emails and forward any documentation she may have to Martin Levine.

**Adjournment**

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion** - Commissioner Temlock Teichman made motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Colangelo (01:28:52).

Meeting adjourned at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted:  
Kathy Ruther