TO: Freedom of Information Commission

FROM: Thomas A. Hennick

RE: Minutes of the Commission’s regular meeting of January 12, 2022

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on January 12, 2022. Due to public health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission meeting of January 12, 2022 was conducted telephonically. The meeting convened at 2:03 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Matthew Streeter
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Lenny T. Winkler
Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr.
Commissioner Victoria W. Chavey

Also present were staff members, Colleen M. Murphy, Mary E. Schwind, Kathleen K. Ross, Valicia D. Harmon, Paula S. Pearlman, Danielle L. McGee, Matthew D. Reed, C. Zack Hyde, Jennifer F. Miller, Cindy Cannata, Linda Fasciano and Thomas A. Hennick.

The Commissioners voted, 5-0, to approve the Commission’s regular meeting minutes of December 15, 2021. Commissioner Winkler abstained.

Those in attendance were informed that the January 12, 2022 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.


Terrance Burton appeared on his own behalf. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0359 Christopher Shand v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Christopher Shand appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Jennifer Lepore appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.
Docket #FIC 2020-0393  Ian Wright v. Chairman, State of Connecticut, State Marshal Commission; and State Marshal Commission

Ian Wright appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Thomas Souza appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0443  Ian Wright v. Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Ian Wright appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Lori McCurdy appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2019-0551  Jennifer Holme and David Markatos v. Director of Inland Wetlands & Watercourses, Town of New Canaan; Planning & Zoning Department, Town of New Canaan; Chairman, Town Council, Town of New Canaan; and Town Planner, Town of New Canaan

Docket #FIC 2019-0671  Jennifer Holme and David Markatos v. Town Planner, Town of New Canaan; and Town of New Canaan

The Commissioners unanimously voted to consolidate the two matters. Attorney Amy Souchuns appeared on behalf of the complainants in both matters. Attorney Nicholas Bamonte appeared on behalf of the respondents in both matters. The Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Hearing Officer’s Report in #FIC 2019-0551. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt both Hearing Officers reports, Hearing Officer’s Report #FIC 2019-0551 as amended. * The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0053  Karen Bosse v. Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Economic Community Development; and Connecticut Department of Economic Community Development

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.
Docket #FIC 2020-0119  Companions and Homemakers, Inc. v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0120  Companions and Homemakers, Inc. v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services; and State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0242  Doug Lieb v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0309  Meredith Braxton v. Chief, Police Department, Town of Greenwich; Police Department, Town of Greenwich; and Town of Greenwich

Meredith Braxton appeared on her own behalf. Attorney Abby Wadler appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2020-0464  Michael Bracken Jr. v. Christopher Kervick, First Selectman, Town of Windsor Locks; Board of Selectmen, Town of Windsor Locks; and Town of Windsor Locks

Michael Bracken Jr. appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Carl Landolina appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.
Docket #FIC 2021-0030  
Steve Guidetti v. Superintendent of Schools, East Hartford Public Schools

The Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Hearing Officer’s Report. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report as amended. * The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2021-0179  
Jessica Carter v. President, Manchester Eighth Utilities District; and Manchester Eighth Utilities District

The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer’s Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that staff had begun using the new software that will allow two FOI hearings to be conducted simultaneously and that this should help reduce the commission’s case backlog.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that Attorney Reed had accepted a position with another state agency.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

____________________________________
Thomas A. Hennick
MINREGmeeting 01122022/tah/01132022

* See attached for amendments
AMENDMENTS

Docket #FIC 2019-0551  Jennifer Holme and David Markatos v. Director of Inland Wetlands & Watercourses, Town of New Canaan; Planning & Zoning Department, Town of New Canaan; Chairman, Town Council, Town of New Canaan; and Town Planner, Town of New Canaan

13. It is found that, for purposes of §1-206(b)(1), G.S., the “denial” occurred on July 2, 2019, and thus the complainants were required to file their appeal with respect to the request issued to Director Holland within thirty days of the July 2, 2019 E-MAIL (i.e., by August 1, 2019).

Docket #FIC 2021-0030  Steve Guidetti v. Superintendent of Schools, East Hartford Public Schools; and East Hartford Public Schools

1. At the time of the request, §1-200(5), G.S., provided:

“[p]ublic records or files” means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public’s business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, or to which a public agency is entitled to receive a copy by law or contract under section 1-218, whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, [videotaped,] printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.