



# THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HOUSING MATTERS

FOR THE HOUSING SESSION OF THE HARTFORD - NEW BRITAIN JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Patricia Augur  
Chairperson

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## RECORD OF DISCUSSION

MINUTES of October 4, 1979 Meeting

In Attendance: Elizabeth Washington, Patricia Augur, Raphael Podolsky, Hilda Rivera

Visitors: Leroy Pittmann, Ben Z. Rubin, David Furie

Staff: Ann Marie Tetreault

The meeting, called for 4:00 p.m. convened at 4:30 p.m.

There was not a quorum present.

Financial Report: The balance is the same as last month, \$14.10, but the chairperson is in the process of ordering some materials from the American Bar Association on Housing Courts at a reduced rate (because their national conference on housing justice was cancelled).

Committee Reports: Publications Committee--Aetna Printing Company, come January, will re-print a free supply of brochures. Carol Maurer has resigned as publicity person. Patricia Augur requested that she see all material before it gets mailed out.

Forms Committee--Balance is needed between legal requirements and plain language. Elizabeth Washington recommended that the forms committee be requested to have all draft forms ready to present at the next meeting.

Data Collection--Dave Furie gave a break-down of Summary Process--Civil--Small Claims--Criminal cases by town since January. Arthur Greenblatt sent a sample survey and draft letter to solicit funds from CHFA and area attorneys for staffing of data collection efforts. Dave Furie volunteered to refine the draft consumer. Separate questionnaires should be designed for attorneys and litigants. The data-research sub-committee gave a preliminary report with suggested outline for final report to the legislature--typed copies will be distributed for comment. It would include the

MINUTES CONTINUED...

following among other things: time objectives-legislative problems and resources. Comments of data limitations. Whatever is available from judicial department. Comparison of before and after cases--break-down of types of cases.

Court Facilities: Due to the Housing Court's expanded caseload, the Advisory Council agreed that detailed attention should be given to an alternative Hartford location. Elizabeth Washington, Court Facilities Chairperson agreed to activate her committee and to make recommendations on specific sites, also a list of criteria to the next meetings.

Court Budget: Continuation of existing positions and funding for the Hartford/New Britain Court past June, 1980, has been included by the Judicial Department in Their budget which has gone to the Governor's Office. However, no planning has been done to expand the court statewide. The Advisory Council members present indicated a reluctance to press for statewide expansion at this time.

Planning for November Hearings: The council agreed that two hearings should be held, one in Hartford (perhaps at the state capitol) and one in New Britain. The Enfield Bar Association was suggested as a contact for setting up a hearing in an area poorly served by the Housing Court. Since no one present had the time to assist in setting up these hearings, the need for a paid staff person was discussed.

The meeting ended at 6:08 p.m.