



RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Citizens Advisory Council
for Housing Matters

August 2, 1979 4 p.m.
Department of Housing

Absent: Arnold, Cole, Rivera, Shilinga, Sharpe, Stafford, Washington,
Hanks, Greenblatt

Substitutes: Shiela Scott for Carol Maurer

Guests: Donna Bristol, Hartford Relocation Office; Linze Brown

The meeting convened at 4:45 p.m. A quorum was not obtained.

The Minutes of the 7/5/79 meeting were distributed. Podalsky requested that these and future Minutes identify members by name where a motion does not pass unanimously. The names of the members who abstain or vote in opposition will be shown. A correction to Page 2, Paragraph 4 was made to indicate that Femia and Stafford were opposed and Podalsky abstained.

A. Subcommittee Reports

- (1) Publicity and Community Education - Femia reported that 15,000 informational brochures are ready for distribution to the court, community groups, and and relevant agencies and organizations. They are color coded for ease of handling. There are 6,500 English, 5,500 Spanish, 2,000 Italian, and 1,000 Polish. Femia will discuss a discrepancy between the bill and the quote with the printer, but the cost will not exceed \$618.

The subcommittee is preparing a mailing list. Sharpe's office will perform the mailing and serve as contact point for requests. Augur took responsibility for supplying the New Britain Housing Court. Scott volunteered to supply the Hartford location. Podalsky urged that new funding or free printing be investigated in case the supply is depleted.

- (2) Forms Revision - Podalsky reported that Ed Dale has circulated drafts of revised forms among the committee, which is composed of Arnold, Dale, Greenblatt, and himself. No critical comments were received. Bill Sadek sent Podalsky a revision of the summary process form for comment. Guertin noted the need for the response form to show that an answer is necessary. Podalsky stated that he hoped the revised forms can be sent out to Citizen Advisory Council members in advance of the next meeting.
- (3) Personnel Selection - Linda DiJohn-Bantell was appointed Housing Specialist effective 7/20/79. Podalsky suggested supplying the court with an equal employment opportunities resource list for future use.



(4) Research/Evaluation - Augur advised that the committee has been unable to get data from towns on their housing code enforcement activities. Podalsky suggested additional law students for empirical research. Augur noted that the Housing Court is maintaining fairly detailed statistics on their caseload. Scott stated that discrimination complaints should be an area of investigation.

(5) Court Facilities - Tabled

B. Chairperson's Report - Augur

An offer by Ann Marie of the Department of Housing to perform routine Citizens Advisory Council mailings was gratefully accepted.

Augur reviewed Judge Spada's letter to Judge Loiselle to clarify its meaning.

Augur and four or five other Citizens Advisory Council members were interviewed by an ABA researcher regarding the Court.

Augur reviewed the personnel turnover which has occurred in the Court. She wrote Judge Spada, supporting the establishment of a 2nd full-time permanent clerical position. The Court currently has one permanent full-time clerk, one temporary full-time clerk, who is leaving in a month, and one part-time clerk. A minimum of three full-time clerks are needed. Augur wrote a 2nd letter about the problem.

Femia suggested a letter to the Chief Court Administrator with a copy to Governor Grasso, detailing the personnel and physical plant problems which have plagued the Court since its establishment.

C. New Business

(1) FY '81 Housing Court Budget - Augur advised that the deadline for budgetary submission is 8/18/79. Podalsky pointed out that the Court's present statutory authorization expires before the FY '81 budget begins on July 1, 1980. It was agreed that Judge Spada must request at the outset the amount necessary for proper Court functioning. Augur will discuss his plans with him. Bristol, Femia, and Guertin offered to support and monitor the progress of the Court's budget through the process if need arises.

(2) Court Monitoring Report - Tabled

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Femia

Carol A. Femia
Recording Secretary

CAF:cbn
8/3/79

