

CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HOUSING MATTERS

Housing Session - Hartford, New Britain
minutes of October 30, 1980
Hartford Housing Court
Special Meeting

Attendance:

1. John M. Andreini Legal Aid Society
2. Joseph Stafford
3. Rafie Podolsky
4. Susan Harkett-Turley - Urban League
5. Adriana Falcon-Trafford - La Casa de Puerto Rico
6. Jessie Collins
7. Pat Augur
8. Carol Maurer - Capitol Region Conference of Churches
9. Sheila L. Scott - Capitol Region Conference of Churches & substitute secretary

I. Minutes

the meeting convened at 4:55 p.m. corrections: The 2nd page of the October 9 minutes "...motion to use 3 rd floor of Morgan Street..." was corrected to read "...motion to use 1st floor...". The corrected minutes were accepted.

II. Correspondence

The proposed bulk mailg. pertaining to Code Enforcement changes has been postponed.

.. Department of Housing (DOH)

It was announced that Michael Sharpe is leaving DOH and that his successor will replace him on the housing council.

The Council members learned that the Task Force recommendations for the housing court were removed from DOH three year plan. Adriana Falcon-Trafford expressed her concern and questioned whether the Citizens Advisory Council should act immediately upon publication of DOH's three year plan. Rafael Podolsky explained that the recommendation of the Task Force was different from that of the Citizens Advisory Committee. The Task Force recommended a state-wide Housing Court. Podolsky does not feel that CACHM should become involved with the DOH three year plan.

IV. Judicial Selection

The Judicial Selection committee members are Rafael Podolsky and Pat Augur. Podolsky presented to the Citizens Advisory Council a written report on Judicial selection. The CACHM is concerned about how to present their suggestions to Judge Speziale. A list of ten (10) judges were approached; 3 interviewed. After CACHM members read the report and discuss the issue of which judges to recommend and how such recommendations should be presented to Judge Speziale, the following motion was made, motion: Judge Satter be very highly recommended, Judge Borden and Covello would be acceptable. The motion passed unanimously. Copies of the Judicial Selection report were made available.

V. Court Facilities

Joseph Stafford presented the court facilities subcommittee report on the assessment of the former Hartford Police Station on Morgan Street. The Morgan Street site would be acceptable if all our criteria were met after rehabilitation of the building. An attempt is being made to locate approximately 6,500 sq.ft. of space within the Greater Hartford area. A newspaper advertisement soon to be released will hopefully attract property owners to mail in proposals. The new site will be permanent.

The Judicial Department does not work directly with potential landlords but through the Department of Public Works. CACHM members discussed their major court facility concerns such as the need for centralized location, public transportation accessibility and ample parking. All of these issues would have to be met before the Morgan Street site is acceptable.

Handicap Accessibility - Class Action Law Suit

John Andrini of the Legal Aid Society reported on the Class Action Law suit pertaining to the accessibility of the court facilities to handicapped persons. The first amendment and the 504 accessibility law are instruments of this class action. The case is filed in Federal Court. The copies of this report were made available to CACHM members.

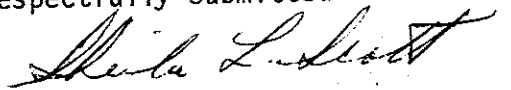
CACHM Vacancy

The Citizens Advisory Council has one vacancy. The Commission of Advocacy for the Handicapped will try to appoint a representative to this slate.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25.

The next meeting will either be on November 13th or 20th.

Respectfully Submitted



Sheila L. Scott, Secretary Pro Tem