

State Citizens Advisory Council for Housing Matters: Meeting of 3/19/84

Meeting began at 4:25 p.m.

Present: Mintz, Brown, Church, Kor, Stafford, Tatem, Tierney, White, Wallace, Pels  
Podolsky

1. Minutes: Kor moved, Wallace seconded acceptance of minutes as presented. The motion passed with seven in favor, none opposed, two abstentions.
2. Judge Driscoll's Report

The Honorable Margaret Driscoll focused on the legislative recommendations in her report. She summarized them (see pages 9-20). She also talked about facilities problems in Norwalk and asked if anyone had suggestions about alternative facilities. She pointed out that separate facilities create problems in terms of access to sheriffs and interpreters. A question was asked about whether, in the Stamford court where the building is to have an addition, it would be possible to obtain additional space for housing court.

3. Housing Prosecution Bill (Raised Committee Bill 189)

A brief report was given of the meeting with Austin McQuigan by Podolsky, Mintz, and Wallace (see March 8 Podolsky letter to co-chairpersons of Judiciary Committee). Judge Driscoll described the current situation in her court on housing code prosecution. It was moved by Church and seconded by Brown that the substitute language proposed by Podolsky in the March 8 letter to Rep. Tulisano and Sen. Owens be endorsed by the Council. Passed unanimously.

4. Forms

Hartford reported that there are no forms in Spanish. Pat Wallace reported that Jon Alander had not yet obtained the promised copies from New Haven. She reported that Alander would mail to Mintz.

5. Phone Listings

The central person in The Judicial Department who deals with phone listings was contacted and was sympathetic to the need. His name was not available but will be provided. It was moved by Wallace, seconded and passed by a vote of 6 to 3 that the sub-committees investigate the cost of creating toll-free service to the housing court from all towns within the district served by each court.

6. April 19 Decision on \$1200 grant application request to Cooperative Foundation. They may give a grant with a matching grant provision. Problems were pointed out with getting any funds from the legislature even on a matching basis.
7. Letter to Judiciary Committee Re: Study of the Expansion of the Housing Court System

Rep. Tulisano has not responded to Mintz letter. Sen. Owens sent a letter offering congratulations to the Council for undertaking the study (which means that he didn't understand our letter). Mintz will follow-up.

7. Housing Specialist Job Description

No action was taken on this at this time.

8. Housing Prosecution Policy

There was no mailing of the Hartford and New Haven policy documents. Discussion of this was postponed until the next meeting.

9. Next meeting: will be in three months on the call of the chair.

10. Circulation of minutes and other materials

Fairfield County Council members did not receive minutes or any other materials. The Vice-Chairperson in the Bridgeport-Norwalk area will be contacted by Mintz to see if he can circulate materials in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Secretary Pro Tem,  
Pat Wallace