



THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HOUSING MATTERS

December 19, 1985

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 19, 1985

Members present: Douglas Mintz, Raphael Podolsky, Patricia Wallace,
Joseph Wincze.

(1) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. on December 19, 1985, in the courtroom of the Housing Court in New Haven. Douglas Mintz, chairperson, presided.

(2) Approval of minutes: The minutes of the September 10, 1985, meeting were approved unanimously.

(3) Treasurer's report: Raphael Podolsky reported that the present balance of the Council is \$1,164.37. The Council's finances are:

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>Revenue</u>			
CIGNA		\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Fairfield Co. Coop. Fndtn.		1,200.00	0.00
Interest		41.03	58.17
TOTAL		<u>\$1,591.03</u>	<u>\$ 408.17</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Mailings			
Postage		\$ 131.56	\$ 97.52
Duplication		134.98	35.10
Receptions		125.31	155.74
Reports		286.00	0.00
TOTAL		<u>\$ 677.85</u>	<u>\$ 288.36</u>
Balance as of....	12/31/83	12/31/84	12/20/85
	\$ 131.38	\$1,044.56	\$1,164.37

Raphael Podolsky will ask CIGNA for a \$350.00 contribution for 1986.

(4) Housing code prosecution: It was reported that Vicki O'Donnell has replaced Christopher Morano as prosecutor in the Hartford-New Britain Housing Court. Mr. Morano's departure resulted in large part from the failure to make his position permanent. As a per diem employee, he had no sick days, vacation days, health insurance, or other normal employee benefits. Efforts by the Executive Committee to have the position made permanent on an emergency basis failed when Chief State's Attorney John Kelly withdrew his support for the proposal. It is expected, however, that a permanent slot will be included in the Governor's 1986-87 budget. Mr. Kelly has also proposed to the Governor that a position be created for a fourth housing code prosecutor to handle the non-housing court districts in eastern Connecticut. The Council unanimously endorsed funding for a fourth full-time housing code prosecution position

(motion by Raphael Podolsky, second by Patricia Wallace).

After discussion of whether it would or would not be desirable to have more than four housing prosecutors, Chairperson Mintz asked the three area subcommittees to obtain information on (a) the number of cases being handled by prosecutors at each housing court location, (b) the extent of clerical assistance for each housing prosecutor, and (c) the extent, if any, to which present caseload imposes an unreasonable work burden on housing prosecutors.

(5) Maloney Committee: The committee chaired by Judge John Maloney, which was supposed to review the Advisory Council's recommendations for Judge Ment, has completed its meetings. Judge Maloney's report has not yet been filed. He has indicated that the report will represent his own conclusions (rather than those of the committee) and will be submitted solely in his own name. The committee itself provided Judge Maloney with comments and analysis but did not vote on proposals.

(6) Brochures: The draft of Advisory Council brochures for each of the three housing courts is now complete. Each brochure includes text in both English and Spanish. The Executive Committee has approved both the language and the format and has received an estimate of approximately \$810 for the printing of 15,000 copies (5,000 of each brochure). The Council unanimously authorized the printing of the brochures, to be paid by a private sponsor if possible or, if not, in an amount not to exceed \$900 from the Advisory Council's funds (motion by Patricia Wallace, second by Joseph Winze). Patricia Wallace will arrange for final typing; Raphael Podolsky will be responsible for the title pages and for delivery to the printer.

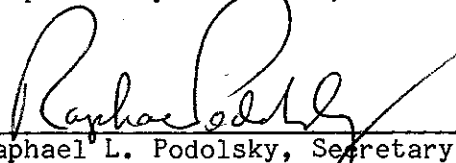
(7) New judges: Two new judges have been assigned to the housing courts effective January 1, 1986. Judge Thomas West of Danbury will preside in the Bridgeport-Norwalk Housing Court. Judge William Ramsey of New Haven will preside in the New Haven-Waterbury Housing Court. The appropriate area subcommittees of the Advisory Council and the Council's Executive Committee were consulted by the Judicial Department in the assignment process. Chairperson Mintz delegated responsibility for organizing receptions for the two new judges to the applicable area subcommittees.

(8) 1986 plans: Chairperson Mintz announced his intention to hold public hearings on the housing court in 1986 so as to gather information for the Council's 1987 report to the General Assembly. The tentative plan is to hold them in the late spring of 1986.

(9) Housing court telephone listings: Douglas Mintz will check with the Judicial Department to see if it is implementing the Council's recommendation to expand the blue page listings for the housing courts.

(10) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Raphael L. Podolsky, Secretary