



THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HOUSING MATTERS



July 6, 1988

Minutes of the Council meeting of May 5, 1988

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by Chairperson Raphael Podolsky.

(1) Membership: It was reported that Reginald Walker of Bridgeport is no longer a member of the Council because he missed three consecutive meetings.

(2) Election of officers: The following officers were elected unanimously:

Chairperson:	Raphael Podolsky
Treasurer:	Kenneth White
Secretary:	Lynn Waters

(3) Subcommittee meetings: The Council broke into subcommittees to discuss local issues. These included (a) review of housing code prosecution, (b) the mechanism for making recommendations on judicial assignments, (c) observation of housing courts and magistrates, and (d) updating of open house invitation lists. The following subcommittee chairs were elected:

Hartford/New Britain:	Robert Kor
Bridgeport/Norwalk:	Diana Crouse
New Haven/Waterbury:	Glen Falk
Eastern Connecticut:	Morris Czaczkes

The subcommittee chairs are also vice-chairpersons of the Council and are members of the Executive Committee.

(4) Biographical booklets: Lynn Waters distributed booklets containing brief biographies of Council members. Any corrections and/or omissions should be sent to Lynn Waters.

(5) Minutes: The minutes of the February 25, 1988, meeting were corrected by deleting the first sentence of the second paragraph of §4(i) on p. 2 of the minutes. The minutes were then approved as corrected.

(6) Financial report: Raphael Podolsky will transfer financial record-keeping to Kenneth White. The Capitol Region Conference of Governments is presently holding \$404.11 on behalf of the Council for open houses. One of the duties of the newly-elected treasurer will be to raise additional money.

(7) Old business:

(a) Basing of chief housing clerk and housing specialist: TABLED.

(b) Telephone book listings/toll-free telephone lines: TABLED.

(c) Mediation sessions: Diana Crouse's committee felt that observation of mediation would not be appropriate at this time

but that the matter could be reconsidered in six months. The report was accepted.

- (d) Housing court opinions: It was reported that the bound housing court opinions will be in the law libraries in the non-housing court districts by fall.
 - (e) Pro se materials: The chair requested Morris Czaczkes to review the availability of pro se forms and explanatory materials in the non-housing court districts.
 - (f) Hartford housing specialist: The chairperson reported that Judge Ment has stated his intention to fill the vacant Hartford housing specialist position (vacant because of the promotion of Frances Calafiore to statewide chief).
 - (g) Assistant housing clerks: The chairperson reported that these positions are still being filled by temporary clerks with no benefits, resulting in a high turnover. The Council has previously recommended that the positions be made permanent. The Executive Committee will discuss this with Judge Ment.
- (8) New business:
- (a) Housing investigators: Morris Czackes proposed that funding should be obtained so that the housing prosecutors will have their own investigators. A discussion of the issue was inconclusive, and the matter was tabled. The Executive Committee will be meeting on May 10 with Domenick Galluzzo of the Chief State's Attorney's Office to discuss prosecution-related issues.
 - (b) Small claims magistrates: The subcommittee chairs were asked to find out the extent to which magistrates are being used to hear small claims cases and to observe them in action.
 - (c) Courtroom observation: The New Haven/Waterbury Committee indicated it would arrange for interested members to observe housing court sessions. Raphael Podolsky encouraged all districts to arrange similar observations.
 - (d) Housing code inspector proposals: TABLED.
 - (e) Practice Book revisions: There was discussion of the proposal from the Rules Committee of the Superior Court to require that motions to dismiss, strike, and revise be filed simultaneously. It was suggested that the Council should oppose the proposal. Discussion revealed that the Council was not prepared to take a position, and a motion to table carried.

The Council's next meeting will be in September. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

/s/ Lynn Waters
Secretary

Members present:

Ethel Austin
Diana Crouse
Morris Czaczkes
Samuel Deibler
Aura Diaz
Elaine DiNigris
Glen Falk
Linda Francois
Joelen Gates
Sr. Susanne Gebrian
Robert Kor
Elliot Lane
Elisabeth McKee
William Mottolese
Raphael Podolsky
Richard Tenenbaum
Patricia Wallace
Lynn Waters
Kenneth White

Others present:

Jean Claude Louhisdon
David Pels