

**MINUTES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY  
TENANT-LANDLORD COMMISSION**

July 21, 2011

Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
Conference Room 9  
Chair Liff presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners Geier-Smith, Liff, McRae,  
Kocsis, McEneaney, Gomez, Panettieri

Absentees:

Kiffney, Denton, Vogl

Staff Attending:

Michael S. Liberman, Director  
Cable and Consumer Services  
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief  
Consumer Affairs Branch  
Vee Johnson, Staff Liaison  
Consumer Affairs Branch

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Chair Liff.

**Minutes**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Geier-Smith and seconded by Commissioner McRae to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2011, meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

- Chair Liff initiated a discussion regarding the format of the TLC package. She would like to click on the links under *Information Items* in the package. Director Liberman will research options for establishing active links in the PDF format provided.
- Chair Liff welcomed Tenant Commissioner, Angelina Panettieri. She is a Government Affairs Assistant with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists and resides in the Providence District of the county. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and provided background regarding their affiliation on the Commission.

**Director's Report**

- Director Liberman discussed issues for the upcoming 2013 Fiscal Year.
- The Meeting Space Management and Events Supports group is now with DCCS. The five employees are located in Suite 127. They are responsible for Government Center reservations and meeting space in the conference center.

- Channel 16 recently received an Emmy Award for its program, *“Juggling in a Struggling Economy: The FY 2012 Budget Process*, plus a national award for excellence from the Alliance for Community Media. A nomination for excellence in programming is also under consideration by the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.
- The Trespass Towing Advisory Board will be seeking input from the Tenant-Landlord Commission in the fall regarding trespass towing issues.

### **Committee Report**

- Commissioner Geier-Smith shared information regarding preventive measures and reliable products needed in the continued battle against bed bugs.
- No new programming issues discussed. Education regarding bed bugs remains a priority.

### **Staff Report**

- The lease checklist, recently approved by the Commission, is posted on the Consumer Affairs’ Tenant-Landlord Web page.
- The next Planning Commission Tysons Committee meeting is Wednesday, September 7, 2011, in conference rooms 9/10 at the Fairfax County Government Center at 7 p.m. A listening session regarding the public’s concerns, view and ideas regarding transportation funding and the Committee’s interim progress report to the Board of Supervisors is scheduled.
- Staff discussed the continued partnership with HOST (Housing Opportunities Support Team) and asked for input from Commissioners regarding the County’s mission to end homelessness no later than December 31, 2018. There was discussion regarding the challenges faced by the rental housing market when unemployment, under employment and unexpected medical expenses create financial hardships for tenants that impact their ability to pay rent as agreed. Staff will continue to share information and educational resources available from the Tenant-Landlord Commission with the tenant-landlord community.

### **Commission Matters**

- The calendar was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner McRae and seconded by Commissioner McEneaney to have a meeting recess in August 2011. The motion carried unanimously. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 15, 2011.
- There were no other additions or changes to the calendar.
- Commissioner Geier-Smith shared information about a subletting violation at one of her communities. The sublessee reported the tenant to management who was subletting without knowledge or permission from the landlord as required by the lease agreement.

### **Old Business**

- There was no old business.

### **New Business**

- A Tenant Energy Saver tip sheet was reviewed and discussed by the Commission. The review will continue at the September meeting.
- A summary of key tenant-landlord amendment and laws passed during the 2011 Virginia Assembly was distributed. A copy will be emailed to all Commissioners.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Commissioner McRae and seconded by Commissioner Gomez to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.