

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

April 15, 2010

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

Attendees:

Commissioners Geier-Smith, Gomez,
McEneamey, Liff, Kocsis, McRae, Vogl
and Thomas

Absentees:

Kiffney

Staff Attending:

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

Guests:

Carol C. Erhard
Director of the Rental Services Division
Department of Housing and Community
Development
Kevin Denton
Fairfax County Tenant

The meeting was called to order at 7:32p.m. by Chair Liff.

Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner McEneaney and seconded by Commissioner Thomas to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2010, meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Chair Liff introduced Commissioner H. Lillian Vogl, appointed on March 23, 2010, by Supervisor Herrity as Citizen Member #1. She is an Associate with Covington & Burling LLP, and is a homeowner in Oakton, Virginia.
- Guest, Kevin Denton was also welcomed by the Commission.

Director's Report

- Director Liberman provided the following regarding the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget:
 - The Board Budget Committee meets on Friday, April 16, 2010. This is the last meeting before the budget mark up.
 - The Board of Supervisors will mark up the Fiscal Year 2011 budget on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.
 - The formal adoption of the budget is April 27, 2010.
- Director Liberman provided a summary regarding a matter currently before the Virginia Supreme Court regarding the Trespass Towing Ordinance. In dispute is the county's requirement that a vehicle towed in Fairfax County must remain in the county. An opinion is expected this summer.

Committee Report

- The *Bed Bug* Consumer Focus program returned to Channel 16 on April 1st.
- Commissioner Geier-Smith distributed DVDs to Southern Management Apartment managers.

Staff Report

- Liaison Johnson attended the North County Network Series on 4/14/2010, where Deputy County Executive Patricia Harrison outlined the Human Services Strategic Focus areas for 2010-2012. Affordable and Stable Housing is one of the major focus areas. The principle goals of the Housing Blue Print adopted by the Board of Supervisors in January are:
 - End Homelessness in ten years through coordination with the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Toya Taylor from the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness provided information about the Housing First & Rapid Re-Housing programs in October 2009.
 - Provide Affordable Housing Options to Special Needs Populations such as those with physical and sensory disabilities. Older adults and young adults with autism, who have aged out of the school system, have been identified as having the greatest need.
 - Reduce the waiting lists for Affordable Housing by half in ten years. The list is currently over 12,000.
 - Produce workforce housing sufficient to accommodate projected job growth through partnerships with the private sector.
- Copies of the Tenant-Landlord brochure were distributed at this event.
- The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington launched the **Capital Area "Foreclosure Network"**. This group is funded by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The network will support groups providing services to homeowners and renters facing foreclosure as well as conduct marketing and outreach campaigns. The Capital Area Tenants in Foreclosure Conference will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2010. Information about this event was distributed to Commissioners, who were encouraged to attend.
- There were no questions about the statistical reports.

Commission Matters

- There is currently one tenant vacancy.
- The calendar was reviewed. No updates at this time.

Old Business

- Liaison Johnson is working on a short-form Lease with input from Commissioner Kiffney. A draft will be available at the June 17, 2010, meeting.
- Commissioners Geier-Smith, McEneamey, Liff, Kocsis, Kiffney, McRae, and Thomas are available to attend the 2010 joint meeting of the Arlington, Fairfax, and City of Alexandria Tenant-Landlord Commissions on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at the Alexandria City Hall, room 2000. The meeting starts at 7:00p.m. Commissioner Geier-Smith suggested we share the Consumer Focus program, *Bed Bugs*. Commissioners will inform if there are other agenda items for the roundtable discussion.

New Business

- Carol C. Erhard, Director of the Rental Services Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development provided an overview of housing programs under the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority with emphasis on the Housing Choice Voucher program. Information was exchanged between Ms. Erhard and the Commission based on services and resources provided to the Tenant-Landlord communities in Fairfax.
- Commissioner Geier-Smith and Southern Management staff have registered for the Fair Housing Luncheon on Wednesday, April 28, 2010. Flyers of the event were distributed. Commissioners interested in attending were reminded to RSVP by April 21, 2010.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Geier-Smith and second by Commissioner McRae to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.