

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

March 20, 2014

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

Attendees:

Commissioners Gomez, Park, Schwarz,
Geier-Smith, Kocsis, Congleton

Absentees:

McRae, Panettieri

Staff Attending:

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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 7:46 p.m. by Chair Congleton.

Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner Geier-Smith to amend the minutes to read that a motion was made by Commissioner Schwarz and seconded by Commissioner Gomez to accept the slate of candidates presented for election. The motion to amend was seconded by Commissioner Gomez and approved by the Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Geier-Smith and seconded by Commissioner Gomez to approve the minutes, as amended from February 20, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Chair Congleton welcomed Commissioner Paula Park who was appointed on February 25, 2014, as a landlord member. Commissioner Park is the President of Times Realty, Inc., which specializes in residential and commercial real estate sales, finance, and property management of International community members. She was welcomed by the Commission.

Director's Report

Director Liberman did not have a report.

Staff Report

- The 4th annual Northern Virginia Housing Expo is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, 2014, at Robert E. Lee High School in Springfield. Since this is an annual event, it was suggested that the Commission consider staffing an exhibit next year with Consumer Affairs.
- Summaries of two cases mediated by Consumer Affairs were reviewed. One case involved a security deposit dispute. The other case was a dispute about written notice of a rent increase. Both cases were resolved through mediation.
- Branch Chief Jones informed of the success of events during National Consumer Protection Week. The event with the Division of Unclaimed Property with the Virginia Department of Treasury found \$64,704.79 for consumers.

Commission Matters

- The calendar was reviewed. Meeting availability was updated.
- Chair Congleton initiated a discussion regarding housing issues involving eldercare. He will arrange for a presentation from an industry expert on assisted living in Fairfax County at an upcoming meeting.
- Affordable housing issues were discussed with an emphasis on amendments currently being considered by the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) regarding residential studios in residential districts. Chair Congleton will invite staff from DPZ to review the proposed amendment with the Commission.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- A letter of appreciation will be mailed to Commissioner McEneaney thanking him for his service to the Commission.
- The Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs extended an invitation to the Commission to attend the Annual Fair Housing Month Forum and Luncheon on Thursday, April 10, 2014, at the Waterford Fair Oaks. Bryan Greene, General Deputy Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will give the keynote luncheon address. Registration information was distributed.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gomez and seconded by Commissioner Schwarz to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.