

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

November 21, 2013

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

Attendees:

Commissioners Panettieri, Gomez,  
Geier-Smith, Kocsis, Congleton

Absentees:

McRae, McEnearney

Staff Attending:

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

Guest:

Rebecca Makely, Chief,  
Mail and Accounting Services Bureau

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 p.m. by Chair Gomez.

**Minutes**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Kocsis and seconded by Commissioner Geier-Smith to approve the minutes from October 17, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

- Chair Gomez informed that Commissioner McRae will attend the December meeting, but plans to resign from the Commission.

**Director's Report**

- Director Liberman suggested that the Commission consider reviewing the need for an ongoing Channel 16 Committee. The Commission will consider this at the January meeting.

## **Committee Report**

- Commissioner Geier-Smith did not have a report.

## **Staff Report**

- Staff will meet with a parent group at Bailey's Crossroads Elementary School on December 5, 2013, to share information about maintenance and repair issues in rental dwellings. Material prepared by the Commission will be distributed.
- The next meeting of the Residential Studios Committee is December 9, 2013. The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments are being evaluated. All meetings are open to the public.
- A summary of two closed cases mediated by staff was presented. One case involved a tenant's dissatisfaction that a Pay or Quit notice was issued by the landlord after the rent was paid. The other complaint involved a security deposit dispute between a tenant who rented a room without permission of the landlord to another tenant. Mediation efforts were not successful. The case proceeded to the Fairfax County General District Court where the tenant who rented the room was awarded their security deposit plus court costs.

## **Commission Matters**

- The calendar was reviewed. No changes or additions at this time.
- Chair Gomez requested a presentation regarding the county's FY 2015 budget. Staff will update the Commission as the budget process proceeds.
- The December year end meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. (Later changed to 7 p.m.)

## **Unfinished Business**

- None.

## **New Business**

- Commissioner Congleton provided background and a historical timeline about hoarding trends in Fairfax County and answered questions from Commissioners.
- Hoarding is a mental and emotional disorder that has no social, economic, gender, or educational boundaries.
- Since the Hoarding Task force was formed in 1998, the county has used resources to provide a coordinated response to address the threat to life, safety, and property created by hoarding to the individual as well as the community.

## **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.