

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

September 20, 2007

Fairfax County Government Center,  
12000 Government Center Pkwy.  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
Conference Room #9  
Chair, S. Liff, presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners: Aho, Geier-Smith, Kocsis  
Liff, McRae, Rosier

Absentees:

Gomez, Walde

Staff Attending:

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

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

**Minutes**

The September 20, 2007 meeting minutes were approved.

**Reports**

- Chair's report
  - Chair Liff will not be available for the October 18, 2007 meeting. Vice Chair Aho will preside at the meeting.
  - Chair Liff would like to invite writers who have a tenant-landlord newspaper column to a TLC meeting. She will obtain background and biographical information about the writers to present to the Commission.
  
- **Committee reports** - There were no Committee reports.

## **Staff reports**

- Commissioner McRae's term will expire on 12/31/07 and the following Commissioners' terms expire on 1/31/08: Commissioners Rosier, Liff, Aho, Walde and Gomez.
- The Spanish translation of the Tenant Resource Sheet is expected to be completed in October. This will be a valuable resource for outreach activities.
- Liaison Johnson attended the Culmore Apartment Managers Association Meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2007. The meeting was attended by apartment managers and police officers in the Mason District. More tenant-landlord material was distributed and information about the services available through Consumer Affairs was emphasized. The next meeting is November 21, 2007 at Parkwood Apartments.
- Chief Jones reviewed the monthly statistical reports. The majority of the complaints received in August were maintenance and repair issues.
- Director Liberman distributed a brochure about the Lawrence V. Fowler Award for distinguished service by a member of a county commission. To be considered for the award, individuals must have served for at least 10 years. The deadline for nominations is October 1, 2007. Commissioners Rosier expressed an interest in being nominated by fellow Commissioners.

## **Commission Matters**

- The letter in recognition of Liaison Wagner remains under consideration. It is anticipated that action will be taken before the end of this year.
- The attendance record was circulated and reviewed by the Commissioners. The information was accepted as presented.
- No appointments have been made for the citizen and tenant member vacancies.

## **Old Business**

1. Bylaws
  - Staff is awaiting a response from County Attorney Jim McGettrick regarding the amended Bylaws.
2. Tenant-Landlord program for Cable Channel 16
  - The Channel 16 Advisory Committee did not have any information to report.
  - Liaison Johnson thanked the Commissioners for their ongoing assistance during the planning, preparation and taping of the upcoming Consumer Focus program. Commissioner Grier-Smith and her staff contributed time and footage for this program. Commissioner Aho approved the program script, and taping of the final segment was completed on 9/12/07. Commissioner Aho shared his comments regarding the script with the commission. Liaison Johnson will review the program with producer, Donna Monacci on September 24, 2007, for final editing. The program is scheduled to air in October 2007. Director Liberman informed the Commissioners that the program will air three to five times each week and that a DVD will be provided to all Commissioners.

3. Tenant-Landlord Commission Sign

- Staff continues to compile a current list of all apartment complexes in Fairfax County for distribution of the TLC sign and other materials the Commissioners would like to include in the mailing. Chair Liff requested a date for the mailing of the TLC signs. Staff will provide a timeframe at the upcoming meeting.

4. Letter regarding Trespass Towing ordinance

- Liaison Johnson presented a draft letter based on the motion made by the commission to offer support of the amendments proposed by the Trespass Towing Advisory Committee and Regulation and Licensing Branch to the trespass towing ordinance. Changes were requested. Staff will make the requested changes and forward to Chair Liff for her signature.

**New Business**

- Tenant-Landlord Web page

Commissioners discussed the Web page and its usability. Commissioner Rosier will provide suggestions for changes or modifications for discussion at the upcoming meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.