

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

April 14, 2011

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

Attendees:

Commissioners Geier-Smith, Liff, Kiffney,  
Kocsis, McEneaney, Vogl, Denton, McRae

Absentees:

Gomez

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:

Captain I Marlin Hood  
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue  
Department

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

**Minutes**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Kocsis and seconded by Commissioner Denton to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2011, meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

- Chair Liff encouraged Commissioners to look ahead and provide suggestions for future guests and events.

**Director's Report**

- Director Liberman provided a status report of the proposed FY 2012 Budget. The Board of Supervisors marked up the proposed FY 2012 Budget on April 12. This budget includes a two-cent decrease from the \$1.09 rate in FY 2011. The Board will formally adopt the county-wide budget on April 26.
- Former Commissioner Thomas asked that Director Liberman thank the Commission for their letter of appreciation for his service as a Commissioner.

## **Committee Report**

- The Channel 16 committee did not have a report.

## **Staff Report**

- In response to a Commissioner's inquiry regarding the County's lobbying policy, Dr. Sue Mittereder, Legislative Director with the Office of the Fairfax County Executive, advised that based on a review by the County Attorney, it would not present a conflict with the County's lobbying policy if a member of the Tenant-Landlord Commission were to lobby Congress or the General Assembly, either as an individual or as a representative of an organization or company, provided that person does not present themselves as a County representative or spokesperson. The Commissioners did not have additional questions.
- Staff will attend a meeting on April 26, 2011, with the Housing Opportunity Support Team (HOST) in South County to share information and establish partnerships with non-profit organizations and other service providers that offer housing advice and assistance. This meeting is coordinated by the Fairfax-Falls Church Housing Locator Network. Our educational information for the tenant-landlord community will be provided. Commissioners expressed an interest in participating. Staff will email details to Commissioners so they may attend.

## **Commission Matters**

- The calendar for the year was reviewed. No additions or changes at this time.
- Commissioner Geier-Smith attended a presentation by Christopher Lee, CEO of CEL Associates about the economic forecast for the next two decades which will present many challenges.
- Commissioner Denton attended the Fair Housing Luncheon on Wednesday, April 13, 2011. John Trasvina, Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunities from HUD was the keynote speaker.

## **Old Business**

- The lease checklist review was conducted. Staff shared the feedback obtained from County Attorney Bailey regarding a request by Commissioner McEneaney that a statement regarding service animals be included in the checklist provision regarding pets. The review was finalized. Staff will update and email a copy for review by all Commissioners.
- A decision for adoption of this educational tool will be made at the May meeting.

## **New Business**

- Captain I Marlin Hood from the Fire Protection Systems Retesting Branch with the Office of the Fire Marshal provided an update on current fire prevention educational programs, and shared information about enforcement, inspection and investigative actions undertaken by the Office of the Fire Marshall.

- Director Liberman informed that the Trespass Towing Advisory Board will have updates soon relating to trespass towing issues. Staff will meet with the Commission to share information and discuss revisions to the Virginia Code.
- The Tenant Energy Saver tip sheet will be reviewed at the May meeting.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Kocsis and seconded by Commissioner Denton to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.