

MAYOR
CAROLINE SIMMONS



Social Services Commission
Caroline Temlock Teichman, Chair
Kathleen Lombardo
Ellen Petersen
Renai Strother

Stamford Social Services Commission Meeting
888 Washington Blvd.
Stamford, CT. 06901

Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 5:00 P.M. Via Zoom
Revised Draft Minutes

Attendees

Commissioners:
Caroline Temlock Teichman, Chair
Ellen Petersen
Renai Strother

City of Stamford
Sharona Cowan, Social Services Director
Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety and Welfare

Members of the Public:
Bethy Oviedo, Pastor and Community Liaison
Alba Ochoa, Daughter of Pastora Oviedo

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Caroline Temlock Teichman at 5:07 P.M.

Public Comment

Pastora Bethy Oviedo introduced herself. Her daughter Alba Ochoa introduced herself and translated for her mother, who is looking for resources to help with homelessness, drug addiction, food insecurity and clothing in her community.

Minutes

The minutes for the January 10th, and February 7th, 2023, meetings will be voted on during the next scheduled Commission meeting in April.

Old Business

Commission Chairperson Caroline Temlock Teichman submitted the Commission approved Stamford Social Services Commission By-Laws to Legal Department for approval. Condolences from the Commissioners were sent to Ellen Bromley, as discussed during the January meeting.

Report from the Social Services Director

The Director is still in the process of collecting documentation for needed Fair Rent Hearings. Five cases are still pending with three from the same landlord. There are seven new complaints that are in mediation currently. Social Service Commission By-Laws were submitted to Legal for approval, with no comment to date. Statewide entitlements for state health assistance due to Covid will be expiring. Grant applications will be submitted to enable us to provide education concerning enrollment of undocumented and uninsured children in Medicaid before they turn 13.

New Business

Director Lou DeRubeis announced organizational changes that will include Social Services falling under the umbrella of the Health Department; and merged, would be renamed Health & Human Services.

The Chair invited Pastora Bethy Oviedo to return to our next meeting on April 12th, when she could be added to the Agenda, as we could discuss the needs of her organization at that time. It was suggested that she first confer with the Director of Social Services regarding the program she wants to start and available resources.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.