

MAYOR
CAROLINE SIMMONS



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

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

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 5:00 P.M. Via Zoom
Draft Minutes

Attendees

Commissioners:
Caroline Temlock Teichman, Chair
Ellen Petersen
Renai Strother

City of Stamford:
Sharona Cowan, Social Services Director

Members of the Public:
None

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Caroline Temlock Teichman at 5:06 P.M.

Commissioner Strother moved to amend the agenda to consider Old Business immediately after Public Comment. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes

The minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously. The minutes of the January 10, 2023 meeting will be voted on at the next meeting of the Commission

Old Business

The Commission reviewed the proposed by-laws section by section. After discussion was completed, Commissioner Strother moved to approve the by-laws as written and amended at this meeting. Commissioner Petersen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Director will send out copies of the approved by-laws to all Commission members and the Chairperson will send the by-laws to Legal.

Prior to the report from the Social Services Director, the Chairperson informed the Commission that Ellen Bromley's sister Julia passed away. A period of mourning will be observed at the Bromley home. The Commission sends its condolences. The Chairperson will send a card on behalf of the Commission.

Report from the Social Services Director

The 2023-24 budget process has begun. The Director is seeking to move certain part-time positions to full-time in the areas of eviction storage and internal support.

The Director described two grant opportunities:

1. The first would support health insurance outreach. One issue is that during the pandemic, many people did not have to provide certain types of documentation supporting their eligibility for State insurance. That provision has now ended, and they will need to provide documentation. Another issue is enrolling undocumented children in health insurance programs before they turn 13. If they are enrolled by then, they can keep the insurance until they are 18. This grant would support efforts in those areas.
2. The Community Development Block Fund grant would support services to help hoarders. It would cover items such as dumpster rental, cleaning services, organizers, and behavioral health consultants.

Fair Rent complaints:

There are five complaints still pending. The Commission will hear two complaints from the same property at the next meeting on February 8, 2023.

Freedom of Information guides concerning Electronic Regular and Special Meetings were sent to the Commissioners via email.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 P.M.