



Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, May 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Sandra Price, Board Chairperson.

Present:

Sandra Price – Board Chairperson
Richard Weisenhoff – Vice Board Chairperson
Judi McCormick – Board Member
Patricia Branch – Board Member
Young Smith – Board Member
Jerome Rollerson – Board Member
Cheryl Mattis – Deputy Director, Department of Community Resources and Services
Lila Boor – Investigator, Office of Consumer Protection

Business Discussed:

The minutes from the last meeting, held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 were approved.

Lila Boor gave updates from the Office of Consumer Protection:

- New changes by the County Council to the current County landlord/tenant law. The Office's current written materials will be amended to reflect the changes.
- Changes will be made to the data reports to include case outcomes.
- Trespass/Tow and Peddler/Solicitor licenses for 2021 must be renewed by July 1, 2021.
- An ad will be placed in the Korea Times newspaper for one year to inform the Korean community of the Office's services.
- Lila Boor will do a presentation for Sandra Price's Getting Ahead group on May 26, 2021.
- The County Executive's Office has put out a press release to advertise the vacancy on the Board.
- Names badges for all board members will be ordered.
- Giveaway pens will be ordered and paid for with the Board's \$1,000 annual budget.
- Discussion on the planning of a Landlord/Tenant event in October 2021:

Cheryl Mattis explained that Resident Rights Month pertains to residents of care facilities, not residential tenants, so the event doesn't have to be in October. Also, there are many other events planned for October. She also said that the Board should plan for a virtual

event. Sandra Price said that she would like to keep it in October and wants it to be a four-hour event with a general session along with one track for landlords, and one for tenants. Cheryl Mattis stated that a virtual event should not be more one-and-half-hours. Cheryl Mattis stated that she needs the Board to write a preliminary proposal to be given to Jarrett Carter for him to pass along to County Administration for approval.

Lila Boor suggested that there should be four panelists from County government: Office of Consumer Protection, Office of Human Rights and Equity, Housing Commission and the Department of Licenses, Inspections and Permits. Cheryl Mattis suggested that Rose Burton from the Office of Community Partnership should be contacted and asked to participate. Sandra Price said she would contact Bridges to Housing Stability. Both Sandra Price and Patricia Branch like the idea of an opening session, with two tracks. Cheryl Mattis said that the event should be live and open for questions, and participation. Judi McCormick raised the question of what will draw participation. Sandra Price stated that it will draw landlords who want to know their obligations, and tenants who want to know their rights. Richard Weisenhoff mentioned that he's not sure if the event should be in October because of other events planned. He also thinks having a keynote speaker is a good idea.

Young Smith said that visibility and simplicity are important. She mentioned the event should be between one-and-a-half hours to two-hours long. Sandra Price mentioned that maybe the event should take place during National Consumer Protection Week and have a different session for each day. Cheryl Mattis said that it may be difficult to get people to tune-in for several days.

Lila Boor suggested that each panelist discuss both landlord responsibilities and tenant rights in the same presentation, then have a question/answer period before moving on to the next panelist. Patricia Branch suggested a two-day event, one for landlords, and one for tenants. Sandra Price stated that she will contact Rose Burton, and Bridges to Housing Stability. Lila Boor stated that she will contact the County government agencies mentioned earlier. Cheryl Mattis said that would contact the Administrator of the Housing Department to see if they want to partner.

- Discussion of the document Judi McCormick wrote to help people facing eviction to understand the process:

Cheryl Mattis stated that she has given it to Rose Burton for feedback, and asked Lila Boor to forward it to Cynthia Peltzman, attorney for Consumer Protection, for legal review before it can be shared with the public.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM by Board Chairperson, Sandra Price.