

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION
SUB-COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS
MONDAY, JULY 28, 2008, AT 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: CHAIR: Bronz. Members: Burton, Jenkins, Oros. STAFF: Vita; Dylan Payne, Summer Intern.

IN ATTENDANCE: Diane Atkins, Barry Kramer, David Y. Chen.

Mrs. Bronz called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL:

Diane Atkins: Is a resident from Mount Vernon, New York and is appointed by the County Executive as the Department of Social Services Representative member, for a term to expire December 31, 2010. She is the associate Commissioner of DSS, where she is responsible to carry out the goals, objectives and mission set by the Commissioner for families and children.

Mrs. Bronz mentioned the diverse programs of the DVC and Ms. Atkins agreed that there is an increase of cases involving emergency service. Most recent, 3 cases were reported where arrests were for violent acts and threats against, wives, mothers and children. The City of Yonkers has increased reports, which is mainly due to current economic stress and the Council's concern is that there is no documentation for fear of being afraid, embarrassment, and language barrier, and education and knowledge of services need to be known.

The members were pleased with the Councils resources and services and thanked Ms. Atkins for volunteering her time to serve.

On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Bronz, the appointment was approved by a 4-0 vote. All in favor none opposed, motion carried.

FAIR HOUSING BOARD:

"The Fair Housing Board has been created pursuant to the Fair Housing Law and is empowered to receive complaints of discriminatory practices in housing and real property in Westchester County and to ensure the investigation, conciliation and adjudication of these complaints and any other appropriate remedies that administer and effectuate the policies and procedures of the fair Housing Law."

Barry Kramer: Is a resident of Scarsdale, New York and has been appointed by the County Executive for a term to expire on December 31, 2008. He is the owner, operator and principal broker of Westchester Choice Realty Company, where he initiates transactions by matching buyers and sellers and negotiates contracts and facilitates closings.

Submitted by: Emilia Vita

Approved: 1/26/09

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Mr. Kramer comes well-known to this committee and is sensitive to the situations involved and his knowledge of public marketing, housing, and sales is outstanding with strong involvement in the community. He has served on the Human Rights Commission since it was founded in 2000, and is one out of four of the original advocates.

On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Burton, the appointment is hereby approved by a 4-0 vote, all in favor, none opposed.

COUNCIL FOR SENIORS:

David Chen: is a resident of Scarsdale, New York and has been appointed by the County Executive to serve as a member representing the 5th Legislative District (Ryan) for a term to expire on December 31, 2009. He will be filling the expired term of Eileen Madison. He has a BS in social work, MS in Recreation, a M.Ed. and an Ed.D., in Social Gerontology and is presently the Activity Coordinator in the department of Psychiatry at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital in the Bronx.

Dr. Chen has an extensive background and experience just not for the patients, but a learning experience for all, including family members, and care providers. They need to be educated about health care and awareness especially in multi-cultural communities, especially in Asian-American communities who are culture sensitive.

The members were impressed with Dr. Chen's background and expertise and thanked him for volunteering his time and asked that he visit the committee at any time to update the progress of the Council.

On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Jenkins, the appointment is hereby approved by a 4-0 vote, all in favor, none opposed.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.