

ERIE COUNTY FAIR HOUSING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES

Tuesday, August 9, 2022; 10am

Erie County Rath Building – Department of Environment & Planning  
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202  
Call-In Meeting (WebEx)

Board Attendees:

Karen Rybicki – ECDSS (Chair)

Pamela Lanich – WNY Law Center (Secretary)

Sharon Ciminelli--BNAR

Terri Flaherty – Belmont

Karen King—Public Advocacy

Other Attendees:

Andrew Dearing – DEP

Dan Corbitt—HOME

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approval of minutes
  - a. May 10, 2022—Meeting **(VOTE)**
    - i. Motion to approve—Sharon Ciminelli; 2<sup>nd</sup>— Karen King;  
Unanimous approval
3. 2021 Fair Housing annual report—still with the County legislature
4. New Discrimination Case—2022-1
  - a. source of income discrimination/refusal by Northstar to accept DSS security agreement
  - b. HOME spoke with housing provider who confirmed refusal to accept DSS security agreement but said they will accept it going forward
  - c. HOME wants to get agreement in writing and for complainant to be reimbursed, as she had to borrow funds to pay the security deposit, and to make sure this housing provider does not continue this practice
  - d. Board could request additional relief under conciliation to provide relief to other tenants harmed

- e. Board to send letters to complainant and Northstar that investigation has started
5. Discrimination Cases Update
- a. 2020-2 and 2020-3 and 2020-4—HOME cannot establish contact with complainant
  - b. 2021-1—HOME trying to work out an agreement for complainant to move into apartment when it's available with possible reduced rent amount
  - c. Cases with County Attorney
    - i. 2020-5—conflict with HOME so referred to County Attorney—were working on conciliation but can't reach respondent since property was sold in 2021
6. Motion to adjourn—Sharon Ciminelli 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Rybicki; Unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned 10:43 am

Minutes submitted by Pamela Lanich 8/9/2022

Next Quarterly Meeting: November 15, 2022 at 10:00am