

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION
SUB-COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008, at 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Acting Chair: Jenkins. Members: Oros. STAFF: Vita.

IN ATTENDANCE: CEO's office: Bill Randolph. GUESTS: John Spicer, Nancy Travers, Timothy Collins.

Mr. Jenkins, as Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH:

John Spicer: Is a resident of Pelham Manor, New York, and has been recommended by the County Executive, to serve as the City of New Rochelle Representative member, for a term that expires on December 31, 2008. He will replace Dr. Jeffrey Brensilver, who resigned. Mr. Spicer comes to the Board highly recommended, with numerous years of experience in the hospital field and health care administration and would be a significant asset to the Board of Health.

Mr. Spicer finds this an opportunity to share the issues of Mount Vernon and New Rochelle, as the President and CEO of the Sound Shore Health System, Inc., with Westchester County and report issues of the Board first hand.

The members agreed that Mr. Spicer's experience and background will certainly prove to be an asset to Westchester's Board of Health.

On the motion of George Oros, seconded by Ken Jenkins, the recommendation of John Spicer to the Board of Health was approved by a 2-0 vote. All in favor none opposed.

WAIVER REQUEST:

Nancy Travers: Is a resident of Yonkers, New York and has requested a Waiver pursuant to the Section of 883.21 of the Westchester County Ethics Law.

Ms. Travers recently resigned her position as the 1st Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Social Services after 10 years, to become a paid consultant to Westchester County. During her tenure, Ms. Travers was instrumental in establishing the County's Fatality Review Team, which meets after every death of a child and works towards the formation of a NYS approved multidisciplinary investigate team. The Department has expressed its interest in hiring her to serve as Consultant to DSS for the purpose of coordinating and developing the necessary changes and to complete the necessary improvements to the County' Fatality Review Team.

Submitted by: Emilia Vita
Approved: 8/25/08

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RENT GUIDELINES BOARD:

Timothy Collins: Is a resident of Irvington, New York, and this is his second time he has appeared before this Committee to interview for the Public Member position for the Westchester County Rent Guidelines Board. He is presently a partner with the law firm of Collins, Dobkin & Miller, LLP, covering such areas as Real Estate, Landlord & Tenant, Personal Injury and Administrative Law as well as General Law practice. The firm handles all litigation matters, which include motions, depositions, summary proceedings, settlement negotiations, trials and appeals.

Prior to his current position, he served as Assistant Attorney General for the NYS Department of Law, Real Estate Financing Bureau, where he handled complaints involving fraud in the offer and sale of real estate securities, he organized and facilitated financial workouts for troubled cooperatives and condominiums.

Mr. Collins said if appointed to the RGB, he will support the rent regulations in general; he would listen, offer a fair opinion and would vote with the majority. Mr. Jenkins thanked him for his time and said he will be notified after all candidates were interviewed.

During a brief discussion, Mr. Jenkins recalled during the last Legislative session's interviewing process, the members questioned Mr. Collins' loyalty to his law firm as a representative for Landlord and Tenants, and it was an issue appointing him to the RGB as to his fairness as a Public Member. The issue about his fairness were brought under question also by the Builders Institute of Westchester County who mentioned that he attended meetings where he favored the tenants, and his application was not considered at the time.

Mr. Collins name will remain on the candidates list until all interviews for the Public Member position is completed.

Blanca Lopez: Was unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts and will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.