



New York State Association of REALTORS® , Inc.

Fair Housing and Cultural Diversity Committee Meeting Report

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

7-9 Fort Orange – The Desmond Hotel & Conference Center, Albany, NY

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Tracy A. Boomhower
Chair

Susan Sommers
Vice Chair

Tracy Boomhower, welcome, mission statement and introductions

Vice Chair Susan Sommers and association staff were introduced. Committee members were asked to sign in on the committee sign in sheet that is being circulated.

The committee and guests heard two excellent fair housing presentations from Bryan Greene, Director of Fair Housing Policy of the National Association of REALTORS and Caroline Downey, General Counsel, NYS Division of Human Rights. Mr. Greene addressed discrimination and reasons why some do not report it. Mr. Greene provided an in-depth update on NAR's commitment to Fair Housing, the new NAR Fair Housing Action Plan, and the New Fair Housing Committee. Mr. Greene also informed the committee about ACT – Accountability, Culture and Training. Ms. Downey provided an update on the 2019 Legislative Changes as it applies to the NYS Human Rights Law. She went into detail about Gender identity, lawful sources of income, credit history, advertising, arrest provisions, and companion animals. Ms. Downey's PowerPoint Presentation is available on the NYSAR meeting planner.

Suggestions for Issues/Speaker at October 2020 Meeting Turning Stone Resort, Verona, New York – Members can email Tracy with their suggestions for speakers and issues.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Fair Housing and Cultural Diversity Committee supports and promotes equal opportunity in real estate through the distribution of information and discussion of established and new concepts. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee are appointed by the NYSAR President. Membership in the body of the committee is open to all members who request it.