

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY FAIR HOUSING TASK FORCE

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stlawco.org/Departments/Planning/AdvisoryBoards/FairHousingTaskForce



Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2026

1. **Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum.** Bob Santamoor acted as interim chair, and called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. A quorum was established. All those present introduced themselves.

	BOARD MEMBERSHIP	ABSENT	PRESENT		STAFF	ABSENT	PRESENT
1.	Bob Santamoor		X		Preston Santimaw		X
2.	Katie Geidel	X			GUESTS	ORGANIZATION	
3.	James Galasinski		X		Pamela Weed-Nichols	NYS Attorney General's office	
4.	Mike Pearson		X		Julia Toce	NYS Attorney General's office	
5.	Tyler Navoichick		X		Rick Pominville	The Resolution Center	
6.	Amy Plumadore	X					
7.	Mike McQuade		X				
8.	Andrea Montgomery		X				
9.	Timothy Redmond		X				
10.	Valerie Dana		X				
11.	Mike Zagrobelny	X					
12.	Matilda Larson (County Planning Director designee)		X				
13.	Courtne Toms	X					
	TOTAL		9/13				

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

The agenda was unanimously adopted (McQuade/Pearson).

3. Approval of February 24th Meeting Minutes.

The February 24th minutes were unanimously approved (Navoichick/McQuade).

4. New Business.

- a. Presentation on mediation services provided by the Resolution Center – Rick Pominville, Alternative Dispute Resolution Director.

1. Pominville delivered his presentation which outlined the following:

- The Resolution Center covers landlord/tenant dispute cases among others.
- These services do not require people to go through court.
- The Resolution Center does not make any final decisions, they only mediate disputes.
- This process is confidential.
- Disputes can range from habitability, holdovers, non-payment of rent, and evictions.
- The office in St. Lawrence County does handle eviction disputes, the office in Jefferson County does not.
- It is better to contact the Resolution Center in the early stages of the dispute.
- Mostly handle cases in Ogdensburg where about 50% of cases are landlord/tenant disputes.
- Agreements can be filed in court.
- If a dispute goes through the court it can finish in around 45 minutes, if an individual contacts the Resolution Center directly, it may take a few weeks.
- Fees are \$75 as a total for two parties; a third party may add an additional \$25. They do not collect a fee from parties if mediation is through the Ogdensburg City Court.

- b. Overview of the St. Lawrence County Mobile Homes Assessment preliminary research. Santimaw provided an overview which included:

- Money from the program would fund demolishing and replacing manufactured homes.
- It is best to identify parameters that present the greatest need and how the program can be successfully implemented.
- What percentage of housing stock is mobile homes?
- What percentage of mobile homes are within parks?
- A 14'x70' home in normal condition would be valued at approximately \$120,000
- This assessment should identify communities that have an exemption.
- Lot rent is a complicated factor for tax liability.
- This assessment should focus on owner-occupied lots.

5. Old Business.

- a. Villages of Canton and Potsdam Exclusionary Zoning Story Map presentations

1. Santimaw stated that he and Larson gave presentations to the Village of Canton Planning Board and various members of the Village of Potsdam Planning Board, municipal board, and ZBA. Larson stated that the concept was received differently in each respective village.

b. Scheduling Exclusionary Zoning Story Map presentations.

1. Larson stated that staff have been in contact with the City of Ogdensburg and the Village of Massena for the next presentation.

6. Updates and Announcements.

a. Agency Updates

None

a. Welcome to new members

1. Larson welcomed the two newest members of the Fair Housing Task Force – Tyler Navoichick and Tim Redmond.
2. The Board also thanked James Galasinski for his service and dedication to the Fair Housing Task Force as this was his last meeting before relocating to Maryland. Thank you for your service on this Board, James, and best wishes for the future!

7. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m. (Pearson/McQuade). The next meeting date will be Tuesday, August 25th 2026 at 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Preston Santimaw

Planner I