

**NEW HAVEN CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND (CERF)**  
**TRUSTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024, 8:00 A.M.**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Dial in Numbers:** US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592

**Password:** 74748712

**Meeting ID:** 841 6734 3527

**Meeting URL:**

<https://newhavenct.zoom.us/j/84167343527?pwd=5LDbBCQynhqI0fVf3atLwFIDByuit2.1&from=addon>

**Meeting ID:** 841 6734 3527

**Password:** V7ZhePR3

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Jerome Sagnella, Chairperson, Trustee  
Cathy Graves, Trustee  
Dr. Kristy Sampieri, Controller, Trustee  
Mark Pietrosimone, Trustee

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Justin Elicker, Mayor, Trustee  
Susan Whetstone, Trustee

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Leanna Ambersley, Pension Administrator  
Taylor Cannon, Payroll/Benefit Auditor  
Carolyn Kone, Fund Counsel, Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman  
Derek Ciampini, Raymond James  
Dave Moran, Raymond James  
Troy Singleton, Workers Comp  
Cherlyn Poindexter, CERF Retiree  
Damaris Rivera/ Fairview Capital  
Gar Chung  
Cyril Espanol

*Trustee Sagnella commenced the meeting at 8:00 a.m.*

**ITEM 1: INVESTMENT REPORT:**

**A. RAYMOND JAMES Presents**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Pietrosimone to accept recommendations from financial consultants

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Graves

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 20, 2024, VIRTUAL MEETING**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Graves to approve the minutes

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Pietrosimone

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

### **ITEM 3: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:**

#### **A. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Graves to nominate Jerry Sagnella

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Pietrosimone

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

#### **B. ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIRPERSON**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Sagnella to nominate Cathy Graves

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Pietrosimone

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

#### **C. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CERF POLICIES - INVESTMENT POLICY, BYLAWS, AND CODE OF CONDUCT, ETC.**

#### **D. CERF'S PROCUREMENT POLICY**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Pietrosimone to table Item C & D

**DISCUSSION:** Derek Ciampini suggested that investment policy be reported in July's meeting.

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Sampieri

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

#### **E. UPDATE ON RFP FOR MEDICAL CONSULTANT**

Email update when it closes on 4/23

### **ITEM 4: CONTRIBUTION WITHDRAWALS – INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **A. Dijonee Talley**

Department: Comm. Resilience

Participation date: 08/02/2021

Withdrawal date: 04/04/2024

BU: 3144

Resignation date: 03/01/2024

#### **B. Jacob Robison**

Department: City Plan

Participation date: 03/14/2022

Withdrawal date: 04/04/2024

BU: 3144

Resignation date: 02/23/2024

### **ITEM 5: DISABILITY RETIREMENT RE-EXAMINATIONS**

The Pension Act covering the CERF vests the board the authority to re-examine members of the Fund retired on a disability retirement three (3) times over a five (5) year period from date of retirement. The Retirement Board requires that each member retired for a disability be re-examined by one of the Boards medical examiners.

**Georgiana Gaffney-Moran: (2<sup>nd</sup> re-exam)**

Date of Employment: 06/02/2008

Date of Retirement: 03/19/2020

Position prior to Retirement: 911/Dispatcher

**Amber Arnold-Anderson: (3<sup>rd</sup> re-exam)**

Date of Employment: 11/27/2001

Date of Retirement: 05/19/2018

Position prior to Retirement: Clerk Typist

**James Moore: (3<sup>rd</sup> re-exam)**

Date of Employment: 08/26/1998

Date of Retirement: 07/24/2018

Position prior to Retirement: School Security Officer

**James Stephens: (1<sup>st</sup> re-exam)**

Date of Employment: 09/04/2012

Date of Retirement: 10/20/2022

Position prior to Retirement: Refuse Laborer

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Pietrosimone to approve disabilities re-exams

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Graves

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

**ITEM 6: SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY RECONSIDERATION:**

The applicant has submitted in writing a request to rescind the service-connected disability pension and remain solely on a normal retirement. Yale Occupational has re-examined the applicant and submitted an updated report.

**A. Ambritt Myers**

Department: Public Health

Retirement Date: 12/31/2016

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Graves to move into executive session for Item 6 and to include Legal Counsel, Workers Comp and Pension Staff along with the Trustees.

**MOTION SECONDED:** By Trustee Pietrosimone

**MOTION CARRIED:** By unanimous vote

*Enter Executive Session at 8:07 am*

*Exit Executive Session at 8:26 am*

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Pietrosimone to approve continuation of disability pension as is.

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Graves

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

**ITEM 7: ACTIVE DEATH – INFORMATION ONLY**

**A. ROBERT SAUNDERS (DATE OF DEATH: 03/01/2024)**

*Trustee Sagnella asked for a moment of silence for those in Item 7*

**ITEM 8: PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: (See Attached Itemization)**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Pietrosimone to approve the payment of the bills.

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Graves

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

**ITEM 9: OLD BUSINESS:**

**ITEM 10: NEW BUSINESS:**

Trustee Sagnella addressed the Outside earnings cap of \$6800 for CERF disability pension recipients. Trustee Sagnella wants to send a notification to labor relations to reevaluate the cap of \$6800 to a more suitable amount for today's times. Trustee Sampieri volunteered to get the proper information from federal guidelines on the proper cap.

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Graves to put this item on next month's agenda.

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Sampieri

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

**ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Made by Trustee Graves to adjourn

**MOTION SECONDED:** by Trustee Pietrosimone

**MOTION CARRIED:** by unanimous vote

*The meeting adjourned at 9:29 A.M*

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**May 15, 2024  
8:00 a.m.**

**ITEM 8: ITEMIZED BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

**A) LEGAL EXPENSES:**

<b>BRENNER, SALTZMAN &amp; WALLMAN LLP- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES: March 2024 #73644</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>
<b>Total Legal Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>

**B) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:**

<b>GRASSO ASSOCIATES LLC</b>	<b>\$29,897.00</b>
<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,897.00</b>

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$35,897.00</b>
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**ATTEST:**

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**Dr. Kristy Sampieri, Controller, CERF Trustee**