FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by Noma Beaumont,

Report of Hearing Officer

Complainant

Docket #FIC81-163

against

April 16, 1982

Town of Wallingford; Planning and Zoning Commission of the Town of Wallingford,

Respondents

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on March 4, 1982, at which time the complainant and the respondent commission appeared, stipulated to certain facts, and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found:

- 1. The respondent commission is a public agency as defined by \$1-18a(a), G.S.
- 2. On August 3, 1981, the respondent commission held a combined special meeting with the Wallingford Public Utilities Commission in the mayor's conference room.
- 3. By letter filed with the Commission on September 23, 1981, the complainant alleged that the minutes of the respondent commission's August 3, 1981 meeting had not been available within the time prescribed by §1-21, G.S., and that she had experienced undue difficulty in obtaining a copy of such minutes.
- 4. It is found that on September 2, 1981 begining at approximately 9:30 a.m., the complainant made requests for the minutes of the respondent commission's August 3, 1981 meeting at the offices of the town clerk, the Public Utilities Commission, the mayor and the respondent commission, and was told at each office that no such minutes had been filed.
- 5. It is found that at approximately 12:30 p.m. on September 2, 1981, the complainant received a copy of the minutes of the respondent commission's August 3, 1981 meeting from a representative of the respondent commission who delivered such copy to the complainant at the town hall.

6. It is concluded that the minutes of the respondent commission's August 3, 1981 meeting were not available for public inspection within seven days of such meeting in violation of §1-21, G.S.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

1. The respondent commission shall henceforth act in strict compliance with the requirements of §1-21, G.S., regarding the taking and filing of minutes of its meetings.

Commissioner Curtis Cofield

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of May 12, 1982.

Mary Jo Jolicoeur

Clerk of the Commission