

Bovilsky tapped to head Norwalk Housing Authority

By Robert Koch



Photo: Erik Trautmann / Hearst Connecticut Media

NORWALK — Adam Bovilsky, the city’s human relations director, is poised to take the helm of the Norwalk Housing Authority.

Bovilsky was one of about 10 candidates to apply for the position of housing authority executive director, according to Rahoul Dupervil, a member of the authority’s board of commissioners.

“We went through the process of selecting and doing the interviews with all of them and then we had a second interview with four of them,” said Dupervil, a longtime member of the Norwalk Human Relations Commission. “From the

four that were left, we picked Adam, because he had most of the qualifications. He's been with Human Relations for 10 years. He has experience; he has a law degree, which most of them didn't have. We were looking for someone who can understand the law.”

The housing authority's attorney has prepared an employment contract for Bovilsky and sent it to him. The board is awaiting his answer, Dupervil said.

Bovilsky, reached Wednesday afternoon, declined comment.

He would start his new job at the end of May or early June, according to Dupervil.

Bovilsky, who lives in Ridgefield, graduated cum laude from Boston College Law School in May 2004 and holds a bachelor's degree in religious studies from Yale University. Since June 2007, he has worked as director of the Human Relations and Fair Rent Department, the affirmative action officer, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Title II coordinator for the city of Norwalk.

In 2017, Bovilsky was the inaugural recipient of the Black Excellence Award — a “Champion of Civil Rights” — from the Norwalk chapter of the NAACP, according to his resume.

Housing authority board Vice Chairman Jeffrey Ingraham said board support for Bovilsky initially wasn't unanimous — “Adam comes into that office not having worked directly in the housing industry whereas some of the other candidates had such experience” — but he added the board affirmed him as the winner at the end of the selection process.

“My hope is again that Adam will be very successful,” Ingraham said.

“Obviously, his immediate challenge is literally learning the job and learning the industry. In addition to Washington Village, we also have major plans as it relates to Colonial Village.”

The change in leadership comes as the housing authority and developer Trinity Financial move forward with rebuilding Washington Village under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Choice Neighborhoods Program. The first phase — 80 new apartments at 13 and 20 Day St. — is largely complete.

Curtis Law, longtime executive director of the housing authority, informed the board last year that he intended to retire. Since then, he has stayed aboard as interim director to help the authority with daily business. Neither Ingraham nor Dupervil elaborated on whether authority Deputy Director Candace Mayer, who happens to be Law's wife, intends to stay.

Law served 43 years as executive director of the housing authority, which oversees Washington Village, Roodner Court and other public housing complexes as well as Section 8 vouchers, after-school programs and an award-winning college scholarship program. His most recent salary was \$178,000, according to the housing authority.

Noting that Bovilsky hadn't yet accepted the contract offered to him, Ingraham declined to disclose the salary offered within that contract.