

**City of Syracuse  
Citizen Review Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 9, 2014  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
Common Council Chambers  
Public Comment - 20 minutes at 6:30 PM**

<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>E</u>
Barber, William	X			Masella, Joseph	X			<b>Common Councilor</b>			
Horan, Carole J.	X			Stuart-McIlvain, Sarah	X			Kessner, Jean	X		
Jennings-Bey, Timothy	X			Timmons, Tafara Blake		X					
Levine, Louis	X			Turner, V. Diane	X						
Livingston, Mallory	X			Lipari, Joseph L.	X						
Mack, Raheem			X	Pearson, Betty L.	X						

On Thursday, January 9, 2014, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Mr. Masella, Board Chair, called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting was being held pursuant to notice and that a quorum was present.

1. On motion duly made by Ms. McIlvain, seconded by Ms. Horan and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the December 5, 2013 Board meeting, with the following addition: a copy of the resolution presented to departing Board member, Donna Oppedisano to be filed with the minutes.
2. Board Action Items
  - a. Vote on 2014 CRB Chairperson & Vice Chairperson - On motion duly made by Ms. McIlvain, seconded by Ms. Turner and adopted, the Board re-elected Mr. Masella as CRB Chairperson and Mr. Mack as Vice-Chair.
  - b. Vote on new by-laws for:
    - Reopening old cases that were never resolved - Upon the request of the original complainant, a complaint that was left unresolved by the previous CRB may be reopened, fully investigated and presented to the Board to determine if a hearing should be held. On motion duly made by Ms. Horan seconded by Ms. Livingston, the Board approved reopening unresolved old cases only on the request of the original complainant.
    - Reopening a closed case if new information develops - Upon the request of the original complainant and the approval by majority vote of the Board, the CRB may reevaluate a closed complaint if:
      - a. new information is presented that is both relevant and persuasive,
      - b. the severity of the alleged misconduct warrants a reexamination, and

c. the age of the original complaint does not prohibit an effective reexamination.

On motion duly made by Mr. Levine seconded by Ms. Turner, the Board did not approve the policy that would allow the reopening of closed cases under the above listed conditions.

3. Chairman's Items

a. Completion of Evaluation of Administrator by Committee of Five – The evaluation has been completed and signed and Mr. Masella will get a copy to each Board member and Mr. Lipari.

b. Meeting with Corporation Counsel on Notice of Claim Policy – A meeting with the Corporation Counsel is being scheduled. The research done by our outside counsel indicates that the Attorney-Client protections sought by Corporation Counsel can still be preserved even when information is shared with the CRB.

c. CRB Policy Recommendations for 2013 Annual Report – The following items were presented as potential policy recommendations for the 2013 Annual Report:

1. In service training for all officers on the SPD's policy on conducting High-Risk Traffic stops, also known as Felony stops.
2. In-service training for all officers on the SPD's policy on offering to reduce or eliminate charges in exchange for information or cooperation. This should only be done in conjunction with the DA's office.
3. SPD to develop a clear policy on use of police vehicles while in pursuit of a suspect who is on foot.

On motion duly made by Ms. Livingston seconded by Ms. Horan, the Board approved submitting the three items as policy recommendations.

4. Administrator's Report

a. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report was released January 8, 2014.

b. December 2013 and Year End Case Statistics - Eight new cases were received in December. The total received in 2013 is 111. Four cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.

5. Committees

a. Board Training & Development

- CRB Annual Training/Strategic Planning Event February 1 - Ms. Horan passed out a sheet to sign up to bring drinks, breakfast and/or snack items. Lunch will be provided.

6. Public Comment

Mr. Mikiel Anderson asked questions relating to the Notice of Claim policy, the rate our outside counsel charges, the Training and Outreach Committee, city-county relations, the establishment of the Justice Center CRB, bylaws and police hiring practices. Rev. L. Micah O. Dexter II, pastor of New Salem Missionary Baptist Church greeted the Board and raised concerns about a recent incident with Syracuse police.

7. Meeting Adjourned to Executive Session

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the Board adjourned its meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty L. Pearson  
Typist II, Citizen Review Board