

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
Adan, Haji A.	X		Milliken, Carol	X		Common Councilor		
Barber, William	X		Stuart-McIlvain, Sarah	X		Hunter, Pamela	X	
Horan, Carole J.	X		Timmons, Tafara Blake	X				
Levine, Louis	X		Turner, V. Diane	X				
Livingston, Mallory	X		Lipari, Joseph L.	X				
Masella, Joseph	X		Pearson, Betty L.	X				

On Thursday, August 7, 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. Mr. Masella introduced and welcomed Carole Milliken as the new CRB member, replacing Timothy “Noble” Jennings-Bey. Mr. Masella shared Ms. Milliken’s bio and noted that City Clerk John Copanas had sworn Ms. Milliken in prior to the meeting.
2. On motion duly made by Ms. Horan, seconded by Mr. Adan and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the July 3, 2014.
3. Chairman’s Items
 - a. Update on Notice of Claim issue – Mr. Masella reported that it appears the issue will be resolved favorably. Mr. Masella reported that he spoke with the Corporation Counsel’s office which indicated that a letter will be sent to our outside counsel. Ms. Horan asked how soon that would happen. Mr. Masella reported that he was told the letter would be sent the following week. Mr. Masella thanked Mr. Lipari and Councilor Hunter for their continued work on this matter. Mr. Lipari further credited Mr. Masella for the CRB’s constructive and careful approach to resolving this matter.
 - b. Discussion on selection of Vice-Chair to replace Raheem Mack – Mr. Masella asked Board members to either indicate their interest in or recommend someone for the position to Mr. Lipari. Ms. Horan asked if it should be assumed that the new Vice Chair would move into the Chair position in January. Mr. Masella answered yes. Ms. Milliken inquired as to the role of the

Vice Chair to which Mr. Masella provided a response and description of the responsibilities.

Administrator's Report

- a. 2014 2nd Quarterly Report – The completed report will be available Friday, August 8, 2014, to Board members and the Common Council and to the public on Monday, August 11, 2014.
 - b. Update on Public Awareness contract – The contract will be discussed at a meeting of the Public Safety Committee on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, at 5:30 PM in the Common Council Chambers, although the main purpose of the meeting is to discuss the quarterly report.
 - c. Update on At-large CRB appointment – Three candidates are under consideration, with two being from the Latino community. The plan is to have the appointment made by the September meeting.
 - d. Reminder of upcoming outreach events:
August 9, 2014, Festival Latino Americano, Ward Bakery Park, 12:00 to 8:00 PM
August 14, 2014, Near Westside Multicultural Block Party, Skiddy Park
September 21, 2014, Westcott Street Cultural Fair
 - e. NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement) 20th Annual Conference: Building Community, Broadening Oversight is September 14 to 18, 2014, Kansas City, MO – Mr. Lipari will present on smaller, thriving oversight agencies. Mr. Masella asked if there are benchmark oversight agencies. Mr. Lipari responded that San Francisco, Washington, DC and New York were highly regarded. Mr. Lipari has been asked to run for a position on the NACOLE Board. If he is elected, it will be an additional commitment of five to seven hours of work a week. The board discussed the impact of this on the Syracuse CRB and concluded that it would open up avenues of information to our Board and provide additional expertise and resources to the Syracuse CRB.
 - f. Monthly Financial Report – Mr. Lipari shared the updated detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year.
 - g. July case statistics – Six new cases were received in July. The total received in 2014 is 62. Eleven cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.
4. Committees
- a. Update by Ad-hoc committee on changes to the CRB ordinance – the list of changes was presented and Ms. Livingston stated that the 30 days for

submitting any other proposed changes had passed. She asked that the changes be carefully considered, as the Board needs to be certain about the changes it wants to make. The ad hoc committee agreed to meet once more to finalize the suggestions for changes to the CRB ordinance and report back to the full board at next month's meeting.

- b. Police Liaison Committee: review of agenda items for meeting – Mr. Lipari indicated that a meeting agenda is being developed by the CRB's Liaison committee to establish a set of discussion topics before calling for a meeting with the Police Liaison committee.
5. Public Comments
- Councilor Pamela Hunter shared that the meeting on August 13 will provide the Common Council with information they have been seeking. The Public Safety Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2014, at 5:30 PM in the Common Council Chambers is to discuss recent police/community incidents. It is an opportunity for citizens to express concerns and the police to share facts. Mr. Barber asked how many new officers are being hired. The answer is 15 to 25.

Rev. L. Micah O. Dexter II, pastor of New Salem Missionary Baptist Church shared that the local branch of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference will hold a meeting Monday, August 25, 2014, 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Southwest Community Center and he would like someone from the CRB there.

Mr. Mikiel Anderson asked: if the new Board members would serve on the same committees as the person they replaced; if the members of the Police Liaison Committee would encourage their fellow officers to attend hearings; about the quarterly report; the NACOLE position and if it would necessitate the hiring of a substitute Administrator; if the public awareness contract would be made available to the public; if the new hearing procedures would be on the website; if the amendments to the ordinance would be on the website; if the Notice of Claim issue would be retroactive and if the new members' bios would be on the website. The administrator and the board answered all of Mr. Anderson's questions.

6. New Business – This portion of the meeting was suggested by Ms. Horan as a means to introduce items for future meetings. Mses. Horan, Livingston and McIlvain and Mr. Levine indicated that they are interested in doing a ride-along. The ride-alongs will resume in a few months as many other people, including college interns and recent police recruits are currently doing ride-alongs and the schedule is full. Mr. Barber suggested that training with medical staff at the 911 center and/or the Justice Center and the operators of the police cameras would be beneficial.
7. Meeting continued in 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