

**City of Syracuse  
Citizen Review Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 2, 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		<b>Common Councilor</b>		
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, October 2, 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 September 4, 2014 Board meeting.
2. Chairman's Items
  - a. Notice of Claim issue resolved – Mr. Masella reported that he had received official notification from Corporation Counsel that the issue has been resolved and that the CRB, with the exception of Garrity letters, will now receive all documents from the Police Department even when a Notice of Claim is filed. Mr. Masella thanked Mr. Lipari and Councilor Pamela Hunter for their work on the issue.
  - b. Third quarter Board attendance rate – Mr. Masella reported that attendance was 96.5% with one absence during the quarter. Mr. Masella thanked the Board for their continued commitment to the CRB as demonstrated by the quarterly attendance rate.
3. Administrator's Report
  - a. Review of Public Awareness designs from LPM – Mr. Lipari shared the first drafts for ads. The consensus was that the proposed ads did not sufficiently explain what the CRB does. The board directed the Administrator to continue working with the design team at LPM to make the ad more informative and specific.

- b. Update on At-Large CRB appointment – Mr. Lipari reported that the candidate currently under consideration is awaiting the resolution of a residency issue before he can be appointed to the CRB.
  - c. Report on National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) Conference September 14 to 18 – Mr. Lipari reported that the conference had the largest attendance in the group’s history with people from around the world attending, including the mayor of Ferguson, MO. Mr. Lipari noted that he facilitated a workshop at the conference on small but thriving oversight agencies. He also reported that he attended many panel discussions and presentations on topics highly relevant to the work of the CRB including panels on use of force policies, body cameras, legal updates, and media relations. Mr. Lipari stated that he was able to make many important connections with professionals in the field, including U.S. Department of Justice representatives from the Civil Rights Division, the head of the DOJ’s COPS office, and individuals who may be able to assist the future administrator of the soon to be created oversight agency for the Onondaga County Justice Center.
  - d. Monthly Financial Report – Mr. Lipari shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year to date.
  - e. September case statistics – Mr. Lipari reported that 16 new cases were received in September, bringing the total received in 2014 is 87. Mr. Lipari stated that nine cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.
4. Committees
- a. Review by ad-hoc committee of suggested revisions to the CRB Ordinance
    - Vote to approve the suggested revisions - On motion made by Ms. Livingston, seconded by Ms. Horan, the Board approved the suggested revisions to the Ordinance.
  - b. Report on the first meeting of the Police Liaison Committee – Mr. Lipari shared the highlights of the Police Liaison Committee meeting held Wednesday, September 24. He stated that meeting attendees included Lt. Dave Gilbertsen of the SPD training division, Sgt. Dave Brown of the Office of Professional Standards, and Jeff Piedmonte of the PBA. Mr. Lipari reported that he thought the meeting was very productive. He reported that the CRB investigative and hearing processes were discussed and the officers’ questions were answered. Mr. Lipari stated that the officers provided valuable feedback on the perspective of SPD officers toward the CRB and what could be done differently to improve the relationship between the CRB and the department. Mr. Lipari stated that the creation of a disciplinary matrix was discussed to bring consistency and predictability to the disciplinary

process as well as providing time to the CRB during in-service training with officers to discuss the CRB process. Mr. Lipari also reported that the committee also discussed the possibility of reestablishing SPD training for the CRB.

5. New Business

None

6. Public Comment

Ms. Barrie Gewanter shared that she attended the Public Safety Committee meetings at Grant Middle School and People's AME Zion Church and that they were difficult on many levels. She asked the CRB to assist SPD with training on cultural sensitivity and professionalism as well as use of force. She also pointed out that the Justice Center Review Board may be up for a vote in November and asked the CRB to assist with that as much as possible.

Ms. Anne Woodlen stated that she is working to reconstitute the County Human Rights Commission and asked that anyone interested in helping contact her. She also complimented the CRB on their work.

Mr. Mikiel Anderson asked questions pertaining to the third quarterly report, updating the website, Justice Center mental health issues, meetings and activities the CRB members have attended, committee appointments for new CRB members, police officer training, the Police Liaison Committee and CRB information for non-English speakers.

Councilor Pamela Hunter explained how the Public Safety Committee meetings at Grant Middle School and People's Church came to be and the difference between those meetings and the regular Public Safety Committee meetings.

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