

**City of Syracuse
Citizen Review Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 7, 2015
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	Masella, Joseph	X				
Barber, William	X		Milliken, Carol	X				
Christiana, Peter	X		Timmons, Tafara Blake		X			
Horan, Carole J.	X		Turner, V. Diane	X				
Levine, Louis	X		Lipari, Joseph L.	X				
Livingston, Mallory		X	Pearson, Betty L.	X				

On Thursday, May 7, 2015, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Mr. Barber, 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. Milliken, seconded by Mr. Masella and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the April 2, 2015, Board meeting.
2. Board Action Items
 - a. Review of legal analysis provided by outside counsel regarding 60-day time frame – Mr. Lipari indicated that in March 2015, Corporation Counsel notified the CRB that hearings held beyond the 60-day period are “unauthorized and unlawful.” Mr. Lipari presented a legal analysis by the CRB’s outside legal counsel which the Board authorized at its April 2015 meeting be conducted. On motion made by Ms. Horan, seconded by Mr. Levine and adopted, the Board approved and accepted the legal analysis from outside counsel as its formal position on the matter. Following the advice of outside counsel, the Board decided to move forward with all hearings.
 - b. Discussion of response to County attorney’s refusal to provide 911 audio and radio transmissions to the CRB – Mr. Lipari reported that outside counsel had contacted the county attorney last year to request CRB access to this data. Mr. Lipari reported that at that time, the county attorney indicated the recordings would not be turned over to the CRB without a judicial subpoena. Mr. Lipari reported that outside council has conducted legal research which indicates that the CRB is entitled to receive this data and that outside counsel will continue to pursue the matter with the County’s new attorney in an effort to allow the CRB to have routine access to such data when necessary.

3. Chairman's Items

- a. Update on annual evaluation of CRB Administrator – Mr. Barber reported that the evaluation committee has requested documents and information from the Mayor's office and Councilor Pamela Hunter. Mr. Barber indicated that the evaluation process is continuing and the evaluation report is now being prepared.

4. Administrator's Report

- a. Administrator's report on US-Russia Social Expertise Exchange Program – Mr. Lipari shared highlights of his trip to St. Petersburg, Russia via a PowerPoint presentation. On motion made by Mr. Masella, seconded by Ms. Turner and unanimously adopted, the Board acknowledged that Mr. Lipari raised the profile of the Syracuse CRB by participating in the exchange program and that it was done at no cost to the city taxpayers.
- b. Spring E-Newsletter – Mr. Lipari shared the draft copy of the first e-newsletter. He stated that the newsletter will not be printed and distributed, but will be linked to the CRB website and distributed by e-mail through a list serve.
- c. Monthly Financial Report – Mr. Lipari shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year to date.
- d. April case statistics – Mr. Lipari reported that three new cases were received in April. He stated the total received in 2015 is 21 and that three cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.

5. Committees

- a. Outreach Committee – Mr. Lipari requested suggestions from the Board members of locations for the CRB's 2015 outreach events. Mr. Lipari stated that he would like to feature topic-centered presentations and asked the Board to consider topics and venues for community outreach presentations.
- b. Outreach Committee – Expanding outreach to professional and trade associations – Mr. Masella recommended expanding outreach to professional and trade associations as well as fraternal and social organizations.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Public Comment (6:30 pm)

Ms. Barrie Gewanter shared information on a new bill in Albany that would require the reporting of all misdemeanor crimes and their dispositions to the state; the oversight committee for the Justice Center; the SPD's grant application to upgrade

surveillance cameras on Midland Avenue and the verdict for Elijah Johnson's criminal case.

8. Meeting continued in Executive Session.

During the Executive Session, the Board voted on the following cases to determine whether to forward the case to a CRB hearing:

15-012	No Hearing
15-016	No Hearing
15-017	Hearing

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

Respectfully submitted,

Betty L. Pearson
Typist II, Citizen Review Board