

**City of Syracuse
Citizen Review Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 6, 2017
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>
Carter, Mae	X		Ryans, Clifford	X				
Duncan, Caleb		X	Turner, V. Diane	X				
Holmes, Hatisha	X		Pearson, Betty L.	X				
Kutz, Ruth	X		Common Councilor					
Levine, Louis	X		Thompson, Steven	X				
Livingston, Mallory	X							

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Ms. Livingston, 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 Mr. Ryans, seconded by Ms. Carter and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the March 2, 2017, Board meeting.
2. Chairman's Items
 - a. Activity and Status Report – The first hearings since December were held in March. Ms. Livingston and Mr. Ryans met with a group from Rochester who are looking to strengthen their CRB.
 - b. Report on Litigation – Ms. Livingston reported that the decision was handed down March 24 and the Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, Fourth Judicial Department conclude that the CRB has both the capacity and standing to institute this proceeding/action seeking to compel the Chief of Police to comply with the legislative mandate at issue and the order therefore should be affirmed. The Notice of Appeal regarding the 60-day issue was filed on August 19, 2016. The City has a maximum of nine months to perfect the appeal before it is automatically dismissed by the court, with prejudice. Their time to perfect the appeal expires on May 19. There are ways to shorten the nine months they have to perfect an appeal but at this point, we would not be able to make their time any shorter with May 19 so close. It seems unlikely they would scramble at this late date to try to perfect that appeal but it is possible.
 - c. Board Vacancies – One appointment has to be made by Mayor Stephanie Miner and one each by Councilors Joseph Carni (1st District) and Chad Ryan (2nd District).

Councilor Thompson indicated that Councilor Ryan might be ready to make an appointment.

- d. 2017-18 Budget – The 2017-2018 budget hearing is Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 11:30 AM in Common Council Chambers. All Board members who are able to are asked to attend.
 - e. 2016 Annual Report/2017 First Quarterly Report – A draft of the 2016 Annual Report was circulated to Board member on March 31. It will be released once the statistics are complete. The first quarterly report is in the preliminary stage.
 - f. Report on SPD Policy regarding securing of video footage – Ms. Livingston shared that during an investigation, she noticed that police relied on a third party's view of surveillance video instead of viewing it themselves. The OPS policy is that officers are expected to secure footage, but they do not do so if someone tells them there was nothing on the film.
 - g. Westchester Coalition for Police Reform Forum – Co-sponsored by the Pace Criminal Justice Institute, the forum was Monday, April 3 at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University in White Plains. The panel served as an exploratory conversation to share their experiences and perspectives regarding what has worked well with independent civilian oversight of local law enforcement, as well as what has not worked so well. Participants included Yusuf Abdul Qadir, Director of the Syracuse Chapter of the NYCLU; Brian Corr, NACOLE President and Director of Cambridge, MA Police Review and Advisory Board; Frank L. Fowler, Syracuse Chief of Police; Zach Garafalo, Albany CPRB (Citizens' Police Review Board); Mallory Livingston, Chair, Syracuse CRB and Ivy Morris, Vice Chair of Albany CPRB. Professor David Dorfman at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law served as moderator.
 - h. Monthly Financial Report – Ms. Livingston shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year to date.
 - i. March case statistics – Ms. Livingston reported that 12 new cases were received in March. She stated the total received in 2017 is 33 and that three cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.
3. Committees
- a. Administrator Search Committee – Mr. Levine reported that we have received 113 resumes seeking to fill the Administrator position. From those resumes, the search committee decided to interview 14 candidates over the first three weeks of April. Two withdrew because of the residency requirement. After the initial round of interviews, three or four candidates will be invited back for a second and final round of interviews. He expects to have the position filled by June.

- b. Community Outreach and Public Education – Ms. Holmes shared that the 2nd District meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 14 at Hazard library was cancelled because of a snowstorm. There is concern about the low turnout to some meetings during the week, so she will look into scheduling Saturday meetings during the months that do not have a meeting scheduled.
 - c. Board Developments and Training – Ms. Turner shared that to educate new Board members and improve our understanding of civilian oversight of law enforcement, a library has been established in the office starting with five copies of *The New World of Police Accountability* and one copy of *Police Accountability: The Role of Citizen Oversight* by Sam Walker.
 - d. Government Relations – No report
 - e. Police Relations – Mr. Ryans will try to set up a meeting that includes Chief Frank Fowler and PBA President Jeff Piedmont.
4. Public Comment (6:30 pm)
- Mr. Mustafa Robinson spoke on the strength of police unions in the US.
- Mr. Mikiel Anderson made a statement regarding Mayor Stephanie Minor and the Common Council holding Chief Frank Fowler and Corporation Counsel accountable when it comes to doing right by the CRB instead of undermining it.
- Mr. Justin Mattingly is part of a team of upper-level journalism and photography students at Syracuse University looking into police-community relations in the city. The project will be coming out at the end of the semester. He is working on two main stories: a profile of Chief Fowler and a story on the CRB.
5. 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:

16-062	No Hearing
17-012	No Hearing
17-020	No Hearing

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

Respectfully submitted,

Betty L. Pearson
Typist II, Citizen Review Board