

**City of Syracuse
Citizen Review Board
Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, May 2, 2013
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Common Council Chambers
Public Comment - 20 minutes at 7:00 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>
Gammage, Demetria			X	Masella, Joseph	X			Pearson, Betty L.	X		
Horan, Carole J.			X	Oppedisano, Donna			X				
Jennings-Bey, Timothy	X			Stuart-McIlvain, Sarah	X			Common Councilor			
Levine, Louis	X			Timmons, Tafara Blake		X		Barrett, Jake	X		
Livingston, Mallory	X			Turner, V. Diane	X						
Mack, Raheem	X			Lipari, Joseph L.	X						

On Thursday, May 2, 2013, 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. Livingston, seconded by Ms. McIlvain and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the April 4, 2013 Board meeting, with clarification between being absent and excused made. Being excused means notification was given at least 24 hours before the meeting.
2. Board Action Item
 - a. A poll was taken by Mr. Masella to determine Board preference on: exposure to past complaints - sustained only or all - against an officer during hearing stage; exposure to past complaints - sustained only or all - against an officer during disciplinary stage; exposure to complainant's criminal history – arrest record only and/or convictions only; and exposure to complainant's history of filing complaints. Mr. Lipari was asked to draft a set of standard procedures to adapt as policy.
3. Chairman's Items
 - a. Outside legal counsel

The Corporation Counsel shall advise and represent the CRB as it would other City departments and agencies in accordance with the Law Department's duties under section 5-1101 of the City Charter. Provided, however, that upon the determination by the Board and/or the Corporation Counsel that a conflict of interest exists, depending on the facts and circumstances of a particular matter, the Corporation Counsel will advise the CRB Administrator of the existence of such a conflict and the need for the Board to obtain outside counsel if such

counsel is deemed necessary by the Board. The Board may then seek and retain independent legal counsel, provided, however, that compensation for such legal services shall be established through the annual budgetary process as set forth in Article VI of the City Charter, 1960, as amended.

Candidates

- Mark Ventrone – conflict, withdrew himself from consideration
- Jim Hopkins – former assistant district attorney; helped with former CRB when it was first established.

Mr. Hopkins' first two responsibilities will be gaining access to 911 recordings (through judicial order) and requesting an Order of Production for an inmate's hearing.

- b. Upcoming Post-Standard article on CRB members by reporter Doug Dowty
Mr. Masella, Mr. Mack and Ms. Horan were interviewed by Mr. Dowty. Other Board members are to be interviewed.
4. Administrator's Report (20 minutes)
- a. Receipt and examination of SPD interrogation tapes and documents on constitutional violations during interrogations
Mr. Lipari met with ADA Rick Trunfio and obtained interrogation tapes for review. How does the CRB want to proceed with reviewing the tape? Mr. Masella asked about the volume of the tapes. Ms. McIlvain asked if the interrogations took place before the CRB was reformed. Mr. Jennings-Bey stated that the CRB should be careful as to not get caught between two warring parties. Mr. Lipari explained that we have an obligation to examine both the individual complaint that has been filed with the CRB and the DA's allegation that there is a systematic violation of suspect's constitutional rights.
 - b. Update on Chief Frank Fowler providing reasons for not following Board recommendations
Councilor Barrett is seeking a response from Chief Fowler.
 - c. January – March 2013 Quarterly Report
The first quarterly report for 2013 is complete and will be distributed and added to the CRB website.
 - d. April 2013 case statistics
Twelve new cases were received in April. The total received so far in 2013 is 44. Ten cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.
 - e. Selecting chair for panel hearings prior to hearing
Mr. Masella suggested selecting a chair when the panel is formed.

f. Reminder to contact Information Systems for **SharePoint** access

As soon as all Board members have access to SharePoint, training will begin and case files will be distributed using SharePoint.

5. Committee Reports

a. Outreach

Mr. Mack will share an event schedule with Mr. Lipari and suggested that the CRB attend the Mayor's meeting this summer and piggyback on the Councilor's events to get a citizen's point of view of the CRB.

b. Government

At Ms. McIlvain's suggestion, Mr. Lipari and Mr. Masella met with County Legislator Kevin Holmquest and will meet with other county legislators in the near future.

c. Police Relations

The Police Relations committee is waiting for the Police Liaison Committee to be formed by Chief Fowler.

6. On motion made and seconded, the meeting recessed for public comment.

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