

**City of Syracuse
Citizen Review Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 8, 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	Milliken, Carol	X		Common Councilors		
Barber, William	X		Timmons, Tafara Blake	X		Hunter, Pamela	X	
Horan, Carole J.	X		Turner, V. Diane	X		Kessner, Jean	X	
Levine, Louis	X		Lipari, Joseph L.	X				
Livingston, Mallory	X		Pearson, Betty L.	X				
Masella, Joseph	X							

On Thursday, January 8, 2015, 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. Introduction and Presentation

- a. Introduction of incoming CRB member – Mr. Masella introduced and welcomed Peter Christiana as the newest incoming CRB member, replacing Sarah Stuart-McIlvain as the First District appointee by Councilor Jake Barrett. Mr. Masella shared Mr. Christiana’s bio. Peter is expected to be confirmed by the Common Council on January 26, 2015.
- b. Presentation of resolution to outgoing CRB Chairman Joseph Masella – Mr. Lipari read a resolution for outgoing Board Chair Joseph Masella expressing the Board’s appreciation for his commitment to the CRB.

2. Board Action Items

- a. Election of 2015 Board Chair – On motion duly made by Ms. Milliken, seconded by Ms. Horan and unanimously adopted, the Board elected Bill Barber as its board Chair for 2015.
- b. On motion duly made by Ms. Horan, seconded by Ms. Livingston and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the December 18, 2014, Board meeting.
- c. Further discussion and potential vote on development of a CRB policy to re-hear a complaint if new information is disclosed – On motion duly made by Mr. Masella, seconded by Ms. Timmons and adopted, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the policy as written.

3. Chairman's Items

- a. 2014 Attendance Rate – Mr. Lipari shared the attendance rate for 2014: 86% compared to 77% for 2013. He thanked everyone for their commitment to the CRB.

4. Administrator's Report

- a. Review of new SPD Taser policy – Mr. Lipari reviewed the new policy and indicated that it appears to be based on recommendations by the U.S. Department of Justice consent decrees that provide more specific guidance to officers on when it is appropriate and when it is not appropriate to deploy a Taser. Mr. Lipari reported that the new policy was the result of a lawsuit filed by the ACLU.

- b. Mr. Lipari presented the following potential CRB Policy Recommendations for the 2014 Annual Report:

1. Improve Use of Force policy: include specific guidance based on DOJ consent decrees similar to the new Taser policy.
 2. Adopt a clear Duty to Intervene policy (requiring officers to stop and report behavior by fellow officers that is out of policy or unlawful to supervisor).
 3. Commence development of a comprehensive Body Camera policy ready to be implemented upon the eventual acquisition of body cameras.
 4. Develop and implement a Disciplinary Matrix to bring consistency and predictability to the disciplinary outcomes.
 5. Develop a policy to immediately pull and save video from the COPS Platform cameras or nearby private surveillance video as soon as a complaint is made and anytime when there is a use of force incident.
 - a. Extend time that COPS Platform camera videos are available from 15 days to 45 days so they will more likely be available for complaint investigations.
 6. Recommendations for Office of Professional Standards:
 - a. Record interviews with officers.
 - b. Acquire police radio transmissions as a routine part of investigation.
- c. Review of E-Newsletter design from LPM – Mr. Lipari shared a draft of the E-Newsletter. The board approved the layout of the newsletter with minor adjustments. Mr. Lipari stated that the final component of the Public Awareness campaign is media training. Messrs. Lipari and Barber will receive media training on January 21, 2015.
 - d. Budget Preparation for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 – Mr. Lipari shared the proposed CBR budget. He indicated that the CRB will be seeking funding for both a medical consultant and a contract investigator. Mr. Lipari stated that the proposed

budget for FY 2015-16 is approximately \$141,000, which represents a 7% increase over the FY 2014-15 budget which was approximately \$131,000.

- e. Monthly Financial Report – Mr. Lipari shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the fiscal year to date.
 - f. December case statistics – Mr. Lipari reported that eleven new cases were received in December, bringing the total received in 2014 to 107. Mr. Lipari noted that seven cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.
5. Committees
- a. Board Development & Training committee: CRB Annual Training and Strategic Planning Event, Saturday, February 28, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM – Ms. Horan passed a sign-up sheet around for each board member to bring a food item for the potluck style lunch. She reported that the schedule of presenters and food commitments will be finalized at the February Board meeting.
 - b. Mr. Lipari reported that the second Police Liaison committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015. Agenda items include a review of statistics of CRB findings for 2014, the potential CRB policy recommendations for the 2014 Annual Report, and the development of procedures for sharing CRB investigative evidence with OPS.
6. New Business
- Ms. Horan asked that a date be set for the next Police Liaison committee meeting before the January 14 meeting ends.
7. Public Comment (6:30 pm)
- Mr. Mikiel Anderson asked questions pertaining to: the advertising campaign, Board vacancies, the Justice Center Oversight Commission, the CRB budget, training, the CRB website, the medical consultant, CRB findings and Board committee appointments.
8. 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