

**City of Syracuse  
Citizen Review Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 7, 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		Meyer, John G.		X			
Comeau, Herve	X		Natale, Dana	X				
Duncan, Caleb		X	Ryans, Clifford	X				
Holmes, Hatisha	X		Turner, V. Diane	X				
Kutz, Ruth	X		Releford, Ranette	X				
McCarthy, Peter		X	Pearson, Betty L.	X				

On Thursday, December 7, 2017, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Ms. Kutz, 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. Turner, seconded by Mr. Comeau and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the November 2, 2017, Board meeting.
2. Chairman's Items
  - a. Recognition of former Board members – Ms. Kutz stated resolutions were prepared for Board members who left in 2016 and 2017: Mr. David Barrette, Mr. Peter Christiana, Ms. Carole Horan, Mr. Louis Levine, Ms. Mallory Livingston, Ms. Leah Moser and Ms. Laura A. Walker to recognize and thank them for their service to the City of Syracuse through the Citizen Review Board. She read the resolution for Mr. Barrette who was present and received his framed resolution from Ms. Releford. Mr. Barrette stated he appreciates the resolution and wished everyone happy holidays. The others will receive theirs at future meetings, as they are able to attend.

**RESOLUTION**

**City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board  
Adopted on the Fifth Day of October in the Year 2017**

**Whereas**, he/she has faithfully and enthusiastically served as a member of the Citizen Review Board since 20\_\_,

**Whereas**, during his/her tenure on the Board, he/she has been an untiring and compassionate supporter and advocate of civilian oversight of policing,

**Whereas**, he/she has been consistently and conscientiously involved in all of the Board's activities, including participating in Board meetings, sitting on hearing panels and engaging in community outreach,

**Whereas**, he/she has been a trusted adviser to the Administrator and a congenial and supportive colleague to his/her fellow Board members,

**Whereas**, he/she has made countless contributions to the operations of the Citizen Review Board and to its reputation and standing in the community,

**Whereas**, as a member of the Citizen Review Board, he/she has been an exemplary model of civic involvement,

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved,**

**That**, the Citizen Review Board of the City of Syracuse does hereby express its deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to \_\_\_\_\_ for his/her dedicated and committed service to the Citizen Review Board and for his/her loyal and caring friendship, and

**Be It Further Resolved,**

**That**, the Citizen Review Board of the City of Syracuse hereby wishes him/her happiness, fulfillment and good fortune in all his/her future endeavors.

b. Board Vacancy – Mayor Stephanie Miner or Mayor-Elect Ben Walsh will appoint Ms. Turner's successor. The At-Large Councilors are working on their appointment.

3. Administrator's Report

- a. Activity Report – Ms. Releford reported that she attended a meeting with community members who want to help build a robust CRB. They will attend future meetings. She met with Chief Frank Fowler and a community agency to formalize a conciliation process. She has met with Mayor-Elect Ben Walsh. The CRB has received a FOIL request for information back to the beginning of the CRB.
- b. 2016 Annual Report – Ms. Releford reported that the 2016 Annual Report is complete and posted on the CRB's website. Three 2016 cases remain open.

- c. 2017 Fourth Quarter Report – Ms. Releford stated that the 2017 Fourth Quarter Report and Annual Report would be complete by the March 31 deadline.
- d. Monthly Financial Report – Ms. Releford shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year to date.
- e. November case statistics – Ms. Releford reported that eight new cases were received in November. She stated the total received in 2017 is 106 and that no cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.

#### 4. Committees

- a. Community Outreach and Public Education – Ms. Holmes reported that the CRB participated in:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> District Outreach Meeting, Wednesday, November 15, Soule Branch LibraryShe stated that the Committee is looking for ways to get the word out about the CRB.
- b. Board Developments and Training – Ms. Turner asked that someone volunteer to serve as chair of the committee. She has contacted 1199SEIU Upstate about using their facility for the annual training and strategic planning day. Ms. Carter shared that her employer has a facility available for training.
- c. Government Relations – Ms. Kutz reported that she has not been able to meet with any elected officials.
- d. Police Relations – Ms. Releford reported that Chief Fowler would like to invite Board members to meet with officers. He would also like Board members to participate in producing a video to dispel myths about the CRB. The finished product will be on the Police Department's website and Facebook page. Mr. Comeau expressed a positive aspect of the idea, but also has reservations on the collaboration.

#### 5. New Business

A relationship with an interpreter/translator is in the development stage.

#### 6. Public Comment (6:30 pm)

Mr. Mikiel Anderson made statements or asked questions regarding the administrator's evaluation, the CRB's relationship with the Corporation Counsel, communication with the Police Benevolent Association, the part-time investigator, medical examiner and interpreter, the police liaison committee and the annual strategic planning meeting.

Ms. Gail Hamner shared that she is a member of the National Action Network (NAN) Syracuse Chapter and that their Police Accountability Committee is looking to help strengthen the CRB.

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