

**City of Syracuse
Citizen Review Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 3, 2021
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Video Conference Meeting
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		Nilsson, Lori	X		Releford, Ranette	X	
Brunson, Cynthia	X		Natale, Dana	X		Arias, Roberto	X	
Nelson, Mary	X		Ryan, Clifford	X				
Holmes, Hatisha	X		Grinnals, R. Daniels	X				
Kutz, Ruth	X		Favata, Joseph	X				
McCarthy, Peter	X		Pratt, Harry	X				

On Thursday, June 3, 2021, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held a virtual meeting due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions.

Lori Nilsson, Board Chair, called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting was being held pursuant to notice and that a quorum was present. Board Action Items –Mr. Ryan moves to approve the May meeting minutes, Mr. Grinnals seconds, all agree.

1. Chairperson's Items:

- a. We welcome new member, Harry Pratt, 2nd District Representative, who has lived in the 2nd District his entire life.
- b. We now have a Full Board for the first time in at least three years.

2. Administrator's Report

- a. The Board will be reviewing 1 case this evening.
- b. Five new cases were received in May for a total of nineteen in 2021.
- c. Four hearings have been held, with one scheduled for tomorrow. SPD Officers attended and testified at the last three hearings. Some Complainants did not show up for Hearings, so the Officers' attorney limited the questions that they would answer.
- d. There is a virtual NACOLE Conference coming up, timing and budget will be provided at a later date.
- e. Daigle Law Group Use of Force Conference is November 30 – December 5. Ms. Releford may have a scheduling conflict.

- f. Ms. Releford is working with SPD and the Law Department on the backlog of cases. Focus is on cases that are expiring because of the 18-month deadline. The 18-month period starts at the date of the incident not the date of the filing of the case.

3. Committees

a. Community Relations

- i. A link is provided for the Westcott Fair.
- ii. We need to promote the Duck Race. You can take the event from the CRB page and create your own Facebook page event.
- iii. Jubilee Homes Event on June 20th 4PM – 7PM
- iv. World Refugee Day on June 19th – Flag Raising at City Hall with a parade
- v. Pride Cookout – details to be provided
- vi. Ms. Releford and Ms. Nilsson attended the George Floyd March.
- vii. Gun Violence Awareness Event on June 5th at City Hall – wear orange

b. Board Development and Training

- i. We have been waiting for a full Board to do training, so we will probably do it in July or August.
- ii. Mark Rusin from the SPD will come and give us more updates on Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and the Use of Force Policy.
- iii. SPD will hold another Civilian Police Academy in the fall that will be more robust.
- iv. The District Attorney's Office may come and give some updates regarding forwarding cases to them.
- v. We always extend an invitation to Chief Buckner and Deputy Chief Cecile to attend our training.
- vi. Interfaith Works Board Development is also a possibility.

vii. A Doodle Poll will be sent out for dates.

c. Government Relations

- i. The Attorney General's Office is investigating SPD and they have asked us to produce documents. All 2020 cases have been requested by Directive. 65 cases in all will go to the AG.
- ii. Mr. Grinnals questions our response to FOIL requests and will call Corporation Counsel to discuss.
- iii. Ms. Releford has been appointed to the Committee on Police Reform Plan for the City.

d. Police Relations

- i. Quarterly meeting was held today.
- ii. Discussed inclusion of which of the CRB recommendations that have been addressed by SPD in our reports so that people can see progress is being made.
- iii. SPD is close to 20% of the Force being trained in Crisis Intervention. They are working with Liberty Resources to respond to person in crisis calls ("Divergence Response Team"). SPD also has in house CIT Trainers which is helping increase the number of trained Officers.
- iv. Mark Rusin will send School Resource Officer Training and Policy requirements to Ms. Releford.

4. New Business - none

5. Public Comment (6:30 PM) - none

6. Mr. Grinnals moves to go into Executive Session, Mr. Favata seconds. 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.

Case Number 19-085: NO HEARING

Ms. Holmes makes a motion to return to Public Session, Ms. Natale seconds, all agree. Meeting goes back into Public Session.

On motion duly made by Mr. Grinnals, seconded by Ms. Kutz and unanimously adopted, the Board adjourned its meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Natale, 1st District Appointee