

**City of Syracuse
 Citizen Review Board
 Meeting Minutes
 Thursday, September 1, 2022
 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>
Pratt, Harry	x		Carter, Mae		x	Brunson, Cynthia	x	
Bey-Wright, Jah-Quan		x	Holmes, Hatisha	x		Favata, Joseph		x
Levy, Richard	x		Marrero, Jose	x		Nilsson, Lori	x	
Ryans, Clifford	x							

On Thursday, **September 1, 2022**, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

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.

1. On motion duly made by [recording not started], seconded by [recording not started] and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the July 9, 2022.
2. Chair’s Items
 - a. The Board Chair and Vice-Chair, Cliff Ryans, are nearing the ends of their terms as chairs. Members then discussed the limit of two three-year terms on the Board and the differences for serving as a Chair.
 - b. Consideration to reformatting the Board’s trifold pamphlet. The Chair expressed a preference for simplifying the form and introducing a QR code that links citizens to an online complaint form.
 - c. Cynthia Brunson expressed concern that meeting records are difficult to hear because people are not speaking directly into their microphones. The board agreed.
 - d. The Board Chair described the Police Liaison Committee quarterly meeting.
 - 1) The board should raise awareness and make it more accessible for citizens to file compliments of officer conduct.

- 2) All recommendations for reprimanding officers turn into long processes of paperwork and interviews that amount to “discipline.” Syracuse Police Department plans to put together a committee to give recommendations for how to address the matter.
- 3) There have been issues of officers failing to activate their body worn cameras. The Syracuse Police Department has introduced a new software that tracks officers’ time responding to calls compared with the length of their body worn camera footage. The Board Administrator confirmed that the office does receive an officer’s disciplinary history when being investigated.
- 4) Ride-alongs with officers have returned. Interference with policing is prohibited.
- 5) The language and definition of racial profiling on the Board’s complaint forms needs revision to be more aligned with the definition employed by the City and the Police Department. There was some debate over the question of shifting the racial profiling question to the start of the complaint form.
- 6) The Syracuse Citizen’s Academy will be held weekly on Tuesdays from September 13 through November 1, 2022. From 6pm through 8pm. Any missed sessions cannot be made up. The Vice-Chair recommended the Academy, specifically for its interactive scenarios.

3. Administrator’s Report

a.

Two students from Syracuse University’s Political Science program have approached the office for internships and will be vetted and interviewed.

b.

The county approved the hiring of the community engagement specialist and data analyst. In total, that is three new hires including the present legal secretary. The new office at One Park Place will better accommodate the larger staff, provide better public access, and offer better security.

c.

There are virtual options for the Force Science training and NACOLE conference which the Administrator intends to attend.

d.

Double check the hearing calendar and respond to Michael with your availability. We have two hearings to schedule.

e.

Monthly Financial Report – Ms. Releford shared the detailed breakdown of expenditures for the year to date. The fiscal budget has increased but will soon reflect the expected hire of two new staff.

f.

Monthly case statistics – Ms. Releford reported that eight new cases were received in August. She stated the total received in 2022 is 35 and that five cases will be reviewed during Executive Session.

4. Committees

a. Board Development/Training-

Ranette recommends an informative training video, one hour in length, on future trends in oversight. The video has been linked in an email.

b. Government Relations –

Ranette is working to schedule a large meeting at the end of September with corporation council and the police department. There is still a question of whether we should include officer's names in the findings letters to complainants.

c. Police Relations-

Ranette will speak with the cadets at 10am on September 6, 2022. The next police liaison meeting will be November 30th at 10:30am.

5. Meeting continued in Executive Session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Citizen Review Board

Case Number
Case Number
Case Number
Case Number
Case Number