

**City of Syracuse  
Citizen Review Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 1, 2019  
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		Nilsson, Lori		X			
Santana, Priscilla	X		Natale, Dana	X				
Nelson, Mary	X		Ryans, Clifford	X				
Holmes, Hatisha	X		Grinnals, R.Daniels	X				
Kutz, Ruth	X		Brunson, Cynthia	X				
McCarthy, Peter	X		Releford, Ranette	X				

On Thursday, August 1, 2019, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Peter McCarthy, 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. Kutz, seconded by Mr. Ryans, and adopted, the Board approved the Minutes of the July 11, 2019, Board meeting, with no corrections, all agree.
2. Chairperson's Items
  - a. Mr. McCarthy passed out a proposed Duties and Responsibilities Policy for CRB members. The proposed Attendance Policy is discussed. This is necessary because there have been problems in the past. The final decision on this Policy will need to be a Board decision. All Board members should be prepared to discuss and vote on this policy at the next meeting so that it can go into effect on January 1, 2020.
  - b. The policy also needs to take into account Hearing Availability and Community Outreach.
3. Administrator's Report
  - a. The CRB received 2 new cases in July 2019. The Board will be reviewing 5 cases this evening.
  - b. Financials are provided with a reminder that the old budget is over and the new budget includes funding for the private investigator. Ms. Releford did meet with another private investigator that we hope to have available.
  - c. We do not get to keep unspent amounts for the next budget year.

- d. Ms. Releford will be attending the NACOLE Conference in Detroit in September. NACOLE is a national organization on Citizen Oversight.
- e. She will also be attending the Use of Force Summit in Connecticut from December 3 – 5. This conference is a meeting with mostly police officers regarding best practices.
- f. Ms. Natale moves and Ms. Carter seconds that the Board approve payment of the private investigator bill for \$197.50. The Board agrees unanimously.
- g. Ms. Kutz asks how Ms. Releford finds the private investigator useful. Ms. Relford advises:
  - It allows her to attend to government relations meetings, for example the YSEP meeting today where she met with individuals who can help with the CRB goal of involving youth in the CRB.
  - It allows her to do community relations by getting the existence and the purpose of the CRB out into the community.
  - It allows her to do research on cases, policies and current events.
  - The private investigators do legwork to find complainants and witnesses.
- h. The 2019 Second Quarter Report was done July 31, 2019, and will be out for CRB review next week, after which it will be put on the website. The CRB now has the ability to update the website and the CRB Facebook page.
- i. We do still have outstanding 2017 and 2018 cases and a list went to OOPS and the Police Liaison Committee. The 2018 cases are slowly, but expeditiously being reviewed by SPD. This will result in more work for the private investigators. So far we are getting many cases in time for the 18 month deadline. All remaining 2018 cases will be within the 18-month period. Ms. Releford is keeping track and sending reminders to SPD.

#### 4. Committees

##### a. Community Outreach

- i. There is a flyer in the folder about the Southside TNT meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup> at Danforth Middle School. All should attend,
- ii. August 9<sup>th</sup> is Unity Day in Wilson Park.
- iii. Ms. Santana has translated many of our documents into Spanish. The brochure has not been done yet because we are looking to simplify it.
- iv. Board members need to start looking for events in their Districts. The following events have taken place:

- A. 1<sup>st</sup> District - 3 events
- B. 2<sup>nd</sup> District - 9 events
- C. 3<sup>rd</sup> District - 1 event
- D. 4<sup>th</sup> District - 13 events
- E. 5<sup>th</sup> District - 1 event

v. Citywide Youth Day will be happening at most City Parks on September 4<sup>th</sup> from 12PM – 4PM. All should try to attend one.

b. Board Development and Training

- i. August 8, 2019, from 5:30PM to 7:30PM we will be having a Use of Force Policy training with the Syracuse Police Department at the PSB.
- ii. Emails that went out today had to do with case law happening around the country. We need to review them and determine how they apply to us.

c. Government Relations

- i. The meeting with Corporation Counsel, the Chief, Ms. Holmes and Ms. Releford will be rescheduled so that the CRB attorney can attend.
- ii. Ms. Releford provided an article about a Schenectady case on Police Arbitration and Police Officer discipline. Corporation Counsel did call Ms. Releford before the article came out and advised that our interpretation is still a work in progress.
- iii. The Police Liaison Committee will meet on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.

5. New Business – none

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

7. Mr. Grinnals moves to move to Executive Session, Ms. Santana 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: 18-050	Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Recused <u>0</u> Hearing <u>  </u> No Hearing <u>X</u>
Case Number: 18-065	Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Recused <u>0</u> Hearing <u>  </u> No Hearing <u>X</u>
Case Number: 18-078	Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Recused <u>0</u> Hearing <u>  </u> No Hearing <u>X</u>
Case Number: 19-002	Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Recused <u>0</u> Hearing <u>  </u> No Hearing <u>X</u>
Case Number: 19-041	Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Recused <u>0</u> Hearing <u>X</u> No Hearing <u>  </u>

Case Number 19-041 Ms. Natale moves and Ms. Santana seconds that we subpoena the officers.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Natale