



**CITY OF ALBANY
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD
PUBLIC MONTHLY MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

*July 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
via Zoom*

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (Dr. Harden)

Chair Nairobi Vives called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Nairobi Vives, Dr. Veneilya Harden, Paul Collins-Hackett, Dr. Rev. Collier, Zach Garafalo

EXCUSED: Matthew Ingram, Victor Person, John Levendosky, Kevin Cannizzaro

OTHERS PRESENT: GLC Deputy Director Patrick Woods, CPRB Program Manager Michele Andre, Andrew Lah, Rania Adwan, Russell Bloom, Matt Toporowski

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (Dr. Harden)

Chair Nairobi Vives moved to approve the agenda. Upon motion and seconded, the agenda was approved.

III. REPORT FROM MOEEL LAH FAKHOURY

The consulting team at Moeel Lah Fakhoury provided a brief presentation detailing how they plan to assist the CPRB. After introducing themselves, the team stated their plans to help the CPRB implement Local Law J. In addition, the consulting team spoke of assisting the CPRB to establish protocols, sharing their knowledge and experience with the Board, and helping build trust between the community and APD.

IV. CASE REVIEW/UPDATE

CC2019-008

(P. Collins-Hackett)

Mr. Collins-Hackett reported that the Board is actively reviewing the case. He also stated that he is in the process of trying to obtain additional evidence. Mr. Collins-Hackett indicated that in his attempt to obtain additional evidence, he has spoken with the complainant several times as well as taken visits to City Hall.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

BY-LAWS AND RULES

(M. Ingram)

Mr. Ingram is also excused for the night. Vice-Chair has requested to move to the next item on the Committee Reports.

OUTREACH

(P. Collins-Hackett)

Mr. Collins-Hackett reported that the Board is actively developing a Know Your Rights forum, which will entail a series of topics and provide information to community members. Furthermore, Mr. Collins-Hackett reported that he is inquiring about radio outreach and providing local groups with information regarding Local Law J. Last month, members of the Board participated in the Pride Parade and Capital District YMCA African Heritage Parade. Board members have also tabled at several Alive at Five events.

MEDIATION

(V. Collier)

Dr. Rev. Collier reported that he spoke with the CPRB Program Manager regarding updating the complaint forms to provide information regarding mediation. Complainants would be able to request to resolve their complaint in mediation as an informal alternative to the traditional investigative process.

POLICE LIAISON COMMITTEE

(Dr. Harden)

Vice Chair Dr. Harden reported the Committee meets monthly. Currently, the Committee is working towards finalizing the Confidentiality Agreement with APD for remote electronic record access. Dr. Harden stated that the agreement would allow for case reviews in a faster manner and more flexibility in reviewing cases outside of standard office hours. She reported that it is the goal of the Committee to have the agreement complete in the next month.

MONITOR TASK FORCE

(Dr. Harden)

Vice Chair Dr. Harden reported no new updates at this time. However, Dr. Harden did remind the Board of their new monitor, Gina Torres, who is requesting additional training.

VI. REPORT FROM GOVERNMENT LAW CENTER

(P. Woods and M. Andre)

Ms. Andre reported five new complaints since the last monthly meeting. Ms. Andre stated that she had made recent updates to the CPRB website, such as adding a mechanism for public comment in digital form and a mechanism in which the public can upload accompanying photos, documents, or files to their online complaint form. Ms. Andre mentioned that she is seeking out training recommendations from Board members to incorporate into the CPRB all-day retreat. The training will help address the new changes as a result of Local Law J and prepare the Board members for their newly found responsibility and power. In addition, Ms. Andre reported that she has provided both Q3 and Q4 2021 quarterly reports and Q1 and Q2 2022 quarterly reports for approval. She has also provided meeting minutes from several past meetings for approval. Furthermore, Ms. Andre reported that the GLC is actively reviewing the 2021 Annual Report which is expected to be completed by the next meeting. Finally, Ms. Andre stated that she has completed travel accommodations for Board members to attend the NACOLE annual conference.

VII. REPORT FROM OPS

(J. Laiacona)

Commander Laiacona is also excused for the night. Chair Nairobi Vives has requested to move to the next item on the Committee Reports.

VIII. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

(N. Vives)

Chair Vives highlights that CPRB Program Manager Ms. Andre was nominated for the Rising Star and Outstanding Teamwork Award for the Albany Law School for her hard work for the CPRB. She cannot attend the ceremony since she will be at the CPRB retreat. Chair Vives reported that this is a transitional period for the Board; the Board continues to do the work their mission mandates. The consulting team will help structure the Board sustainably and give the community the accountability and transparency want. Chair Vives request feedback on additional training that they may want.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

(N. Vives)

Chair Vives reported that the Board would be moving forward with an Investigation Committee. This Committee would work alongside OPS in determining what instances the CPRB should utilize its investigative power. Chair Vives appointed Zach Garafalo as the Committee Chair. In addition, Chair Vives appointed John Levendosky, Dr. Veneilya Harden, and Paul Collins-Hackett to the Committee as well.

Upon motion and second, the minutes of the May 12th and June 9th regular meetings were approved.

Upon motion and second, the minutes of the April 21st, May 19th, and June 16th Bylaws and Rule Committee meetings were approved.

Upon motion and second, the minutes of the June 7th and June 24th special meetings were approved.

Upon motion and second, the 2021 Q3 and Q4 quarterly reports were approved.

Upon motion and second, the 2022 Q1 and Q2 quarterly reports were approved.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Andre
Program Manager