



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

*June 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.*

*Albany Law School*

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**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

(N. Vives)

Chair Nairobi Vives called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nairobi Vives, Victor Person, Zach Garafalo, and John Levendosky were present in person. Kevin Cannizzaro attended via Zoom, but did not count towards quorum.

**EXCUSED:** Dr. Veneilya Harden, Paul Collins-Hackett, Dr. Rev. Collier, Matthew Ingram

**OTHERS PRESENT:** CPRB Program Manager Michele Andre, GLC Deputy Director Patrick Woods, and Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel Matt Toporowski

**II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

(N. Vives)

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

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

The agenda was reordered to reflect the public comment section at the beginning of the meeting to allow for community input and concern.

#### **IV. CASE REVIEW/UPDATE**

(P. Collins-Hackett)

Mr. Collins-Hackett is excused for the night; Chair Nairobi Vives moved to continue to the next item on the agenda. The case reviews will be postponed until the next meeting in July.

#### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **BY-LAWS AND RULES**

(M. Ingram)

Mr. Ingram is also excused for the night; Chair Nairobi Vives has requested to move to the next item on the Committee Reports.

##### **OUTREACH**

(P. Collins-Hackett)

In place of Mr. Collins-Hackett, Chair Nairobi Vives spoke about different community events the CPRB is taking part in. This included participating in the city's upcoming Pride Parade, the Juneteenth Heritage Parade, and the Alive at Five concerts.

##### **MEDIATION**

(V. Collier)

Dr. Rev. Collier is also excused for the night; Chair Nairobi Vives has requested to move to the next item on the Committee Reports.

##### **POLICE DEPARTMENT LIAISON**

(V. Harden)

Dr. Harden is also excused for the night. In her place, Chair Nairobi Vives spoke to the progress of the Police Department Liaison Committee meeting. There was a Special Meeting with APD Chief Eric Hawkins and APD leadership earlier this week. During the meeting, Board members and APD discussed information sharing, a confidentiality agreement, and the electronic sharing of evidence.

Matt Toporowski reported that the passing of Local Law J, the CPRB recently executed an agreement with a consultant firm to assist Board members in exercising their increased power and responsibilities.

##### **MONITOR TASK FORCE**

(V. Harden)

Dr. Harden is also excused for the night. In her place, Chair Nairobi Vives spoke to the progress of the Monitor Task Force. In April, the CPRB welcomed a new monitor, Ms. Torres. Ms. Torres will have new cases assigned to her.

##### **PUBLIC OFFICIAL LIAISON**

(N. Vives)

Chair Nairobi Vives reported that the CPRB, OPS, and APD are all working together to finalize the information sharing agreement. In addition, the RFP process is also in the works.

**REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT LAW CENTER** (P. Woods & M. Andre)

Ms. Andre reported to the Board that the CPRB has received two new complaints. As well as one grievance related to one of the complaints received. Ms. Andre also reported that two cases have just recently been assigned to a CPRB monitor. In addition, Ms. Andre reported branding changes she has made for the CPRB: She has developed a new logo, CPRB apparel, and a banner for upcoming events. She has also registered the CPRB for every Alive at Five concert, except those conflicting with pre-existing CPRB Public Monthly Meetings.

Ms. Andre also reported that she has updated the CPRB website, complaint form, and CPRB section on the City's website to reflect the new branding. She also stated that she is following up with OPS regarding updating information on complaints excluded from the CPRB's complaint record.

Mr. Woods reported that after meeting with two attorneys from Harris Beach PLLC, they have agreed to assist the CPRB with writing an amicus brief in the New York Court of Appeals case on the power of localities to commit police discipline to independent agencies without going through collective bargaining.

**REPORT FROM OPS** (J. Laiacona)

Commander Laiacona is also excused for the night; in his place, Lt. Mark Decker reported no current updates from OPS.

**REPORT FROM CHAIR** (N. Vives)

Chair Nairobi Vives reported that Board member Paul Collins-Hackett is being honored by the City of Albany Commission on Human Rights at their annual award ceremony.

Chair Nairobi Vives also added that Ms. Michele Andre was recently featured on WAMC Northeast Public Radio where she discussed her new position with the Board and future aspirations.

Also, Chair Nairobi Vives, reminded the Board of their upcoming retreat next month, where Board members will receive additional training on numerous topics.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS** (N. Vives)

**INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Chair Nairobi Vives proposed to the Board a committee which will recommend to the full Board which cases the CPRB should pursue with an independent investigation. The Chair presented a smaller committee composed of 1-3 individuals.

The committee would be in direct communication with OPS and will review information from OPS to determine whether or not an incident warrants an independent investigation.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Due to the absence of several Board members, the approval of May and April meeting minutes will be postponed to July's meeting.

**APPROVAL OF 2021 QUARTERLY REPORTS**

Due to the absence of several Board members, the approval of 2021 Q3 and Q4 quarterly reports will be postponed to July's meeting.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Andre  
Program Manager