

City of Albany
Citizens' Police Review Board

Thursday, April 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
University at Albany, Downtown Campus - Milne Hall
135 Western Ave, Levitt Room (M120)

M E E T I N G M I N U T E S

Present: Larry Becker, Mickey Bradley, Veneilya Harden, Matt Ingram, Ivy Morris

Excused Absences: Reverend Victor Collier, Zach Garafalo, Charles Goodbee

Unexcused Absence: Mike Grady

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Mickey Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

II. Approval of the Agenda

The motion to approve the Agenda passed unanimously.

III. New Business

A. New Complaint(s)

1. *Complaints for Board Review (*see Table 1)*

B. Appointment of New Members to the Committee on Complaint Review

Board Members Larry Becker, Mickey Bradley, Veneilya Harden, and Matt Ingram all agreed to review complaints for the next meeting.

C. Approval of June 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Approval of March 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of April 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of May 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of June 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of October 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of November 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of December 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of March 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Approval of 2016 Fourth Quarterly Report

Approval of 2016 Annual Report

Approval of 2017 First Quarterly Report

Board member Larry Becker motioned to approve the meeting minutes, 2016 Fourth Quarterly Report, 2016 Annual Report, and 2017 First Quarterly Report. Board member Veneilya Harden seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Committee/Task Force Reports

By-Laws and Rules

Committee Chair Zach Garafalo was not present; no report was delivered.

Education and Community Outreach

Committee Chair Ivy Morris reported that there were no updates at this time.

Mediation

Committee Chair Reverend Victor Collier was not present; no report was delivered.

Police Department Liaison

Committee Chair Mike Grady was not present; no report was delivered.

Public Official Liaison

Committee Chair Mickey Bradley reported that there were no updates at this time.

Task Force on Monitors

Committee Chair Larry Becker reported that there were no updates at this time.

E. Elections for Committee / Task Force Elections

Chair Mickey Bradley informed Board members that are current Chairs of their respective committees to update him via email to provide their preference in the future to fill available committee positions.

F. Report from the Government Law Center (GLC)

Coordinator for the CPRB, Maureen Obie, reported that as of today, April 13, there are 13 active complaints. Of those, 3 were reviewed this evening, and 1 was closed with no review, leaving 9 complaints. A total of 723 complaints have been closed, including 40 complaints that have been closed with no review. The total number of complaints that remain suspended from review by the Board is 2. The total number of complaints filed to date is 741. Since the Board's last meeting on March 9, the GLC received 4 Grievance Forms, leaving the total number of forms received at 612. The Board's outreach to all individuals has resulted in 158 CPRB complaint forms received, or 25%.

Ms. Obie noted that a valued CPRB Research Assistant, Angela West, was in attendance. Ms. West a 3L student who will graduate next month. Ms. West was thanked for her hard work and commitment to CPRB initiatives during the past school year. CPRB Research Assistant, Elizabeth O'Reilly, has accepted an excellent summer internship with Millbank Law Firm, located in the Manhattan Financial District. Ms. O'Reilly was an invaluable asset to the Board during the last year. Both Ms. O'Reilly and Ms. West were congratulated for jobs well done and are wished the best of luck with their future endeavors.

The GLC is currently accepting applications for new CPRB Summer Research Assistant/s (either two part time, or one full time).

Ms. Obie reported that the GLC continues to conduct research internally and externally better options for data storage management. Information pertaining to other citizen police oversight organizations' administrative handling of complaints received from emotionally disturbed person (EDPs) nationally is also currently being researched.

The GLC will move forward on expanded outreach efforts proposed to the Board, including a postcard promo mailing, distribution of informational flyers, and increasing the number of complaint form locations, to include form locations that provide assistance to citizens with completing the forms.

Board member Zach Garafalo's reappointment by City of Albany Common Council for a first 3-year term is pending.

The Board's next monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2017, 6:00 p.m., at University at Albany Downtown Campus, in Milne Hall.

G. Report from the Office of Professional Standards (OPS)

Commander Michael Hicks reported that there were no updates at this time.

H. Report from the Chair

Chair Mickey Bradley noted that the date for the Board training is still to be determined. Additionally, specific topics for the training are yet to be determined. The event will be held on a Saturday in order to accommodate most members' work schedules.

Chair Bradley reported that the Executive Committee has met twice since the last CPRB meeting to discuss general housekeeping matters. Board member Veneilya Harden has been researching best practices for citizen police oversight groups' addressing emotionally disturbed persons as complainants. A meeting is scheduled for April 19 to discuss this topic with APD Office of Professional Standards.. All Board members are invited to attend the meeting along with Board member Veneilya Harden, Chair Mickey Bradley, and Coordinator Maureen Obie to explore all opportunities to address this topic.

Chair Bradley reported that he attended the induction of the new police officer class, and he was impressed at the new officers' interest and openness to learning more about the CPRB.

IV. Public Comment

No public comments at this time.

V. Adjournment

Vice-Chair Ivy Morris motioned to adjourn the meeting. Chair Mickey Bradley seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Grady
Secretary

Michael A. Grady
A. Grady

***Table 1 Complaints for Board Review**

CPRB / OPS NO.	SUMMARY	ALLEGATIONS	OPS FINDING	CPRB FINDING / ACTION
#32-15 / CC2015-055	Co. alleged he was playing his guitar on the street when he was approached by an officer who told him that he needed to have a permit, and that the officer was verbally abusive. Co. also alleged that he was labeled by the officer as being an aggressive panhandler and was ticketed for Disorderly Conduct.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call Handling 2. Call Handling 3. Conduct Standards 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exonerated 2. Ineffective Policy or Training 3. Not Sustained 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board vote did not pass. 2. Sustained 3. Not Sustained
#33-15 / CC2015-055	Co. alleged that while trying to ask the officer was ordinance was being violated, the officer lunged at her and tried to grab her camera, and accused her of being confrontational. Co. further alleged she was detained and humiliated by police for 30 minutes, and that she requested ID from all officers on scene and was not given a reason why she was being detained and did not receive the officers ID.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call Handling 2. Call Handling 3. Call Handling 4. Conduct Standards 5. Call Handling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exonerated 2. Exonerated 3. Not Sustained 4. Unfounded 5. Ineffective Policy or Training 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exonerated 2. Exonerated 3. Not Sustained 4. Unfounded 5. Board vote did not pass. <p>Actions (#2): Board members noted that its “exonerated” finding does not address policing best practices during such incidents.</p> <p>(#5): Board members noted that its “ineffective policy or training” finding does not address policing best practices; officer’s actions appear to be a means of harassing the complainant.</p>

CPRB / OPS NO.	SUMMARY	ALLEGATIONS	OPS FINDING	CPRB FINDING / ACTION
#14-16 / CC2016-024	Co. alleged that on many separate occasions she has called the police to aid her with an ongoing domestic incident that she has had with her ex-boyfriend/roommate. She alleged that the responding officer, in addition to members of the Colonie Police Department, have conspired against her and refused to assist her.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrest Authorities & Procedures 2. Arrest Authorities & Procedures 3. Call Handling 4. Arrest Authority & Procedures 5. Arrest Authority & Procedures 6. Call Handling 7. Conduct Standards 8. Call Handling 9. Conduct Standards 10. Conduct Standards 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unfounded 2. Unfounded 3. Not Sustained 4. Unfounded 5. Exonerated 6. Unfounded 7. Not Sustained 8. Not Sustained 9. Not Sustained 10. Unfounded 	Action: Board review was postponed until its next meeting due to a lack of quorum.
#15-16 / CC2016-028	Co. alleged that an officer made derogatory comments and was aggressive. Co. further alleged that the officer made remarks about the complainant being transgender, and made the Co. feel threatened because the officer had his hand in his pocket while responding to a fire call at her residence.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct Standards 2. Biased Based Policing (gender identity) 3. Call Handling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unfounded 2. Not Sustained 3. Unfounded 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unfounded 2. Not Sustained 3. Unfounded

CPRB / OPS NO.	SUMMARY	ALLEGATIONS	OPS FINDING	CPRB FINDING / ACTION
#03-17	Co. alleged that he was wrongly accused of a crime, and during a search of his home, APD officers “tore apartment, basement, garage to pieces”; he was not read his Miranda rights, and had \$5,000 taken from his safe that was not listed on the arrest report.	N/A	N/A	Complainant withdrew complaint. Action: Closed / No Review