



**CITY OF ALBANY
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

*April 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom*

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order & Roll Call (I. Morris & V. Harden)

Ivy Morris called the meeting to order. Veneilya roll called board members.

Present: Ava Ayers, Commander Battuello, Larry Becker, Rev. Collier, Zach Garafalo, Warren Hamilton, Veneilya Harden, Kelly Kimbrough, Robert Magee, Ivy Morris, and Lisa Rivage

Absent: Matt Ingram

II. Approval of the Agenda (I. Morris)

Ivy Morris moved to approve the agenda. Rev. Collier seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of February Minutes (I. Morris)

Ivy Morris moved to approve the February 13, 2020 meeting minutes. Rev. Collier seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. New Business

A. Public Comment (Public)

Ivy Morris moved the public comment to the end.

B. Report from the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) (Cmdr. A. Battuello)

Detective Kathleen Hendrick retired from the Albany Police Department effective April 1st. A new review board has been created to fill her position. The Chief has opted to allow Cmdr. Battuello to select two individuals from the selection process. Two new detectives have been hired and started a little over a month ago: Keith Johnson and Detective Will Pierce. Once the COVID lifts, Cmdr. hopes to have an in-person meeting for the community to meet new detectives.

Veneilya questioned how investigating cases are going to work with everything that is going on. Cmdr. explained that Police Department is functioning the same as usual. As far as complaints and witnesses, APD has only been doing phone interviews for the safety and health of the community. Headquarters have been closed for the public. Since COVID, only one complaint has gone through and only one phone interview has been done. With headquarters closed, CPRB cannot access cases to review. Cmdr. hopes within the next few weeks, building can reopen.

Cmdr. recommended OPS case reference number be added next to CPRB case number on the agenda so detectives can look up which cases are for which month.

C. Case Review

1. #01-2019 (Z. Garafalo)

Zach Garafalo reported CPRB #01-2019/OPS CC2018-028 complaint form was submitted to the Government Law Center on December 12, 2018, OPS received complaint on December 12, 2019, and the investigating detective from OPS spoke to the complainant on January 7, 2019. Mediation was offered by OPS and declined by the complainant. OPS reported their investigation to CPRB on July 30, 2019. Zach previously reported this to CPRB on November 14, 2019, but the board tabled it to review posed questioned from the complainant at that time. The following materials were available for review for these allegations: 1) summary of OPS interview with the target officer, 2) records for call for service, 3) email correspondence including emails from the target officer to the complainant and complainant attorneys, from corporation counsel to the complainant, and from the deputy chief of staff to the mayor to the complainant, and 4) security camera footage was available both from the neighbor's property and home depot as well as pictures. The investigatory materials did not include dash or body camera footage.

Zach summarized the case and explains the dispute had been a long-term one between the complainant and their neighbors. Both parties have placed calls over the years. On January 4, 2018, the complainant and her husband were victims of an assault. Female complainant feels physically violated. The interview with the target officer and OPS revealed that the target officer has been working with the complainant and their neighbors throughout the duration of this case. There were multiple incidents that had occurred.

A monitor was not appointed to investigate this complaint.

D. Committee Reports

1. By-Laws and Rules - Update (W. Hamilton)

Warren Hamilton stated that he had nothing new to report.

2. Mediation (Rev. V. Collier)

Rev. Collier stated that he had nothing new to report.

3. Police Department Liaison (V. Harden)

Veneilya Harden stated that she had nothing new to report.

4. Monitor Task Force (L. Becker)

Larry Becker stated that they interviewed new prospective monitors.

5. Public Official Liaison (I. Morris)

Ivy Morris stated that she had nothing new to report.

E. Report from the Government Law Center (A. Ayers)

Ava Ayers mentioned website is up and running, reports are being worked on, and the search for a new hire has been suspended due to COVID-19.

F. Report from the Chair (I. Morris)

Ivy Morris stated that she had nothing else to report.

G. Public Comment (Public)

No public comment.

H. Adjournment

(I. Morris)

Ivy Morris moved to adjourn the meeting. Rev. Collier seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11p.m.