

**CITY OF ALBANY
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

November 09, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call (N. Vives)

Board Members Present: Nairobi Vives, Dr. Rev. Victor Collier, Dr. Veneilya Harden, Matthew Ingram, Victor Person, Zach Garafalo, Kevin Cannizzaro, Larry Becker, and John Levondosky

Also Present: Professor Ava Ayers, Commander Joshua Laiacona, Judge Leslie Stein, Director of the GLC, and Patrick Woods, Deputy Director of the GLC

Absent: Paul Collins-Hackett

Chair Vives called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

II. Approval of the Agenda (N. Vives)

Upon motion and second, the agenda was approved.

III. Approval of Minutes (N. Vives)

Upon motion and second, the minutes of the September 9th meeting were approved.

IV. New Business (N. Vives)

Chair Vives noted that since October 14, 2021, five new complaints have been received. They will be assigned and handled accordingly.

Proposed Amendment to Bylaws and Rules (K. Cannizzaro)

Mr. Cannizzaro, reviewed a proposed amendment to the Bylaws and Rules, which creates a new Section V under Article III titled "Procedure for Initial Case Review by Newly Appointed Members." The text of proposed amendment was previously distributed to all members via e-mail.

Following discussion, Chair Vives noted that, as per the Bylaws, a formal vote on the proposed amendment will take place at the next meeting of the Board, which is scheduled for December 9th.

Local Law J

(A. Ayers)

Professor Ayers provided an overview of the expanded powers Local Law J gives to the CPRB and noted that it can be found in its entirety on the CPRB website. Following Professor Ayers' presentation, there was lengthy discussion among Board members concerning Local Law J and what the next steps might be.

V. Case Updates

(N. Vives)

Chair Vives noted that case updates were being moved to the December meeting.

VI. Committee Reports

i. By-Laws and Rules

(M. Ingram)

Mr. Ingram reported that the committee met in October and noted that, among other things, the committee conversation included discussion of the repetitive content of the procedures and reference manuals and the possibility of consolidating them. He noted that in doing that, the Board would then have only two documents – the Bylaws (the governing rules and regulations document) and a procedures manual.

ii. Outreach

(Dr. Harden)

Dr. Harden reported that the Committee recently participated in the press release about Prop 7. Committee members will be attending the Black Expo, details are still forthcoming. The Committee will be tabling at the Conviction Sealing event on November 10th. A round table discussion about Prop 7 is in the planning stages.

iii. Mediation

(Rev. Collier)

There are no updates at this time.

iv. Police Department Liaison Committee

(Dr. Harden)

Dr. Harden deferred to Commander Joshua Laiacona.

iv. Public Official Liaison Committee

(N. Vives)

No Updates at this time.

v. Monitor Task Force

(L Becker)

Appointment of new chair for this task force will be required. Dr. Harden offered to serve as interim chair until a permanent chair is seated.

VII. Report from Government Law Center

(M. Harkness)

Ms. Harkness introduced Director of the GLC, Judge Leslie Stein, and Deputy Director Patrick Woods. She also noted that work study students have been hired to provide administrative support to the CPRB and Government Law Center coordinator, Barbara Jordan-Smith. Ms. Harkness is planning a meeting with the CPRB in NYC to plan an event in the new year to convene oversight groups to share guidance. She is working on onboarding of new member, formal introduction to come next meeting.

Professor Ayers and GLC Fellows are continuing to work on drafting of bylaws.

VIII. Report from OPS

(Commander Laiacona)

APD is looking into software called EI Pro, which is basically an early warning system that looks at patterns amongst police officers to identify possible problematic officers. Additionally, APD has been looking into transcription software which will help get reports to the board more quickly. There should be several new cases coming to the board within the next week.

He noted APD is looking into conducting the next Citizen Academy in January and are also looking into classes that are specific for CPRB members.

APD is also looking into enhancing the reporting form that is used if a citizen does not want to file an official complaint.

IX. Report from the Chair

(N. Vives)

Chair Vives noted that this is the first meeting since passage of Local Law J, and stated that it was a true team effort and an amazing moment in time in that the Albany CPRB is one of the few CPRBs to have been given the powers it now has. She also thanked the Board members and members of the community for passing Proposal 7 and thanked the GLC and OPS for helping make this effort a success.

X. Public Comment

No comment.

XI. Meeting Adjournment

(N. Vives)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Veneilya Harden
Secretary