

**CITY OF ALBANY  
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

*April 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom*

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call** (N. Vives and Dr. Harden)

Board Members Present: Nairobi Vives, Paul Collins-Hackett, Dr. Rev. Victor Collier, Dr. Veneilya Harden, Matthew Ingram, Victor Person, Zach Garafalo, John Levendosky

Excused: Kevin Cannizzaro

Also Present: Commander Joshua Laiacona, Lisa Rivage, Matt Toporowski

Board Chair Vives called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

**II. Approval of the Agenda** (N. Vives)

Chair Vives moved to approve the agenda with one amendment to include an update by Dr. Harden on the Arch Street incident. Upon motion and second, the amended agenda was approved.

**III. Case Review/Update**

**Arch Street** (Dr. Harden)

Dr. Harden noted it has been one year since the Arch Street incident. She reported that the cases are still under review by OPS. She also noted that many of the questions that the community had expressed have been presented to OPS and when the cases are ready for review by the CPRB, the community will be notified.

**CC2018-013** (P. Collins-Hackett)

Mr. Collins-Hackett reported that the complainant alleged that police used excessive force and derogatory language in responding to a call for assistance that he, the complainant, had initiated.

Mr. Collins-Hackett noted that in its review, the Board recommended that OPS revisit the case pertaining to the conduct of the officers.

Commander Laiacona reported that he had the case reviewed to address the profanity and courtesy policy violations. He reported that two policy violations have been added to the case for profanity use and lack of courtesy.

Mr. Collins-Hackett noted he will review the violations further.

Chair Vives moved the vote on this case to the May meeting.

**CC2019-008**

Mr. Collins-Hackett reported he has not had the opportunity to speak with the complainant as yet. He also noted that the complainant has provided additional materials, which he will be reviewing.

Commander. Laiacona noted the case is in the process of being re-reviewed.

Chair Vives noted the complainant was present and encouraged the complainant to reach out to the GLC or Mr. Collins-Hackett with any questions or concerns.

Chair Vives moved the review to the May agenda.

**CC2019-021**

(Dr. Rev. Collier)

Chair Vives moved discussion and vote on this case to the May meeting in order to allow Rev. Collier time to further review evidence, including video and audio recordings, pertaining to this case.

**IV. Committee Reports**

i. By-Laws and Rules

(M. Ingram)

Mr. Ingram reported that, rather than submit individual proposals, the committee agreed to submit a series of proposals to the Board for review and vote.

ii. Outreach

(P. Collins-Hackett)

Mr. Collins-Hackett reported that there are several initiatives in process such as the Outreach Committee has connected with the Justice Coalition to discuss increasing community member attendance at Board meetings as well as Board members attending Justice Coalition meetings. The committee also has plans to partner with APL and other organizations to plan Know Your Rights sessions beginning in June. There is an Albany Housing Event later this month at which the committee will table.

iii. Mediation

(V. Collier)

Rev. Collins reported that there were no updates at this time.

iv. Police Liaison Committee

(Dr. Harden)

Dr. Harden reported that Commander Laiacona gave an update on the fatality on Broadway. He agreed to provide notification of critical incidences on a case-by-case basis going

forward. The committee is working on providing input to APD for their Police Academy curriculum. Further, the committee discussed the dirt bike incident with APD.

iv. Public Official Liaison Committee (N. Vives)

Chair Vives reported that members of the Board had a productive meeting with APD leadership and requested the Chief to attend a special meeting with the entire Board, which is still being planned. She also reported that the RFP selection process is underway. There have been three proposals submitted. Chair Vives and Board members Collins-Hackett, Dr. Harden, and Mr. Levendosky are included among those who are interviewing the candidates.

Mr. Toporowski noted that a confidentiality stipulation agreement will be finalized soon. He stated that the purpose of the agreement is to provide, among other things, a level of protection for the APD and the CPRB as it relates to the sharing of information.

v. Monitor Task Force (Dr. Harden)

Dr. Harden reported that a new monitor, Gina Torres, has been hired. A process is being developed for onboarding new monitors.

V. **Report from OPS** (J. Laiacona)

Commander Laiacona reported that the electronic case review process will soon be ready and that online security training will be provided to the Board. He also reported that a two-hour block for instruction during the next Police Academy has been secured for the Board to conduct a class.

The Commander noted that the Attorney General has notified APD that they will not be investigating the fatal crash that occurred recently.

VI. **Report from the Chair** (N. Vives)

Chair Vives reported that Michelle Andre will be starting in her position as CPRB Program Manager on April 18.

VII. **New Business** (N. Vives)

Upon motion and second, the minutes of the February 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting and the February 10<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> regular meetings were approved.

Three new grievances have been received since March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

VIII. **Public Comment**

A chat message requested the meeting recording be shared with Spectrum Channel 1303.

Ivy Morris noted she appreciates all the work the CPRB does and that the Albany Justice Coalition gives an open invitation to all members of the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Dr. Veneilya Harden  
Secretary