

City of Albany
Citizens' Police Review Board

Thursday, November 10, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
University at Albany, Downtown Campus - Milne Hall, Levitt Room (M120)
135 Western Ave, Albany, N.Y.

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Larry Becker, Mickey Bradley, Zach Garafalo, Charles Goodbee, Ivy Morris

Excused Absence(s): Reverend Victor Collier

Unexcused Absence(s): Mike Grady

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Mickey Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Board member Ivy Morris motioned to approve the Agenda. Board member Larry Becker seconded that motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Old Business

A. CPRB No. 06-16 / OPS No. CC2016-009 (*see Table 1)

B. CPRB No. 02-16 / OPS No. CC2016-003 (*see Table 1)

IV. 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, Zach Garafalo, Charles Goodbee, and Ivy Morris all agreed to review complaints for the next meeting.

C. Committee/Task Force Reports

By-Laws and Rules

Committee Chair Zach Garafalo reported that there were no new updates.

Education and Community Outreach

Committee Chair Ivy Morris reported that a December 6, 2016, outreach information session is planned at Citizen Action, specifically for targeted community organization leaders. The information session is a way to pilot the outreach PowerPoint presentation. The committee plans to address improved complaint form access and updated online forms.

The GLC has drafted a 30-second radio Public Service Announcement that has been approved by the committee. Also under consideration are options for increasing CPRB

visibility. Ms. Morris noted plans to submit Board meeting dates/times to the Time Warner Cable Community Calendar.

Mediation

No report at this time.

Police Department Liaison

No report at this time.

Public Official Liaison

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

Task Force on Monitors

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

D. Report from the Government Law Center (GLC)

Coordinator for the CPRB Maureen Obie reported that there were currently 19 active complaints. Of those complaints, 8 were reviewed this evening, leaving 11 complaints. A total of 699 complaints have been closed, including 35 complaints that have been closed with no review. The total number of complaints that remain suspended from review by the Board is 4. The total number of complaints filed to date is 727.

Since the Board's last meeting on October 13, 2016, the GLC received 1 Grievance Form, leaving the total number of forms received at 560. The Board's outreach to all individuals has resulted in 148 CPRB complaint forms received, or 24%.

The CPRB currently has 2 Common Council vacancies. Common Council received 9 applications for appointment to the Board. Interviews are scheduled for November 22 and 29, 2016, and Common Council extended an invitation to Board members to participate in those interviews. Chair Bradley and Vice Chair Morris have volunteered to attend on November 22; Chair Bradley and Zach Garafalo will attend on November 29.

Bennett Liebman's last day as the GLC's Interim Director is Monday, November 14, and Andy Ayers will join us as the new GLC Director on Tuesday, November 15.

The 2015 Annual Report was sent to Board members today for approval during the next meeting on December 8, 2016.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at this location.

E. Report from the Office of Professional Standards

Commander Michael Hicks reported that the Body Worn Cameras (BWC) are halfway through testing. They recently switched to a second version, and they are narrowing down the best features for the force.

Commander Hicks met with the APD Training Committee today, and there is a tentative plan for CPRB members to meet with new recruits.

Board member Zach Garafalo asked if the footage from the BWC is collected by the City. Commander Hicks advised that the City retains footage, although placement of the camera can limit the recorded image.

F. Report from the Chair

Chair Mickey Bradley reported that a meeting was held with Chief Cox to discuss data available to the public and regarding releasing disciplines anonymously and in aggregate form on an annual basis. In response to Chief Cox's request, the Government Law Center conducted research and provided the Board with information for other review Boards' reporting practices and parameters.

Chair Bradley noted that Board discussion has taken place regarding possible presentations for new officer recruits, meetings with the Chief of Police, and proposed professional development for Board members. Chair Bradley stated plans to email Board members to request their feedback about prioritizing current projects.

Chair Bradley reported that the meeting with members of the APD; Brian Corr, the President of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE); and representatives from the President's Task Force for 21st Century Policing initiative was productive. A dinner meeting was also attended by Brian Corr and several Board members.

V. Public Comment

Common Council member and Public Safety Committee Chair Leah Golby reported that a Public Safety Committee meeting with the Chief is slated to discuss Body Worn Camera updates. Ms. Golby expressed her appreciation for all the work that is being done, especially by outreach members. She reported that Common Council has interviewed 9 CPRB candidates and expects to have two new Board members appointed at its next meeting. Ms. Golby also commented that Board members' participation at new Board member interviews is helpful. Chair Mickey Bradley noted that Board members do not have an influence on who is appointed; rather, they are there to answer any questions about how the complaint process works.

VI. Adjournment

Chair Mickey Bradley motioned to adjourn the meeting. Board member Zach Garafalo seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Grady
Secretary

MICHAEL
R. GRADY

***Table 1 Complaints for Board Review**

CPRB / OPS NO.	SUMMARY	ALLEGATIONS	OPS FINDING	CPRB FINDING / ACTION
#06-16 / OPS CC2016-009 (Old Business)	Co. alleged that while being arrested officers pushed his head into the concrete and attempted to smother him. Co. further alleged that while in the police car he was kneed repeatedly in the head, and once at Albany Medical Center the officers asked the doctor and intern to leave in order to assault him further.	1. Use of Force	1. Not Sustained	1. Not Sustained
#02-16 / OPS CC2016-003 (Old Business)	Co. alleged that officers did nothing to assist her when she was assaulted by nurses at St. Peter's Hospital. Co. further alleged at Center Station the desk officer refused to file an assault report for her, called her offensive names and then physically threw her downstairs at the station.	1. Use of Force	1. Unfounded	1. Not Sustained Action: The Board voted to add a second allegation to address APD's handling of a sexual assault report.
#08-16 / CC2016-007	Co. alleged \$1,100 was stolen from him when he was arrested for assault and robbery. Co. further alleged that he was the victim, not the suspect in this case.	1. Evidence & Property Handling 2. Evidence & Property Handling 3. Arrest Authority & Procedures 4. Bias-Based Policing	1. Exonerated 2. Not Sustained 3. Exonerated 4. Not Sustained	1. Exonerated 2. Not Sustained 3. Exonerated 4. Not Sustained
#10-16 / CC2016-012	Co. alleged that he was illegally stopped and falsely charged. He further alleged that excessive force was used while removing him from his vehicle.	1. Arrest Authority & Procedure 2. Use of Force	1. Unfounded 2. Unfounded	1. Unfounded 2. Unfounded

CPRB / OPS NO.	SUMMARY	ALLEGATIONS	OPS FINDING	CPRB FINDING / ACTION
#11-12 / CC2011-123	Co. alleged that when her car was stopped and searched by officers her children were in the car and the vehicle's center console was removed and damaged, along with the ignition key during the search.	1. Call Handling	1. Not Sustained	1. Board vote did not pass.
#30-11 / CC2011-088	Co. alleged that officers used foul language, showed aggression, and pointed guns, that she was profiled, and her car was searched without probable cause and should not have been towed.	1. Conduct Standards 2. Use of Force 3. Call Handling 4. Arrest Authority & Procedure 5. Evidence & Property Handling	1. Not Sustained 2. Exonerated 3. Unfounded 4. Exonerated 5. Ineffective Policy or Training	1. Not Sustained 2. Exonerated 3. Unfounded 4. Exonerated 5. Ineffective Policy or Training
#06-12 / CC2012-018	Co. alleged excessive force and that his glasses were destroyed by officers.	1. Use of Force 2. Property Handling	1. Unfounded 2. Not Sustained	1. Unfounded 2. Not Sustained
#53-12 / CC2012-115	Co. alleged that in front of her home she was hit in the face and fell to the ground, and when she woke up an officer was standing over her and did not check to see if she was okay.	1. Use of Force	1. Exonerated	1. Exonerated