

**CITY OF ALBANY  
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

*February 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.*

[Via Zoom](#)

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**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Board Members Present: Nairobi Vives, Paul Collins-Hackett, Victor Person, Larry Becker, Dr. Veneilya Harden,

Excused: Matt Ingram, Zach Garafalo

Also Present: Ava Ayers, Commander Anthony Battuello, Robert Magee, D/Lt. Decker

N. Vives called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Welcomed new Board member Victor Person.

**II. Approval of the Agenda** (N. Vives & V. Harden)

The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

**III. Approval of Minutes** (N. Vives & Rev. Collier)

No discussion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

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

One new complaint received since January 14, 2021 – CPRB. #01-21

Recently received the OPS report and the monitor’s report for the Board to review.

Discussion about Local Law J.

**V. Committee Reports** (M. Ingram)

i. By-Laws and Rules

There is a public policy meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

ii. Outreach (Z. Garafalo)

There were no updates.

iii. Mediation (Rev. V. Collier)

There were no updates.

iv. Police Liaison

(V. Harden)

Wrote a letter with respect to the collective thought of all Board members. Reiterated Board's collective mission to mend the relationship between black and brown communities and local law enforcement. Mentioned when misconduct issues take place, the Board is met with policy and procedure which keep the same structures in place. Requesting an immediate response of a plan of how OPS will review outdated cases so the Board can be up-to-date with new cases as well as having detectives present that are involved in the investigation of cases present at the meetings to discuss their findings as they have done in the past.

Cmdr. Battuello agrees that the Board and OPS should come together and execute a plan. Cmdr. Battuello states that it was commonplaces before for detectives to be present at the Board meetings to answer questions in reference to the case. Cmdr. Battuello confirmed that detectives will be attending their cases up for review going forward. Confirmed receipt of V. Harden's letter, reviewed with Corp. Counsel states APD has a budget and may consider creative ways to make staff available so the Board to get caught up. OPS is open to discussing a plan for new cases to come in.

P. Collins asked why did detectives stop showing up to Board meetings. Cmdr. Battuello states he's unaware because he was not in leadership at that time but he can confirm that going forward he will ensure that they are present. P. Collins also asked if an issue with officers working on the weekends have been raised to the Chief before. Board members agree that review of cases should be more efficient.

N. Vives inquired about the remote review of cases for the Board. Cmdr. Battuello states that covid has been a major obstacle. There are legal concerns in reference to medical documentation that finds it way into the cases and there are HIPAA laws in place. He does not see how it would work unless there is a case that does not have any of that evidence. Wants to focus on problem-solving instead of issue spotting. Harden wants to know if GLC has availability or another place that Board members would be able to review cases? A. Ayers responded that arrangements could be arranged to support the Board.

v. Monitor Task Force

(L. Becker)

Inquired about training status for monitors.

vi. Public Official Liaison

(N. Vives)

There were no updates.

**VI. Report From Government Law Center**

(M. Harkness)

In the process of planning training for monitors, board, and program staff. Currently, 36 active cases pending of those cases 3 have been assigned to the Board for review. L. Becker provided an update on 10-18.

**VII. Report from OPS**

(Cdr. Battuello)

Closing out the hiring cycle, February 26<sup>th</sup> is the swearing of the newest class. Just filled a Commander position for the South station. 21 police officers have been confirmed but does not have an exact number as of yet. Just did a part-virtual/in-person graduation for recent cadets.

Information reported in media regarding a ransomware attack, has a direct correlation to the Board. Wants to ensure that APD never lost any information or cases which are available in hard-copy format and are well in tact. They working around the clock to rebuild the information to log back in.

Training interested in issuing legal updates, case law updates, that they teach in service training for all supervisors they are interested in providing to the Board. They have not figured out how they are going to deliver the training as of yet, Jose Martinez a training officer, will be building a curriculum.

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

IX. Continuing on the momentum to get the Board more teeth: efficiency, working better with APD, gaining trust from community to bring complaints to Board, etc. Looking forward to new and exciting updates to come.

X. **Public Comment**  
No comment.

XI. **Meeting Adjournment** (N. Vives & Rev. Collier)