

**CITY OF ALBANY
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

*March 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom*

MEETING MINUTES

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

Board Members Present: Nairobi Vives, Larry Becker, Victor Person, Rev. Victor Collier

Excused: Z. Garafalo, Matt Ingram, Dr. Veneilya Harden, Paul Collins-Hackett

Also Present: Ava Ayers, CDR. Anthony Battuello, Det. William Pierce, Robert Magee, D/Lt. Decker, Teresa Bayle, Anthony Fasciglione, Det. Johnson

N. Vives called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. Approval of the Agenda (N. Vives)

Minutes were not approved as there was no quorum this meeting.

III. New Business (N. Vives)

No new complaints since February 11, 2021 meeting.

IV. Case Review

1. CPRB #: 10-18; CC2018-023 (L. Becker)

D/Lt. Decker states that Shane is out on leave but case will be ready for re-review at next meeting. Moving case to next meeting for discussion.

2. CPRB #: 20-17; CC2018-017

Also Det. Shane's case and will need to brush up on case to provide additional information.

D/Lt. Decker indicated that he will look up the case and get back to the board on the status.

Moving case to next meeting for discussion.

3. CPRB #: 06-18; CC

Moving case to the next meeting for discussion.

Case Assignments:

Vives has assigned matters to board members to work on clearing up the backlog by having board members monitor the status of active cases and follow up with OPS, if necessary. The goal is to have a more efficient approach to monitoring cases and Harkness will email case assignment list to members. Ayers discussed the benefits of this new practice.

Becker will be working with new board member, Person, on case review.

Collaborative:

Question: Person asked for clarification of if the board was scolded at a Common Council meeting this week due to delays. Ayers explained that the meeting was to discuss collaborative recommendations which also includes some of the Board’s own recommendations. Comments were not directed at the Board. Informal discussion about the group’s efforts.

Electronic Case Review:

Vives explained that they are not trying to physically relocate the case review space however they are asking for electronic remote access (Google drive, shared city credential access, etc.) Cmdr. Battuello explained the types of cases that have transitioned remotely due to covid, and thinks that we are headed in the right direction when it comes to the virus, they are open to discussion and look forward to doing in-person meetings and review Cmdr. Battuello stated making the information accessible remotely can be extremely difficult. Vives suggested a hybrid approach.

Question: Is there a public facing side to the body worn camera software? Is there an option to review there footage remotely? Cmdr. Battuello, to his knowledge, that cloud based platform available in the City of Albany. You would have to be a subscriber to the platform. D/Lt. Decker inquired about specific programs used for the remote case review so he can look into those programs.

V. Committee Reports

- i. By-Laws and Rules (N. Vives)
There were no updates.
- ii. Outreach (Z. Garafalo)
There were no updates.
- iii. Mediation (Rev. V. Collier)
There were no updates.
- iv. Police Liaison (V. Harden)
There were no updates.
- v. Monitor Task Force (L. Becker)
There were no updates.
- vi. Public Official Liaison (N. Vives)
There were no updates.

VI. Report from Government Law Center

Ayers will be changing roles at Albany Law School and will be transitioning out of her role as Director of the Government Law Center to full-time faculty. The goal is to hire a new full-time

GLC Director. Ayers will not transition until the position is filled, and even after the new Director is in place she will continue to play an active role with supporting the Board.

We are in the planning phase for the general training for all CPRB stakeholders. We are considering options for media training for the Board. Nairobi Vives, Paul Collins-Hackett, Victor Person and Melody Harkness will be starting the Civilian Police Academy(CPA) on March 17th. Cdr. Battuello noted that the training agenda sent over by Harkness does not overlap topics of trainings provided in the Civilian Police Academy. They will be readjusting some of the content provided in the CPA.

Question: Becker inquired if new monitors received training through CPA. D/Lt. Decker confirmed that two new monitors have completed the academy.

Question: Becker inquired if there is a minimum age to attend CPA? Cdr. Battuello believes that the minimum age may be 18 since they do have a cadet program. They will double-check this information and get back to the Board. Harkness and Ayers plan on organizing a training for new board members to cover CPRB procedures. Informal discussion about logistics of various trainings and when to schedule. Collier highlight that we should share the changes with existing board member who have already went through CPA.

VII. **Report from OPS** (CDR. Battuello)
Introduced Detectives Will Pierce and Keith Johnson who have played an influential role in the hiring process.

Recruitment:

Deadline quickly approaching for the May exam. Cdr. Battuello has been doing outreach with community members and organizations. Now is the time to assist with recruiting community members for APD by getting the word out. Recently shot a [recruitment video](#) from an Albany Police officer (located on YouTube) due to be released on March 22nd and plans to roll out more videos highlighting officers.

23 Police recruits are currently in the academy.

Monitors:

Cdr. Battuello suggests that we assign monitors to every case. Ayers asked if R. Magee will look into if the board is allow to appoint monitors to every case.

Mediation:

Cdr. Battuello and D/Lt. Decker recently met to go over cases to review for mediation. Rec'd several complaints, Chief has to approve, union has to approve, then goes to the board for mediation approval. They plan to move forward to seek the Chief's approval first, then the union.

Ayers reviewed City Code and shared language. Suggestions from Ayers that Harkness add mediation when polling members about monitor assignment.

Training:

If the Board prefers to wait until after the CPA, they will start working on preparing training now to sleight to sometime in May.

- VIII. **Report from the Chair** (N. Vives)
There were no updates.
- IX. **Public Comment** (N. Vives)
No public comment.
- X. **Meeting Adjournment** (N. Vives)
The meeting was adjourned at 7:05PM.