**City of Syracuse**

**Citizen Review Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, July 11, 2024**

**5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

**Common Council Chambers**

**Public Comment - 20 minutes at 6:30 PM**

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| **Name** | **P** | **A** | **Name** | **P** | **A** | **Name** | **P** | **A** |
| Pratt, Harry |  | X | Holmes, Hatisha | X |  | Nilsson, Lori | X |  |
| Bey-Wright, Jah-Quan |  | X | Johnson, Donald |  | X | Betts, Linda J. | X |  |
| Love-joy-Grinnell, Bryn |  | X | Favata, Joseph |  | X | Elise Baker | X |  |
| Sekarore, Olivier |  | X | Samia Al-Fareh |  | A |  |  |  |
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On Thursday,July 11, 2024, the City of Syracuse Citizen Review Board (CRB) held an open, stated meeting at 304 City Hall in the Common Council Chambers.

Lori Nilsson, Board Chair, called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting was being held pursuant to notice and that a quorum was not present.

1. Lori Nilsson noted that the board members present had copies of the June minutes and they would skip over this item for this meeting.
2. Lori informed the board that the Administrator, Ranette Releford was currently on vacation. Board member, Bryn Love-joy-Grinnell & Community Engagement Specialist, Anthony Heard were also on vacation.
3. Board Action Items
   1. No items to discuss
4. Chairman’s Items
   1. New Board Member-Lori introduced the new board member, Elise Baker. She asked her to introduce her to introduce herself. Elise described her dedication to community service, highlighting the importance of local involvement and advocacy for youth. She owned a floral shop in the city of Syracuse for 13 years. She holds a degree in Criminal Justice and has fostered over 33 children. She has hosted “Prayer in the Park” at Kirk Park and baptized community residents over the past 7 years. She is retired from helping at-risk youth in the SCSD after 18 years. Her background can enhance the board’s outreach and advocacy efforts.
   2. Contract Investigator position- Lori stated that the position had been posted on Indeed and we had roughly 25 applicants that have not been vetted yet. Upon Ranette’s return from vacation, interviews will begin.
   3. Community Engagement- Lori discussed the CRB’s successful participation in June events, including the Juneteenth and Pride parades. The CRB also hosted the CRB Block Party which had a good turnout, despite the weather conditions and moving the location from Meachem field to Henninger High School. Lori emphasized the importance of having a backup location from the start of event planning moving forward. She gave kudos to the office staff and board members who attended, as well as the community for attending.
5. Administrator’s Report
   1. On behalf of Ranette, Lori advised in the month of June we received ten cases total, four online, five in person and one by the Syracuse Police Department. There are Forty-four cases total for the year 2024.
   2. Monthly Financial Report – Lori stated that the budget just started this week and so far we’re pretty good. We did good with the budget last year and spent all but $500.
6. Committees
7. Board Development/Training- Lori reminded the board that as members of NACOLE, training is available for 3 months after signing up, and can be reviewed at a later date if the initial training is missed.
8. Police Relations- Lori advised to the best of her knowledge, the police liaison committee meeting has not been rescheduled yet. Lori advised the police liaison committee meeting should hopefully be held by the end of July or beginning of August.
9. New Business
   1. Elise asked how the board responsibilities such as case review and committee meetings, directly help the board to implement strategies in regard to policing and Community-based issues. Hatisha advised that there are several arms of the CRB that include responding to complaints for SPD, community outreach and public education on what to do when you have interaction with a police officer. Lori also advised it can be going to events around the city and having a table where we provide information, educating the youth at after school programs. She also informed Elise that there are many CRB board committees that she can learn more about once she feels comfortable such as the police liaison committee. The process for case resolution was also explained (CRB office staff handles the day to day with case intake, the board votes on the cases in executive session and does the panel hearings.)
   2. Lori thanked Mustafa for coming to all our meetings. He has been coming to all our meetings for several years now.
   3. Lori reiterated that because the meetings are streamed on YouTube, everyone needs to speak directly into a microphone so they can be heard.
   4. Lori suggested scheduling a zoom meeting soon to go over the pending cases not being discussed today.
10. Public Comment (6:30 pm)
    1. No comments
11. Meeting concluded with no Executive Session.

With no motion duly made, the Board adjourned its meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherelle Pace, Data Analyst

Citizen Review Board

Public Comment/Notes:

No cases discussed due to no quorum being present.