

Minutes for May 11, 2017
Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board
City of Memphis

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman White at 4:17 pm.

Board Members Present:

Ralph White, Chair	Casey Bryant
David Acey	Dwan Gilliom
Floridia Jackson	Bruce Kramer
John Marek	Sandeep Pednekar
Carlissa Shaw	

Board Members Absent:

June Chinn-Jointer	
CM Worth Morgan	Alfredo Pena

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A motion was made by Bruce Kramer and seconded by Floridia Jackson to approve the agenda and minutes from April 13, 2017.

Items of Discussion

- a) The board discussed the letters sent to Michael Rallings, Director of Memphis Police Department, regarding the recommendations made at the previous CLERB meeting. Virginia Wilson, CLERB Administrator advised that that, most recently, there were four letters sent to Director Rallings.

Mary Grambergs, Sr. Assistant City Attorney recapped her recent meeting with Director Rallings in which the above referenced letters were discussed. Attorney Grambergs advised that Director Rallings stated he did not receive the first letter sent in February 2017 on the case of Paul Garner. Director Rallings requested that in the future all letters should be forwarded to him via email. Virginia Wilson advised the board that future letters will be emailed and a hard copy of same will be delivered to Director Rallings. Per Attorney Grambergs, Director Rallings also expressed concern about board members' lack of training. Director Rallings would like to create training specific to the CLERB that would encompass more than the Citizen's Police Academy training.

The board agreed that additional details would be helpful in the letters, but not everything Director Rallings specified. The board discussed that in order to provide more detail to the Director; CLERB would need more details from Internal Affairs. Board Members also agreed that the purpose of the board is not to make recommendations to Internal Affairs, but to the Director. The board also discussed the need for police officers interviewed by Internal Affairs to be brought in as witnesses to CLERB hearings in order to be most effective as a board.

- b) CLERB investigator, Arthur Robinson, recapped his recent trip to Atlanta to learn how their review board operates. On the request of Chairman White, Mr. Robinson agreed to put together a report on his experience with the Atlanta review board for the next board meeting.

The chairman mentioned the lack of funds for board members to travel on CLERB business and to conferences. Dabney Ring, the Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, clarified that there are travel funds in CLERB's budget, but the funds only allow board members to be reimbursed after they return from a trip. Only city employees receive travel advances to travel on city business. The board requested a list of training opportunities and conferences relevant to CLERB be distributed at the next meeting by Virginia Wilson.

- c) Dabney Ring discussed the election of CLERB officers which will take place at the next meeting on May 11, 2017. She read from Ordinance #5620 of the Chairman's responsibilities and term length. Members will be nominated and a vote will be taken to decide next year's Chairman and Alternative Chair as well as any other positions the board wishes to have. The Chairman serves a one year term and can only serve two consecutive terms.

d) **Mr. Marcus Walker case ISB # 1037-11**

- This case was heard by the board previously, but no vote was taken or recommendations made.
- The board heard the testimony and viewed written and photographic evidence provided by Walker and his two witnesses, his son Marcus Walker Jr. and his nephew Christopher Redmond, each sworn in by Chairman White.
- The board voted to table the case in order to give Investigator Robinson time to review the evidence provided by Walker and to answer questions about Internal Affairs' report on this case. Board member John Marek requested potential footage from the dash camera on the police cars at the scene during this incident, if available.

- Board member Casey Bryant suggested the CLERB use the Garrity rule, as used by Internal Affairs, to ask police officers to testify before the board in the future and in regards to this case.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Kramer and seconded by Marek. The meeting was formally adjourned by Chairman White at 5:45 pm.