

**CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

The Civilian Police Review Board held a virtual meeting on the above date with the following members present: Chair DeWarren Langley and Vice Chair Cassandra Johnson and Board Members: Dr. Celia Bradshaw, Kelli Dugan, Myra Griffin, Kendra Pressley, Donald Salmon, Jr., David Smith and Jeffrey Thomas. Absent: None.

City Staff Present: Assistant to the City Manager Karmisha Wallace and Deputy City Clerk Ashley Wyatt (Secretary to the Board).

Chair Langley called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

The Secretary to the Board performed roll call.

Subject: Action on Agenda

The regular agenda was adopted as printed. (Pressley/Griffin at 5:36 p.m. 9/0)

Subject: Approval of Minutes: March 17, 2021 and April 28, 2021

The March 17, 2021 regular meeting and the April 28, 2021 Community Police Relations Forum were approved as printed. (Bradshaw/Thomas at 5:38 p.m. 9/0)

Public Comments

Chair Langley opened the floor for public comments.

No one spoke.

Chair Langley closed the floor for public comments.

Subject: Closed Session – Discussion and Determination of Request for Appeal Hearing for Sharron D. Hunter-Rainey

Motion by Vice Chair Johnson, seconded by Board Member Griffin to adjourn into closed session to conduct an appeal hearing concerning complainant Sharron D. Hunter-Rainey was approved at 5:40 p.m. (9/0)

The Board returned to open session at 6:46 p.m. (Salmon/Thomas – 9/0)

Subject: Announcements of Board's Determination Regarding request for Appeal Hearing

Pursuant to Civilian Police Review Board Procedures Manual, Section 4.5 Appeals Procedures, Chair Langley announced in public session the votes regarding whether to hold a hearing for Sharron D. Hunter-Rainey. He stated that the Board voted 5/4 to grant a hearing regarding Sharron D. Hunter-Rainey's complaint.

Old Business – Various Items

Chair Langley introduced the following items regarding old business:

Subject: Debrief of 2021 Community Police Relations Forum

An open discussion was held on how to improve future Community Police Relations Forums. The following items were mentioned:

- No feedback received at the meeting was a concern by the Board.
- Community usually reacts when something adverse happens.
- Comments received via email from Kevin McIver the following day were read by Chair Langley.
- No collective push to get people to attend forum from City of Durham.
- Chair Langley mentioned multiple networks that he's connected with and shared how he promoted the Public Forum to the community.
- Push and pull marketing concept may need to be used.
- Law Enforcement in Durham feel like their profession is being under attack.
- Look from the lens of what is occurring in Durham versus what is happening in the nation.
- Look at other marketing avenues to increase awareness and engagement.
- There is no budget for CPRB but certified mail is now handled in the City Manager's budget; prior stipends of \$25 were disbursed to board members about two years ago.
- Free parking for in-person meeting was a concern by board members.

Subject: Process to Review the Role & Responsibilities of the Civilian Police Review Board to Develop Recommendations

An open discussion was held on the subject matter. The following items were mentioned:

- Prior history of how past changes have been made were mentioned.
- Sending letter to City Manager when Board sees that changes are needed has been effective.
- Knowing what other boards are doing will be helpful. Other cities in NC are looking at Durham to assist them. Ms. Wallace will share her research with review boards in the area with the Board via email.

- National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement was mentioned as an organization that reviews police review boards. Chair Langley stated that the Board was a member of the organization. Ms. Wallace confirmed membership to that Board.
- Receiving personnel records has been a stumbling block.
- Board Member Salmon will do research on other review boards and report back to the Board.
- Chair Langley will forward an email on next steps to get members' thoughts and feedback on the subject matter to provide an update in the next fiscal year.
- Board Member Smith stated how the Sheriff Review Board works.

New Business – Various Items

Chair Langley introduced the following items regarding new business:

Subject: Procedure for Hearing

The following items were mentioned:

- Chair Langley asked for feedback to be sent to him regarding how the hearing will be conducted.
- Time limitation would be up to one hour for each party, which includes questions. Recommendations can be approved at the hearing but must be within 45 days after the initial hearing.
- Swearing in witnesses will be administered by the Clerk.

Motion by Board Member Smith, seconded by Board Member Griffin to adopt the Hearing Agenda scheduled for June 16, 2021, was approved at 7:19 p.m. (9/0).

Professional Standards Quarterly Report (January 1 – March 31, 2021)

The following comments were made regarding the subject matter:

- No questions/comments/recommendations were made, and no action was taken.
- Board Member Smith stated that it looks like Professional Standards Division is doing a good job.
- Request for obtaining documents of complaint history and/or manuals for General Order was requested by Board Member Dugan.

Chair Langley will send a letter to the Professional Standards Division requesting information on how do they determine *Conduct Unbecoming of an Officer* and a copy of the policy and the

criteria Professional Standards uses to evaluate an allegation. *Respect the Rights of Others Policy* would also be include in the request. The memo will be sent to Professional Standards, copying Ms. Wallace along with the Hearing Agenda.

- **Subject: CY 2020 Professional Standards Annual Report**

No questions/comments were made and no action was taken.

Subject: Announcements and Determination of Next Meeting Date

Board Member Dr. Cecile Bradshaw will be resigning from the board effective date June 17, 2021, due to an employment opportunity in another state.

Congratulations and well wishes were mentioned by the Board to Board Member Dr. Bradshaw on her new career.

Belated birthday wishes were directed to Board Member Griffin.

Ms. Wallace posted the Police Department's General Orders link in the chat and stated that she will also email the link to Board members. It was also requested that General Orders be placed in SharePoint.

Logistics for the Hearing were stated by Ms. Wallace. To make sure the hearing starts at 5:30 p.m. at Police Headquarters, the Board Members were asked to be there at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Langley adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonette Amos
Secretary to the Board
Office of the City Clerk