

Minutes for May 10, 2018
Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board
City of Memphis

Call to Order

The meeting of the Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board was formally called to order by Chairman White at 4:21p.m.

Board Members Present:

Ralph White, Chair

Casey Bryant

Sandeep Pednekar

Ricky Floyd

Nicholas Bragorgos

David Acey

Dwan Gillom

John Marek

June Chinn-Jointer

Marie Finney

Hazel Moore

Board Members Absent:

CM Philip Spinosa (resigned)

Alfredo Pena

Floridia Jackson

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A motion was made by Dwan Gilliom and seconded by John Marek to approve the March 8, 2018 minutes (Chairman Ralph White explained to the board that they approved minutes from March instead of April due to the lack of a quorum on April 12th).

Items of Discussion

Old & New Business

- a) Chairman White welcomed everyone and reminded the board that City Councilman Philip Spinosa had resigned from his council seat and therefore will no longer be attending meetings as liaison for the Memphis City Council.

- b) Chairman White recused himself from the Walker case, stating he is acquainted with the complainant and his family and turned the meeting over to Casey Bryant, Vice-Chair.
- c) Mr. Marcus Walker greeted the board and proceeded to give an account of the incident that occurred 6/3/2011. He stated that he and his nephew were beaten by the police after being pulled over for a license dispute. Mr. Walker stated that while the charges were dropped and his record was expunged, his complaint with Internal Affairs went nowhere. Mr. Walker further stated that after the board's inactivity and reinstatement, he is now encouraging the board to pursue subpoena power *via* City Council.
- d) Casey Bryant stated that Chairman White mentioned that the board had heard the Walker case before, but since that time new board members has been added to the board. Mr. Walker was sworn in to give an overview of his case.
- e) She also shared that after Mr. Walker, his son and his nephew testified, there was still conflict about what happened, and a subpoena of the officers could help to clarify what happened and answer questions regarding the case.
- f) Mr. Walker recounted the incident, stating he was pulled over and the police asked all of the occupants in the car for ID, which, for his son and nephew, was in the house. They (police officers) beat and sprayed mace on Mr. Walker and his nephew, and they (officers) pulled his son out of the car. Mr. Walker says the police didn't give them a reason for their actions.
- g) Officer Henderson, in a statement, admitted to these actions. Mr. Walker said that the times on the paperwork is distorted and six years later he is still baffled as to why it happened.
- h) John Marek clarified that Mr. Walker did not have a suspended license at the time of the incident and that police are not required to ask for ID from passengers, only the driver.
- i) Mr. Marek suggested the board move to request a subpoena from the City Council to have the police officers testify and a board decision would be rendered after the subpoena request. Virginia Wilson stated that Director Rallings, MPD asked in his letter that the CLERB board use the process in the ordinance that was approved by Council.
- j) Nicholas Bragorgos seconded the motion. All present – Ms. Bryant, Mr. Acey, Mr. Gilliom, Ms. Finney, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Marek, Mr. Bragorgos, and Mr. Pednekar - voted in favor.
- k) Ms. Bryant suggested that June Chinn-Jointer compile the raw data for the dispatcher records on Mr. Walker's behalf. The board thanked Mr. Walker and he was free to leave.
- l) Ms. Bryant went over the letter she drafted for the complainant's case which took place in October and suggested an orderly letter-writing plan.
- m) Chairman White was invited back in the board meeting.

- n) The board reviewed a copy of the letter that was prepared by the board for the Mayor and City Council and Mr. Bragoros moved to send the letter to Mayor Strickland. Ms. Chinn-Jointer seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- o) Mr. Marek moved to send the letter on complainant to Director Rallings, which Ms. Chinn-Jointer seconded. It passed unanimously.
- p) Ms. Wilson presented the National Oversight of Civilian Review Boards (NACOLE) conference in September in St. Petersburg. Ms. Wilson suggested the board members decide by the July CLERB meeting if they were going, and said that travel reimbursement must be pre-approved by the City.

Adjournment

Chairman White moved to adjourn the meeting, with Mr. Marek giving a second, at 5:30p.m. All agreed.