

**CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 19, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

The Civilian Police Review Board held an in-person meeting on the above date and time in the Committee Room of City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza in Durham, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Melissa Rasberry, Vice Chair Cassandra Johnson and Board Members: Norman Blake, DeWarren Langley, and Kendra Pressley.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Board Member Elizabeth Leitzbach

ABSENT: Board Member Shanika Baughman.

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Chief of Staff Karmisha Wallace (City Manager’s Staff Liaison), Assistant City Attorney Anne Marie Tosco (Counsel to the Board) and Assistant City Clerk Javon Pratt (Secretary to the Board).

Chair Rasberry called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

The Secretary of the Board performed roll call.

Subject: Action on Agenda

- Board Member Langley stated to modify the agenda by moving “Closed Sessions: Discussion and Determination of Request for Appeal Hearings” after “Public Comments”.

MOTION to approve the agenda with an amendment. (Langley/Pressley at 6:07 p.m. 5/0)

Subject: Action on Minutes

- a. Closed Session Meeting on May 18, 2022

MOTION to approve the May 18, 2022 closed session minutes as presented. (Langley/Johnson at 6:10 p.m. 5/0)

- b. Meeting/Orientation on October 12, 2022

MOTION to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes as presented. (Langley/Pressley at 6:11 p.m. 5/0)

- c. Meeting on March 29, 2023

MOTION to approve the March 29, 2023 minutes as presented. (Langley/Johnson at 6:12 p.m. 5/0)

Public Comments

- Chair Rasberry opened the floor for public comments.
- No comments made.
- Chair Rasberry closed the floor for public comments.

Subject: Closed Session: Discussion and Determination of Request for Appeal Hearings

- a. Guo
- b. Smith
- c. Freeman

MOTION to proceed into closed session to protect confidential information pursuant to G.S. 160A-168 for the discussion and determination of request for appeal hearings. (Langley/Pressley at 6:13 p.m. 5/0)

- The Board convened in closed session and considered the request for appeal hearing for Yingqiu Guo.
 - The motion to grant an appeal hearing for Guo failed 1/4.
- The Board convened in closed session and considered the request for appeal hearing for Kimmury and William Smith.
 - The motion to grant an appeal hearing for Smith passed 5/0.
- The Board convened in closed session and considered the request for appeal hearing for Lisa Bass Freeman.
 - The motion to grant an appeal hearing for Freeman failed 0/5.

Subject: Old Business

a. Discussion and Voting on FY 2021-2022 Annual Report

- Chair Rasberry asked Board Member Langley if the revisions sent by Chief of Staff Wallace were included in the report.
- Board Member Langley responded Chief of Staff Wallace's recommendation of excluding Board Member Langley's attendance to the RTI Policing Symposium was not included.
- Board Member Pressley mentioned her attendance to the RTI Policing Symposium.
- Chief of Staff Wallace stated within the Procedure Manual, Section 3.1 Meetings, the intent was to present on the role of the Civilian Police Review Board.

MOTION to approve the FY 2021-2022 annual report with the modifications regarding the RTI Policing Symposium. (Langley/Pressley at 7:13 p.m. 5/0)

Subject: New Business

a. Confirmation of Community/Police Relations Forum on May 17, 2023

- Chair Rasberry confirmed the Community/Police Relations Forum would be held on May 17, 2023 in the committee room of City Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- Chair Rasberry asked Vice Chair Johnson to assist with planning the forum.
- Board Member Langley suggested to conduct the Smith hearing on June 21, 2023.
- Chair Rasberry stated a regular business meeting would be held immediately following the forum on May 17, 2023.

b. Discussion of Potential Community/Civic/Neighborhood Presentations

- Chair Rasberry suggested Durham CAN as an organization to reach out to offer a presentation from the Board.
- Board Member Langley mentioned in the past he sent letters to the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, Durham People's Alliance and Partners Against Crime districts asking if they would like a presentation from the Board.
- Board Member Langley also stated the Board was invited by the Criminal Justice Department of NCCU in the past.
- Board Member Pressley and Vice Chair Johnson suggested to offer presentations at PAC and HOA meetings.
- Board Member Langley also suggested El Centro Hispano.
- Vice Chair Johnson suggested an interpreter to speak to Spanish speaking communities.

Subject: Announcements

- Chief of Staff Wallace stated, in reference to the Smith appeal hearing, correspondence to the City Manager and communication to the complainant needed to be sent.
- Board Member Langley asked Chief of Staff Wallace when the vacancies for the Board would be announced.
- Chief of Staff Wallace mentioned there were four board members whose terms were expiring in June 2023.
- Chief of Staff Wallace also stated once the ad was finalized, it would be posted to the City's website with the application period closing Friday, May 19, 2023.
- Board Member Langley asked about the process for board members who did not attend meetings.
- Chief of Staff Wallace responded in the Procedure Manual, Section 2.1 Attendance, it stated members must attend at least 75% of the yearly meetings and hearings of the Board, and may be removed for failure to meet the standard.

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With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rasberry adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Javon Pratt
Assistant City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk