



Citizen Review Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2023

1) Call to Order

2) Roll Call of Members

Members present: Lee Nathans, Lisa Kelley, Tiffany Hunt, Becky Guzman

Others present: Marc Fishel, Ben Kessler, Elizabeth Ellman

3) Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting by Ms. Hunt, second by Mr. Nathans; all in favor.

4) Old Business

Mayor Kessler mentioned there were previously questions for Mr. Fishel regarding limitations and timelines for appeals.

Ms. Kelley requested information about what had been discussed during previous businesses.

Mr. Fishel stated that there are no requirements for the CRB to have timelines and gave background on the Fraternal Order of Police's protective view of the creation of the CRB, including how feedback from the FOP was used in crafting the CRB. Mr. Fishel indicated that one of the benefits of not having a time limitation is to allow people to come forward even if the event occurred two years ago.

Mr. Kessler stated there is no time limit on filing an official complaint but there is a statement stating the inverse proportion of ease in adequately investigating and the length of time since the event occurred. He also indicated that an appeal can be filed within 30 days of receiving a written response to a complaint from the City. Mr. Kessler indicated information on how to do this is supposed to be presented along with the decision. Mr. Kessler said he believes there has been one formal, written complaint since the form was created and Mr. Fishel stated there was an additional complaint filed prior.

Mr. Nathans explained there are four qualifying conditions to be met for filing an appeal, and within 30 days after the written response is received. Mayor Kessler stated he feels it would be beneficial to enact a timeframe but doesn't have a suggested length.

Mr. Kessler explained his opinions about why there are few complaints and that this group was created to have a robust system of checks and balances but it wasn't expected to be used often. He also indicated there has been a change in the community since the installation of the new police chief.

The accessibility of the complaint form was discussed.

Mr. Kessler said that historically, complaints have been regarding the police and code enforcement departments.



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Ms. Guzman suggested that opportunity to appeal a complaint is given with the written response via a form on which to do so.

The length that bodycam footage is kept was discussed.

Opinions regarding a timeframe were shared.

Ms. Kelley indicated she was appointed in January but there has not been a meeting since this; Mr. Kessler said general organization and mission was discussed.

Other cities' CRBs were discussed.

5) New Business

Mayor Kessler has edited the complaint appeal form to state it must be filed within 90 days of receipt or a written response to the original complaint and added an email address which can be used to submit the form.

Mr. Fishel stated it is a crime to file a false report.

Ms. Guzman stated the lack of cases before the Board is due to a change in the community and the appreciation of the new Chief of Police.

Other local police departments were discussed as were topics such as the Youth Interaction Working Group, HEARTSafe Bexley, construction on Drexel, grand opening of the Splash Pad, and the newsletter.

At the next meeting, continuing education will be discussed.

Presentation to Council was discussed.

6) Public Comments

7) Adjourn

It was determined the next meeting is scheduled for September 19 unless it will be postponed.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Nathans, second by Ms. Guzman; all in favor.