



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency  
**Stephanie Everett, Executive Director**

## **Civilian Review Board (CRB) Public Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023 | Scheduled for 11:00 a.m.**

**In-Person Meeting | 2201 Washington St, Suite 102, Roxbury, MA 02119**

**Call to order at 11:07 a.m.**

**Civilian Review Board (CRB) Members Present:** Chair E. Peter Alvarez; Natalie Carithers Utley; Rev. Wayne S. Daley; Joshua Dankoff; Anne Hernandez; Amy McNamee; Tara Register; B. Chris Sumner.

**Civilian Review Board (CRB) Members Absent:** Carrie Mays.

### **Introduction**

Chair E. Peter Alvarez opened the meeting by welcoming members of the public and the CRB members present. The chair established that a quorum was present. Chair Alvarez reminded the public that public comment would not be heard during this meeting and that any comments could be sent to [opatboards@boston.gov](mailto:opatboards@boston.gov).

### **Review & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The March 14, 2023 minutes and the March 29, 2023 minutes were approved as presented by a unanimous vote of the CRB. No corrections were made.

### **OPAT Executive Director's Report**

Chair Alvarez introduced OPAT Executive Director, Stephanie Everett, to provide a report on OPAT's work to date.

Director Everett reported that OPAT presented its FY24 Recommended Budget to the City Councilors at a hearing on Monday, May 8, 2023. OPAT's FY24 Recommended Budget is \$1,452,986. The FY24 Recommended budget continues the efforts from previous budgets and includes two key investments: an additional \$10,000 to continue the efforts in increasing the Boston Police Department's (BPD) hiring, retention, and promotion of Black,



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Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) employees; and \$8,000 to fund stipends for OPAT's newly created Youth Advisory Council.

Director Everett reported consultants Conan Harris & Associates and Strategy Matters have provided draft recommendations on increasing improvement for the hiring, retention, and promotion of BIPOC employees at the BPD. These recommendations are being reviewed by the internal team and will provide a final report to the BPD Commissioner and board members in the coming months.

Director Everett reported that the OPAT Commission will hold its quarterly Community Meeting on Thursday, June 15th at the Bruce C. Bolling Building. The meeting will run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and the focus of the meeting will be "Get to Know Commissioner Cox".

OPAT will once again host two youth through the 2023 Summer SuccessLink Program run by the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunities (OYEO).

Director Everett reported that the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) currently has 15 youth, representing 8 Boston neighborhoods. Two of the youths joined this week after accompanying a new member to the meeting. YAC will continue to accept all youth that show up and will make them associate members.

Director Everett reported her participation in the Mayor's 2023 Neighborhood Coffee Hour Series. The Coffee Hours began in May and will run through to the end of June.

**Other Business**

No additional business was presented.

**Complaint Summary & Disposition**

After a review and investigation and in accordance with 12-16.7 (b) of the Ordinance, Director Everett reported the dismissal of the following cases: Case #17, Case #81, Case #89, Case #93, Case #125, Case #140, and Case #188.



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After a review and investigation and in accordance with 12-16.7 (b) of the Ordinance, Director Everett referred the following cases to the Civilian Review Board for review and recommendation of disposition: Case #23, Case #122, Case #131, Case #136, Case #144, Case #148, Case #171, Case #172, and Case #177.

Chair Alvarez stated that the CRB would enter an executive session, pursuant to Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A, § 21, to hear the remaining cases in order to discuss the complaints brought against a Boston Police Department public officer, employee, staff member, or individual. Chair Alvarez stated that the CRB would reconvene in a public session to hold a roll call vote on the disposition of the cases remaining on the docket.

Board Member Natalie Carithers motioned to enter into Executive Session and received a second from Board Member Anne Hernandez. The motion was unanimously agreed upon by the Board.

The CRB's executive session was called to order at 11:30 a.m. and adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

**Complaint Summary & Disposition – Public Session**

Chair Alvarez reconvened the CRB meeting in its public session at 2:45 p.m.

Chair Alvarez held roll call votes on each of the cases presented to the CRB during its executive session, with the exception of Case #148, which was referred to OPAT Staff for further investigation.

In the matter of **Case #23**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Not Sustained**.

In the matter of **Case #122**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Sustained**. The CRB approved the following recommended discipline: At the point that this determination was made, there is currently no discipline matrix from the BPD in place. This should not stop or stall the work of the CRB. In this matter, the CRB recommends that all members of the Media Relations Bureau attend a mandatory (re)training on juvenile matters and a cultural awareness and sensitivity



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training. The CRB additionally recommends that the BPD leadership meet with the family should the family request it to discuss the impact that the social media post had.

In the matter of **Case #131**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Unfounded**.

In the matter of **Case #136**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Not Sustained**.

In the matter of **Case #144**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Not Sustained**. The CRB voted unanimously to approve the recommendation for body-worn cameras to be turned on until the conclusion of the encounter.

In the matter of **Case #171**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Not Sustained**.

In the matter of **Case #172**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Insufficient Evidence to Make a Finding**.

In the matter of **Case #177**, the CRB voted unanimously to adopt OPAT Staff's recommended disposition of **Not Sustained**.

Chair Alvarez called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board Member Hernandez motioned and received a second from Board Member Amy McNamee. All eight (8) CRB members present voted to adjourn until the next scheduled meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12th.

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:50 p.m.**