September 17, 2026

Stockade Neighborhood Meeting

Katherine Stephens

Membership Agenda Items

- **AGENDA**
- Welcome
- Announcements
- Speakers:
  - Tasha Hudson, Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator, Proctors Collaborative
  - Keith St. John and Harline Andrus from the Civilian Police Review Board
- Board Updates
- New Business
- Adjournment

Announcements

- **General**
  - Neighborhood Picnic and Dessert Competition:
    - Saturday, October 3 4pm; Rain Date Sunday, October 4
  - Next General Meeting: Thursday, November 19th 7pm
  - **Memberships are up for renewal 10/1/2026-9/30/2027**
- **Walkabout and Streetfest**
  - **Saturday, September 26 11am - 5pm**
    - Advance tickets: $25.00; day of: $30.00
    - Student tickets available day of: $10.00
    - Virtual tour access: $5.00
    - https://www.historicstockade.org/walkabout/
  - Streetfest: stockadestreetfest@gmail.com
  - Walkabout: sylviebriber@gmail.com
- **Halloween**
  - Candy Map! Sign up at historicstockade.org/halloween

Proctors Collaborative

Guest Speaker: Tasha Hudson

Proctors has many opportunities for volunteering at the various locations of UPH, Proctors, TheREP.

https://proctorscollaborative.org/volunteer/

PROCTORS
Collaborative

City of Schenectady Civilian Review Board

Guest Speakers: Keith St. John and Harline Andrus

https://www.cityofschenectady.gov/350/Civilian-Police-Review-Board

SCHENECTADY
NEW YORK

Bridging the Gap

Introducing the Schenectady Civilian Police Review Board (CPRB) to the Stockade Neighborhood Association

Who We Are

Your Independent Voice in Schenectady Public Safety

Our Purpose and Values

Bias-Free Oversight

The CPRB is an independent body established under Chapter 93 of Schenectady City Code. Our fundamental duty is to review citizen complaints against the Schenectady Police Department (SPD) through an impartial, objective civilian lens.

Transparent Connection

We operate with the ultimate goal of improving communication between police officers and local communities. By ensuring accountability and credibility, we seek to build a lasting bridge of trust in neighborhoods and communities throughout the city.

Board Representation

An Independent, Citizen-Led Board

Chaired by Keith St. John, the Schenectady CPRB is comprised of nine dedicated volunteer citizens who represent a cross-section of our city's rich cultural and neighborhood demographics.

The board does not consist of active law enforcement. Instead, we are appointed community stakeholders serving 2-year terms to provide purely independent oversight and policy feedback.

Representative Members

Diverse Nominations

Members are nominated by major local organizations, including the Schenectady County Human Rights Commission, NAACP, League of Women Voters, and the Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority.

Citizen-At-Large

One member represents the general citizenry directly, with no organizational affiliations, ensuring individual resident interests always have a voice at the table.

Expert Ex-Officios

The board includes two non-voting ex-officio roles (the Public Safety Commissioner and a citizen-at-large) to guarantee operational support and technical coordination.

How the Process Works

From Citizen Filing to Independent Systemic Evaluation

The Complaint Journey

1. Intake

Citizens file formal packets at City Hall, SPD, or the Schenectady County Public Library

2. Fact-Finding

SPD's Office of Professional Standards (OPS) conducts initial internal investigations.

3. CPRB Audit

The Board independently reviews all OPS files, body-cam footage, and findings.

4. Finding

CPRB votes and submits recommendations directly to the Mayor and Police Chief.

Investigative Power

100%

CIVILIAN LED

Power to Hire Independent Investigators

Should the CPRB determine that a specific police misconduct complaint requires an outside perspective, we have the legal authority, under Chapter 93 of the City Code, to employ an independent civilian investigator.

This investigator has absolutely no affiliation with the Schenectady Police Department, ensuring that controversial cases receive unbiased, rigorous, and credible investigations.

Policy & Training Focus

The CPRB does more than audit complaints. We propose proactive policy adjustments to Schenectady's City Council and Mayor. Our reviews cover high-stress training methodologies, local ordinances, and community-centric recruitment practices.

Neighborhood Collaboration

Local Dialogues

Engaging directly with stakeholders.

Shared Objectives

Working alongside local residents to build community safety metrics and programs.

Mutual Accountability

Supporting transparent police policies that reflect neighborhood values.

Reimagining Community Policing

Embracing Innovation, Collaboration, and Non-Adversarial Solutions

Beyond the Adversarial Model

The Limits of Reactivity

Traditional oversight often relies on an adversarial, trial-like model focused purely on punishing misconduct after the fact. While accountability is vital, this purely reactive approach can sometimes strain community-police relations and fail to address systemic root causes.

Proactive Mediation

The CPRB advocates for mediated dialogues and facilitated problem-solving. This non-adversarial approach addresses public grievances constructively, fostering mutual understanding between residents and officers rather than hostility, and ultimately encouraging community-friendly policing.

Innovative Partnership Models

Schenectady Cares

We champion initiatives like the Office of Community Engagement that redirect social issues to human services, easing the burden on officers and helping residents effectively.

Civilian Recruitment

Supporting the Community Hiring Advisory Panel integrates civilian stakeholders into the police recruitment process, ensuring new officers reflect our neighborhood values.

Data Transparency

By utilizing shared technology and tracking patrol efficiency, we can drive collaborative, data-informed policy recommendations that increase positive visibility.

A Collaborative Future

The CPRB actively evaluates and champions non-adversarial models. We recommend proactive policies that foster mutual respect, moving beyond simple enforcement to deeply integrate Stockade Neighborhood Association voices and needs into daily, collaborative policing strategies.

Key Resource Access

Resource Entity	Contact / Location	Primary Action
City Clerk's Office	105 Jay St, Schenectady (518-382-5195)	Request CPRB presentations or general public board files.
Human Rights Commission	797 Broadway, Rm 305 (518-377-2982)	Pick up complaint packets & obtain completion support.
Direct CPRB Contact	ChairSchenectadyCPRB@gmail.com	Reach out directly to Chairperson Keith St. John.
Regular Board Meetings	Schenectady City Hall Courtroom, 2nd Floor	Second Wednesday of each month, starting at 6:00 PM.

Join the Conversation

How can the Schenectady CPRB better serve the Stockade Neighb'd Ass'n

Key Contact Details:

CPRB Meetings: 2nd Wednesday Monthly, 6:00 PM (City Hall Courtroom)

Stockade Meetings: 3rd Thursday (see schedule) (The Stockade Inn)

Email: ChairSchenectadyCPRB@gmail.com

Image Sources

https://lexipol.brightspotcdn.com/dims4/default/14e2f36/2147483647/strip/true/crop/1200x676+0+112/resize/1000x563!/quality/90/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fk1-prod-lexipol.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com%2Fbrightspot%2Fe7%2F0d%2Fb6acfb47d9d3e1077b4bfb6027c8%2Fceasefire.jpg

Source: www.police1.com

President's Report

- **Strategic Plan 2026-2029 in the works**

- On website: https://www.historicstockade.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Stockade-Association-Strategic-Plan-2026-2029.pdf

- Updates

  - *We have an office and storage space- The Brouwer House!*
  - *Streetscape Committee plans to meet with the City on Sept 28*
  - *Mailed our first issue of the Spy! If you did not get your issue email Sylvie Briber at sylviebriber@gmail.com*
  - *The City wants to know what we think should be done with the Pump Station- walkabout and online*

Ways to get involved

- Keep coming to meetings and events!
- **Become a Member or Friend of the Stockade**
  - Members $20 for individual, $25 for household
  - Membership: free picnic ($8), free Tavern Night ($5), free Sidewalk Sale ($10), discount for Arthur’s Brunch
  - Friends $15
- **Volunteer**
  - No cost! Hang out!
  - Join a committee!
  - Need community service? Get paid to volunteer through work? PTO to volunteer?

New Business

- 1 Minute to Make Your Announcement

THANK YOU!

- **Events**
  - 9/26/2026 Streetfest and Walkabout
  - 10/3/2026 Neighborhood Picnic
  - 10/31/2026 Halloween and Candy Map
  - 11/17/2026 Neighborhood Meeting
- Home projects? Visit Historic Commission website and Association Website