



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission April 30, 2019

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library – 2nd Floor Board Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley, Chair
Ilene Dode, Vice-Chair
Angel Carbajal
Patrick Foster
Beatrice Kastenbaum
Karyn Lathan
Mary O’Grady
Jill Oliver
Patricia Riggs

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Patrick Foster
Mary O’Grady
Kristen Scharlau

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Human Services Deputy Director
Mark Manor, Fire Deputy Chief
Dana Cardenas, Emergency Medical Services Coordinator

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

Agenda Item 4 – Discuss and Update August 10, 2017 Advocacy Center Proposal ([attachment](#))

The Tempe Family Justice Commission drafted the following memorandum for an Advocacy Center proposal. The intent is to submit to Naomi Farrell, Human Service Director for review and then to submit to Mayor & Council.

Agenda Item 5 – Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m

Next meeting will be on May 21, 2019

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia
Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Margaret Tinsley, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission

MEMORANDUM



TO: Honorable Mayor Mark Mitchell and Councilmembers
FROM: Margaret Tinsley, Chair
City of Tempe Family Justice Commission
DATE: April 30, 2019
SUBJECT: Advocacy Center

The Tempe City Council created the Family Justice Commission to, among other things, “facilitate access to resources that will contribute to wrap-around services and a multidisciplinary response for the victims and survivors.” Pursuant to that charge, the FJC has studied how such services are provided elsewhere in Arizona.

We have learned that in Tempe in 2018, approximately 164 sexual assaults were reported, 201 domestic violence aggravated assaults were reported, and 1,192 domestic violence misdemeanor assaults were reported. All of these reported crimes were dealt with by the Tempe Police Department, with the assistance of CARE7, which offers robust victim advocacy services in a very limited and not particularly user-friendly facility.

Tempe does not have an advocacy center for the benefit of these victims of crime. Tempe has CARE 7, and its associated services, but those services are not easily available to those traumatized by crime, as the services exist in various different places. Other cities in Arizona, including Maricopa, have holistic advocacy centers, where all appropriate services, including coordination with law enforcement and the Department of Child Services, medical services, counseling, interviewing, family support services including supplies such as food and clothing, appropriate administrative and training facilities, are all co-located. Tempe needs such a center.

Tempe has taken a lead in championing the concept of trauma-informed care training for all city workers. Tempe can strengthen this position by creating an advocacy center where trauma-informed care can be provided to the victims of crime. Such a center will require a financial commitment from the city and any potential partners. Fiscal considerations include general fund expenditures, capital improvement project management, and staffing, maintenance and utility costs. FJC recommends that the City Council appoint a workgroup to study the feasibility of such a project in the next capital improvement cycle. Members of the commission will be happy to meet with Council in furtherance of this goal.

Respectfully,

Margaret Tinsley, Chair
Family Justice Commission