



**Minutes
Tempe Family Justice Commission
December 8, 2020**

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, December 8, 4:00 p.m., via Microsoft Teams

(MEMBERS) Present:

Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley, Chair
Karyn Lathan
Jeanette Costa
Patricia Riggs

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Josie Montenegro
Ilene Dode Vice-Chair

Kristen Scharlau
Megan Brown
Robin Nelson
Jill Oliver
Mary O'Grady

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
Ami Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Anastasia Stinchfield, Victim Services Coordinator

Public Appearances

None Present

Guest Appearances

None Present

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

None Present

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of November 17, 2020 Minutes

MOTION: Commission Member Karyn Lathan moved to APPROVE the November 17, 2020 minutes.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Jeanette Costa; Motion passed on a 9-0 Vote

AYES: Chair Peggy Tinsley, Commission Members Patricia Riggs, Robin Nelson, Megan Brown, Karyn Lathan, Kristen Scharlau, Jill Oliver, Mary O'Grady and Jeanette Costa.

ABSENT: Commission Member Josie Montenegro and Vice-Chair Ilene Dode

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Agenda Item 6 – Celebrating Karyn Lathan's Legacy

- Commission Member Karyn Lathan has served on the Family Justice Commission for 5 years, 2 of those years she was Chair of the commission. She was celebrated for all her great achievements during her time on the Commission and will be presented with plaque to commemorate her efforts.

Agenda Item 7 – Family Advocacy Center Conversation – Update

- Deputy Director Paul Bentley shared his screen with a presentation of the updated design options for the Family Advocacy Center. Following previous meeting, the developers have taken the feedback into possible new designs and locations of the building on the campus. Paul Bentley advised that all locations presented are not final, and these are new options based on feedback that has been given. Option 1 is the creation of a separate Human Services complex, a two-story building, and Family Advocacy Center which would be connected to the Pyle Adult Recreation Center. It would have its own entrance. Option 2 is the creation and placement of a Human Services complex that includes a main drive, all the way through, that connects the campus buildings with one another. This also includes a separate entrance for the Family Advocacy Center. Option 3 is the creation and placement of new Pyle Center and remodels the old Pyle Center into three entrance building for Human Services Complex.
- Paul Bentley added that this is an opportunity for the Commission to provide further feedback for the Family advocacy Center.

- Commission Member Jill Oliver commented that all options look thoughtful as far as parking and access to buildings once parked but wondered about security and how that will be addressed and what security needs would there be for the Family Advocacy Center.
 - Commission Member Kristen Scharlau responded that her preference would be Option 1, as it fulfills the needs of Human Services being on one campus but also being separated. It is convenient to have all Human Services in one building, but they do need to be separated for traffic and confidentiality purposes. Concerned that Southern Ave would be mostly utilized perhaps the entrance can be focused elsewhere as found in Option 2. Additionally, she is concerned about the building being approachable and accessible to the community.
 - Additional comments included, would it be possible to get a house in the community adjacent to new building, perhaps off Southern, for Advocacy Center purposes. Victims want a place where they can sit and feel comfortable and confident. Wherever that can be provided would be preferred.
 - Commission Member Jill Oliver added that the renderings look lavish and lovely. She asked if there be a place reserved for outdoor spaces. How would they be accessed by groups who want to spend time in those areas, have meetings, etc.
 - Kristen Scharlau responded that outdoor space is very important to people that are being served. Encounters and services provided can take hours so outdoor spaces for breaks and provided services would be great. This private outdoor space should be secluded from road traffic.
 - Chair Margaret 'Peggy' Tinsley agreed that a private outdoor space would be preferred.
 - Jill Oliver elaborated regarding security, that she hoped there would be officers nearby in case they are needed. For clients coming in and out would there be a screening process or a waiting area, that allows people to come in but not fully into the building? She further asked would there be protection of the facility and adequate lighting, especially regarding nighttime services that are being provided.
 - Further thoughts included, perhaps those being served would be able to access a space that might be considered a classroom space outdoors. There would be comfortable seating, privacy perhaps via lush landscaping. She asked, can we maximize the green space that would allow for high use that can also be private? This outdoor space would also need to keep in mind people would have children. This space would need to include a child friendly space or nearby, as it is critical, to serve families that will come in.
 - Commission Member Jeanette Costa commented that the Phoenix Advocacy Center has an indoor area/playroom. An outdoor, fenced play area would be highly beneficial, especially for children, to get them moving, and active. It would be nice for this space to include outdoor equipment specifically attached to the Center. She favors Option 1, where the building is separate from the Pyle Center, over larger complex, since there are separate entrances.
 - Commission Member Patricia Riggs had concerns about the feeling of it being similar to a shelter, for example, do they live there, would we need more than the Library complex to accommodate everyone's needs? She agrees with outdoor area for breaks, resources and children play time, but is there too much that needs to be placed in here that is reasonable?
 - Kristen Scharlau responded that people will not be staying the night there, as victims can be housed elsewhere. Inside the Family Advocacy Center are critical resources such as exam rooms, interview rooms, large restrooms including showers, evidence collection rooms, a counseling area that is private and secure, offices for advocates, area for toys for children when brought with parents, storage for supplies for those that are not going home, a kitchen and pantry area and much more. She elaborated that this is the environment that they are looking for, for those receiving services and starting their journeys.
 - Commission Member Karyn Lathan commented that victims with pets and animals may need to be considered. Hopefully a dog run area for Sully, CARE 7's comfort Canine, and other pets that may be brought with those being served.
 - Kristen Scharlau added that it would be preferred if the parking area was obscured, as some may not want their cars visible when others drive by.

- Commission Member Megan Brown agreed with importance of security, as victims and staff are at risk. Elaborated on the children's area, if there was a way to have mothers and women caregivers that can see their child from a window. For childcare and trauma informed care of natural light purposes, especially.
- Jeanette Costa commented that the building would be readily accessible, in favor of it being right off of Southern, but being easy to find and access as they do not have to wander the campus trying to find the specific place they need to find.
- Kristen Scharlau asked, would there be a way for the developers to design a place with greenspace in the middle of the campus. The greenspace would then be visible and protected by buildings; for example, a 'central courtyard' idea.
- Jill Oliver envisioned shared sliding doors, and depending on the season, they may be rolled all the way up. Amenities built into the building so that the environment is flexible, based on the season and needs.
 - Karyn Lathan elaborated that we are in Arizona so the outside area should have covered spaces, shade and also thought it would be nice to have a garden to keep clients and children occupied
 - Peggy asked if it is possible to have a solar shelter in garden?
 - Kristen Scharlau added that there should be a misting system. In addition, that there should be one 'side' of the building that should be open, accessible and a comfortable place that is a reception area. This may include a fireplace, large conversation area, but for access to the rest of the building they would need to be buzzed back. She is envisioning a reception area, where families could have different areas to sit together, some privacy, and again be let in securely into the back.
- Paul updated the Commission Members that an update was created and approved by City employees to present to Mayor and Council regarding the Family Advocacy Center. This includes a budget to have a temporary Family Advocacy Center until the Human Services Campus is complete.

Agenda Item 8 – Conduct 2021 Family Justice Commission Chair/Vice Chair Election

- Peggy Tinsley will be stepping down as the Chair of the Commission after serving for two years.

MOTION: Commission Member Kristen Scharlau moved to nominate Commission Member Mary O'Grady as the Chair of the Commission.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Karyn Lathan; Motion passed on a 9-0 Vote

AYES: Chair Peggy Tinsley, Commission Members Patricia Riggs, Robin Nelson, Megan Brown, Karyn Lathan, Kristen Scharlau, Jill Oliver, Mary O'Grady and Jeanette Costa.

ABSENT: Commission Member Josie Montenegro and Vice-Chair Ilene Dode

MOTION: Commission Member Karyn Lathan moved to nominate Commission Member Ilene Dode to remain Vice-Chair.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Jill Oliver; Motion passed on a 9-0 Vote

AYES: Chair Peggy Tinsley, Commission Members Patricia Riggs, Robin Nelson, Megan Brown, Karyn Lathan, Kristen Scharlau, Jill Oliver, Mary O'Grady and Jeanette Costa.

ABSENT: Commission Member Josie Montenegro and Vice-Chair Ilene Dode

Agenda Item 9 – CARE 7 Family Justice Commission Statistics Update and Discussion

- Kristen Scharlau and Victim Services Coordinator Anastasia Stinchfield presented the 2019-2020 referrals that CARE 7 receives each month. CARE 7 has many different referral types including arrests, their CARE 7 Can being called out, but also self-referrals. The presentation was broken down into different Victimization Types and compared the number of contacted victims between the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. The numbers for majority of the victimizations have risen significantly between the two years.

Agenda Item 10 – Commission Member Updates

- Mark Perkovich was approved by the Mayor to be a new At-Large member of the Commission.
- Peggy was thanked by the Commission for being the Chair for the past 2 years.

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items

- Kristen will present CARE 7's home placements to the Commission

Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

Peggy declared the meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

Next meeting will be on January 19, 2021

Minutes Prepared by: Tori Feltman and Ami Johnson

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission