



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission July 19, 2022

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, July 19, 4:00 PM., via Microsoft Teams and Tempe Library conference room

(MEMBERS) Present:

Mary O'Grady, Chair
Ilene Dode, Vice Chair
Patricia Riggs
Jeanette Costa
Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley
Jill Oliver
Mark Perkovich

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Bjorg LeSueur
Anastasia Stinchfield
Josie Montenegro
Robin Nelson

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
Jorge Benavente, Administrative Assistant II+

Public Appearances

There were no individuals present for Public Appearance

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Mary O'Grady called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Commissioners LeSueur, Stinchfield, Nelson, and Montenegro were unable to attend the meeting

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of May 17, 2022 Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley moved to APPROVE on June 21, 2022, Minutes

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commissioner Jeanette Costa; Motion passed unanimously

**AYES: Chair Mary O'Grady, Vice-Chair Ilene Dode, Commissioners Mark Perkovich, Patricia Riggs
Jill Oliver**

ABSENT: Josie Montenegro, Anastasia Stinchfield, Robin Nelson, and Bjorg LeSueur

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Chair O'Grady gave a brief comment on her current sabbatical

Agenda Item 6 – Victim Awareness Campaign- Commissioner Jeanette Costa

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month. One way the commission has decided to participate is by producing and distributing public signage to serve victims of domestic violence. Commissioner Costa has been in contact with a Tempe

PIO, Susie Steckner. At the same time, the signage production has been lagged on the design side; Commissioner Costa is hopeful that it will be ready by October.

-The commission is steadfast in its belief that public signage should be inclusive, help victims identify themselves, and provide information to help them. Moreover, the commission talked about the information that should be conveyed. The notion of pull tabs, QR codes, and other manners of information distribution were discussed. The commission wants all individuals to have access to this information

Agenda Item 7 – Discuss and Plan Future Strategic Planning Retreat

The commission began discussing its future plans. Deputy Bentley commented that Human Services' Sr Management Assistant is willing to assist the commission's Strategic Planning Retreat. Moreover, Deputy Bentley mentioned the possible need for a long planning session that will allow the commission to plan their work and scope, similar to prior years.

-The conversation also covered a series of different topics. One is the presence of guest speakers and how their expertise can help the commission better visualize the objectives. With the pending opening of the Family Advocacy (FA) Center, the commission expressed interest in how other communities approach their work through their FA Centers. Commissioners voiced their varying interests and thoughts on the issues.

Agenda Item 8 – Discuss and Plan City of Tempe Diversity Office Presentation

-In previous sessions, the commission had expressed its desire to have a representative from the COT's Strategic Management and Diversity address the commission and discuss the reality that are present in Tempe. However, such an invitation had been postponed due to the department's ongoing reorganization.

-Additionally, commissioners posed questions about the COT's method of addressing and speaking with an individual of varying gender identities, ethnic backgrounds, religious creed, language, or other diversity identifiers. With this information, the commission believes that their work can benefit and potentially reveal blindspots that commissioners may have.

Agenda Item 9 – Family Advocacy Center Program Update and Discussion

Commissioners were hopeful upon hearing about the FA Center's progression. They expressed their desire to visit the facility and inquired about the daily operations the center will carry out. Deputy Bentley informed the commission of the Human Services objectives at the FA center. He also mentioned Tempe PD's role at the center and their relationship with Human Services. Also, Bentley informed the commission of the new services provided when an individual calls 911. Rather than most calls resulting in police presence at the scene, these new services will allow for individuals experiencing a personal crisis to speak to a professional who can help them.

-Also Care 7 will maintain its current location, but will be present in the FA center

-Finally, any remaining responses that commissioners would like, will be address when the necessary information is available

Agenda Item 10 – Commission Member Updates

No major updates given

Agenda Item 12 –Future Agenda Items

Hybrid meeting August 16, 2022 – Conference Boardroom Tempe Library and Microsoft Teams

Child safety guest speaker

Victim Awareness Campaign – Public Space Signage Update ?

Agenda Item 13– Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Jeanette Costa moved to ADJOURNMENT the meeting

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commissioner Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley; Motion passed unanimously

AYES: Chair Mary O'Grady, Vice Chair Ilene Dode, Commissioners Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley, Mark Perkovich, and Patricia Riggs

ABSENT: Anastasia Stinchfield, Robin Nelson, Josie Montenegro, and Bjorg LeSueur

Mary declared the meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.

The next meeting will be on August 16, 2022.

Minutes Prepared by: Jorge Benavente

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Mary O'Grady, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission