



# Minutes

## Tempe Family Justice Commission

### August 15, 2023

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, August 15, 4:00 PM., via Microsoft Teams and Tempe Library Conference Room

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Jill Oliver, Chair  
Mark Perkovich, Vice Chair  
Mary O'Grady  
Ilene Dode  
Jeanette Costa  
Patricia Riggs  
Josie Montenegro  
Anastasia Stinchfield

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Jill Etienne  
Bjorg LeSueur  
Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley

**City Staff Present:**

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director  
Nicole Galvan, Administrative Assistant II+

**Public Appearances**

Councilmember Joel Navarro attended the meeting.

**Guest Appearances**

Abe McCann, City of Tempe Veteran Services Coordinator, attended the meeting.

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Chair Oliver called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM

**Agenda Item 2 – Attendance**

Commission Members Etienne, LeSueur, and Tinsley were absent.

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances**

Councilmember Joel Navarro introduced himself and stated that he decided to attend the meeting to learn more about the work being done by the Family Justice Commission in order to inform his work on the Human Relations Committee for Tempe City Council.

**Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of July 18, 2023 Minutes**

No edits were made to the July 18, 2023 Minutes.

**MOTION: Commission Member Dode moved to APPROVE the July 18, 2023, Minutes.**

**SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Costa; Motion passed unanimously.**

**AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Perkovich, Commission Members O'Grady, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, and Montenegro.**

**ABSENT: Commission Members Etienne, LeSueur, and Tinsley were absent.**

### **Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks**

Chair Oliver notified the Commission Members that she will be unable to attend the September, October, and November Commission meetings due to a scheduling conflict with a class she is instructing at Arizona State University. Vice Chair Perkovich agreed to oversee the meetings that Chair Oliver will be unable to attend.

### **Agenda Item 6 – Commission Member Introductions – Commission Member Patricia Riggs**

Commission Member Riggs informed the Commission that she was adopted as a young child and moved to Tempe. Commission Member Riggs mentioned that her father was on the school board and was an active community leader. Commission Member Riggs stated that she studied psychology at Arizona State University and then went Brigham Young University.

Commission Member Riggs advised that she began her career as a probation officer and later became a domestic violence counselor, primarily working with domestic violence offenders.

Commission Member Riggs informed the Commission that she suffered a stroke and traumatic brain injury in 2017.

Commission Member Riggs mentioned that she considers herself an “ACES child” [person who had Adverse Childhood Experiences] and recognizes that her history of traumatic experiences informs her work as a counselor, social worker, and advocate for vulnerable populations.

Commission Member Riggs informed the Commission that she also loves to collect antiques and buttons, loves to create jewelry, and is also a member of the Tempe Garden Club.

Commission Member Montenegro thanked Commission Member Riggs for sharing her story and experience with the Commission.

### **Agenda Item 7 – City of Tempe Veteran Services Guest Speaker – Coordinator Abe McCann**

Mr. McCann introduced himself and notified the Commission that his department serves the city’s veterans and active-duty military personnel by connecting current and former military members to appropriate services and resources.

Mr. McCann informed the Commission that the Veteran Services department also supports multiple veteran events throughout the year, including the Veterans Day Parade, the annual Veterans Employee Breakfast, and the Tempe Community Salutes event to support new recruits.

Mr. McCann advised that Veteran Services also works with the city’s Human Resources department, as well as other local employers, to bring more veterans into employment through the Arizona SkillBridge Opportunities program.

Mr. McCann informed the Commission Members of the city’s Veteran Services department [website](#) and newsletter, where community members can [subscribe to receive updates](#).

Mr. McCann advised that he can be reached at [abe\\_mccann@tempe.gov](mailto:abe_mccann@tempe.gov)

### **Agenda Item 8 – Family Justice Commission 2024 Strategic Plan Review, Update, and Adoption**

Dr. Bentley reviewed the plan outcome and the Commission Members made minor edits to the plan.

Vice Chair Perkovich and Commission Member Montenegro agreed to meet to discuss the Commission’s recommendation for city law enforcement to utilize the [APRAIS](#) assessment to screen for intimate partner violence risk.

Commission Member Dode advised of her belief that fundraising should not be within the scope of the Commission’s duties and goals.

Ms. Galvan agreed to send out a survey for the Commission Members to prioritize and rank the plan outcome’s strategic goals.

### **Agenda Item 9 – Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Presentation Work Session – Commission Member Tinsley**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

### **Agenda Item 10 – Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month Draft Memorandum Review and Adoption**

Commission Members reviewed and edited the draft memorandum.

**MOTION:** Commission Member Dode moved to APPROVE the Memorandum with the agreed-upon edits.

**SECOND:** Motion Seconded by Commission Member Riggs; Motion passed unanimously.

**AYES:** Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Perkovich, Commission Members O’Grady, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, and Montenegro.

**ABSENT:** Commission Members Etienne, LeSueur, and Tinsley were absent.

### **Agenda Item 11 – City of Tempe Social Determinants of Health Framework Follow-Up – Dr. Bentley**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

**Agenda Item 12 – Tempe Family Advocacy Center Program Update – Commission Member Stinchfield**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

**Agenda Item 13 – Domestic Violence Poster Campaign Update – Commission Member Costa**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

**Agenda Item 14 – Commission Member Updates**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

**Agenda Item 15 –Future Agenda Items**

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

**Agenda Item 16 – Adjournment**

**MOTION: Commission Member Costa motioned to ADJOURN the Meeting.**

**SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Dode; Motion passed unanimously**

**AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Perkovich, Commission Members O’Grady, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, and Montenegro.**

**ABSENT: Commission Members Etienne, LeSueur, and Tinsley were absent.**

Chair Oliver declared the meeting adjourned at 6:01 PM.

The next meeting will be on September 19, 2023.

Minutes Prepared by: Nicole Galvan

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

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Jill Oliver, Chair  
Tempe Family Justice Commission