



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission February 20, 2024

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 4:00 PM., via Microsoft Teams and Tempe Library Board Room

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jill Oliver, Chair
Jill Etienne, Vice Chair
Emily Davis
James Sweig
Ilene Dode
Jeanette Costa
Patricia Riggs
Anastasia Stinchfield
Bjorg LeSueur
Jacque Tobias
Shannon Burns

(MEMBERS) Absent:

City Staff Present:

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

Public Appearances

There were not public appearances.

Guest Appearances

Maria Gonzalez, City of Tempe Senior Youth Specialist Coordinator, and Joseph Brudnock, City of Tempe School Resource Sergeant, were present.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Oliver called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

No Commission Members were absent.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of January 16, 2024 Minutes

No edits were made to the January 16, 2024 Minutes.

MOTION: Commission Member Dode moved to APPROVE the January 16, 2024, Minutes.

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

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commission Members Davis, Sweig, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Tobias, and Burns.

ABSENT: No Commission Members were absent.

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Chair Oliver welcomed the new Commission Members and invited new members to present their background to the Commission at future meetings.

Agenda Item 6 – Youth in Tempe Schools – Youth Specialist and School Resource Officer Programs

Sergeant Brudnock gave an overview of the School Resource Officer (SRO) program and informed the commission that there are currently nine SROs serving the Tempe schools.

Sergeant Brudnock gave examples of the ways in which the SROs work with the CARE7 Youth Specialists to ensure the safety and mental health of students.

Ms. Gonzalez gave an overview of the Youth Specialist program and stated that the 18 Youth Specialists serving Tempe schools focus on evaluating the social and emotional needs of students and providing services and referrals to meet those needs.

Ms. Gonzalez emphasized that the SRO and Youth Specialist programs are not involved in discipline or enforcement of school policies. Ms. Gonzalez informed the Commission that discipline is the responsibility of the school district.

Ms. Gonzalez gave examples of the ways in which the Youth Specialists facilitate various support groups and develop violence prevention plans, in conjunction with nonprofits like Sandy Hook Promise.

Dr. Bentley asked if there are themes that come up in the day-to-day social services provided to the schools.

Ms. Gonzalez identified several themes, including suicide assessment, calls to Department of Child Services to investigate abuse and neglect, self-harm, anxiety, depression, homelessness, and frequent demand for basic needs items like food and hygiene.

Agenda Item 7 – Tempe Family Justice Commission Ordinance Review Workshop

Agenda item was deferred due to time constraints.

MOTION: Commission Member Riggs moved to defer Agenda Item 7 to next month's Commission Meeting.

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

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commission Members Davis, Sweig, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Tobias, and Burns.

ABSENT: No Commission Members were absent.

Agenda Item 8 – Arizona State University Training Collaboration Planning Process – Vice Chair Member Etienne

Vice Chair Etienne presented a draft of the Memorandum.

The Commission Members reviewed and edited the draft memorandum.

Agenda Item 9 – Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Presentation Update – Dr. Bentley

Dr. Bentley advised the Commission that he will gather feedback from the city's communications staff, which will inform the Commission on how to make necessary edits in order to deliver the presentation to the Tempe Mayor and Council Members.

Agenda Item 10 – Social Determinants of Health Framework Follow Up – Dr. Bentley

Dr. Bentley reviewed the Social Determinants of Health Framework for the new Commission Members and described how the city uses data to improve quality of life for Tempe citizens through city programs.

Agenda Item 11 – Domestic Violence Poster Campaign Update – Commission Member Costa

Commission Member Costa reviewed the Domestic Violence Poster campaign for new Members and described the need for volunteers to continue distributing posters to restrooms in various venues in the community.

Chair Oliver stated that she is seeking to find volunteers from various groups at Arizona State University.

Commission Member Riggs suggested reaching out to sororities and fraternities to assist with the program.

Chair Oliver volunteered to reach out to the Greek Life advisor at Arizona State University.

Agenda Item 12 – Commission Member Updates

Chair Oliver mentioned that her daughter visited Tempe Municipal Court and overheard a Domestic Violence case where the victim in the case was seemingly needing assistance with navigating the court process.

Commission Member Stinchfield advised the Commission that the CARE7 team was at court that day to assist this particular victim.

Agenda Item 13 –Future Agenda Items

Commission Member Costa suggested that the Commission Members have City of Tempe Community Health and Human Services Manager, Dianna Kalandros, back to speak to the commission about the Community Supervision program. Dr. Bentley proposed that he would be reaching out to Bill Burke from the city Prosecutor's Office to discuss how domestic violence cases are handled by the city prosecutors.

Agenda Item 16 – Adjournment

MOTION: Commission Member LeSueur motioned to ADJOURN the Meeting.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Sweig; Motion passed unanimously

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commission Members Davis, Sweig, Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Tobias, and Burns.

ABSENT: No Commission Members were absent.

Chair Oliver declared the meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

The next meeting will be on March 19, 2024.

Minutes Prepared by: Nicole Galvan

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Jill Oliver, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission