



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission August 20, 2024

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

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jill Oliver, Chair
Jill Etienne, Vice Chair
Ilene Dode
Jeanette Costa
Patricia Riggs
Anastasia Stinchfield
James Sweig
Bjorg LeSueur
Emily Davis
Stephen Baines

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Shannon Burns

City Staff Present:

Nicole Galvan, Administrative Assistant II+

Public Appearances

Tempe City Councilmember Berdetta Hodge was present.

Guest Appearances

Sierra Mark from the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence was present.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

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

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Commissioner Burns was absent from the meeting.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

Councilmember Hodge introduced herself to the Commissioners.

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

One minor edit was made to the Minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Dode moved to APPROVE the July 16, 2024, Minutes.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commissioner Stinchfield; Motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commissioners Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Davis, Baines, and Sweig.

ABSENT: Commissioner Burns was absent.

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Chair Oliver welcomed Councilmember Hodge and thanked the Councilmember for her presence.
Chair Oliver noted that Director Tim Burch was absent from the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.
Chair Oliver advised that the Commission would discuss the strategic plan for the upcoming year.

Agenda Item 6 – Community Health and Human Services Department Update – Director Tim Burch

Agenda Item was deferred due to Mr. Burch's absence.
Ms. Galvan advised that the search for a new Deputy Director of Social Services is ongoing and interviews were being conducted.

Agenda Item 7 – Family Justice Commissioner Introduction – Commission Member Baines

Commissioner Baines advised that his nonprofit is called Fulfillment In Training (FIT) and they utilize fitness as the bonding tool that gets people motivated to improve health, education, emotional wellbeing, mental health, and financial literacy. Commissioner Baines mentioned FIT's afterschool program, which provides tutoring and works with families to ensure children's grades are kept up, provides monthly field trips, and teaches children how to use public transportation to attend events and activities they would not normally have the ability to take part in. Commissioner Baines mentioned that he started FIT after working in social services and identified that parents were often at risk of losing housing due to the behavior of their children. Commissioner Baines noted that FIT identifies root causes of disruptive or antisocial behavior and then works towards positive outcomes by dismantling barriers to kids being productive members of society. Commissioner Baines advised that FIT often brings in trades people to do demonstrations and teach various trades to connect and prepare children to establish solid career pathways. Commissioner Baines mentioned that the mission of FIT is to inspire, encourage, and activate children to achieve and to create equity in communities by inspiring people to be the best version of themselves.

Agenda Item 8 – Introduction to the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence – Sierra Mark

Ms. Mark introduced herself and gave an overview of the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence. Ms. Mark advised that each state has a coalition and their mission is to provide support and training to providers of services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Ms. Mark advised that the coalition also hosts a legislative advocacy day annually to lobby for policy and legislation. Ms. Mark mentioned the sexual assault reimbursement program, which can cover the cost of medical care needed as a result of victimization – on the conditions that the assault occurred in Arizona on or after January 1, 2022, the victim received a forensic exam, the victim provided a release of information, and the victim received acute treatment within 30 days of the assault. Ms. Mark noted that victim does not need to report an assault to law enforcement to receive compensation. Ms. Mark mentioned that the coalition also provides survivor engagement opportunities, including a speaker's bureau that works to help survivors who wish to advocate by telling their story to media. Ms. Mark noted that the organization is primarily grant funded and includes approximately 30 staff members in Arizona. Ms. Mark advised that the coalition website for providers is www.acesdv.org Ms. Mark advised that the coalition website to support victims as well as resources for people who have caused harm and are seeking treatment is www.arizonasurvivors.org

Agenda Item 9 – Family Justice Commission Strategic Planning Retreat Update

The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the outcome of the Strategic Planning meeting and worked to narrow and define strategic goals.
Ms. Galvan agreed to send out a visual overview of the Strategic Planning Retreat outcome to assist with further discussions about the Commission's strategic goals.

Agenda Item 10 – Review Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month Memorandum

The Commissioners determined the need to be more specific with future recommendations in memorandums to the Mayor and City Councilmembers.
Councilmember Hodge agreed that more specific memorandums, written concisely with less background information, is more helpful to the Mayor and City Council Members.

Agenda Item 11 – Approve Awareness and Prevention Month Memorandum

MOTION: Commissioner LeSueur moved to APPROVE the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month Memorandum.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commissioner Dode; Motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commissioners Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Davis, Baines, and Sweig.

ABSENT: Commissioner Burns was absent.

Agenda Item 12 – Future Training Opportunity Discussion

The Agenda Item was deferred due to time constraints.

Agenda Item 13 – Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Presentation Update – Tim Burch

The Agenda Item was deferred due to time constraints.

Agenda Item 14 – Domestic Violence Poster Campaign Update – Commission Member Costa

The Agenda Item was deferred due to time constraints.

Agenda Item 16 – Commission Member Updates

Commissioner Davis mentioned that she spent time at a faith-based cooling center site as a volunteer for the Maricopa Medical Reserve.

Commissioner Davis noted that the unhoused people at the site were primarily seeking a safe place to rest and obtain food, water, and other resources.

Commissioner Davis commended the faith-based program at the site for collecting goods and supplies to provide services for refugees and for opening their doors to provide service for vulnerable community members at the site.

Commissioner Davis brought forth privacy concerns she encountered when registering her son for a city program.

Commissioner Davis advised that her concerns were reported to the City and have since been addressed.

Agenda Item 17 –Future Agenda Items

The Agenda Item was deferred due to time constraints.

Agenda Item 18 – Adjournment

MOTION: Commission Member Costa motioned to ADJOURN the Meeting.

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

AYES: Chair Oliver, Vice Chair Etienne, Commissioners Costa, Dode, Stinchfield, Riggs, LeSueur, Davis, Baines, and Sweig.

ABSENT: Commissioner Burns was absent.

Chair Oliver declared the meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM.

The next meeting will be on September 17, 2024.

Minutes Prepared by: Nicole Galvan

Reviewed by: Tim Burch

Jill Oliver, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission