



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission July 21, 2020

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, July 21, 4:00 p.m., via Microsoft Teams

(MEMBERS) Present:

Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley, Chair
Ilene Dode, Vice-Chair
Karyn Lathan
Robin Nelson
Mary O’Grady
Jill Oliver
Kristen Scharlau

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Jeffrey Glover
Jeanette Costa
Patricia Riggs

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
Josie Montenegro, Commander
Tori Feltman, Administrative Assistant II
Terrisa Mays, Administrative Assistant II
Melissa Placencia, Administrative Assistant II

Public Appearances

None Present

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

None Present

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of June 23, 2020 Minutes

Chair Peggy Tinsley noted an error on the minutes. The advocacy center tour was at the City of Maricopa with Deputy Human Services Director Paul Bentley and Commission Member Kristen Scharlau attending

MOTION: Commission Member Mary O’Grady moved to APPROVE the June 23rd, 2020 minutes.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Jill Oliver passed on a 7-0 Vote

AYES: Chair Peggy Tinsley, Vice-Chair Ilene Dode, Commission Members Robin Nelson, Mary O'Grady, Karyn Lathan, Kristen Scharlau, and Jill Oliver

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commission Member Patricia Riggs, Jeffrey Glover and Jeanette Costa

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Peggy noted this will be Melissa Placencia's last meeting and wished her luck. Paul Bentley introduced Human Services Administrative Assistant's Tori Feltman and Terrisa Mays. Tori will be temporarily taking over Melissa's duties.

- Arizona State University Faculty Member Vacancy
 - Peggy announced Patrick Foster's resignation. Patrick is leaving Arizona State University (ASU) to join the Arizona Cardinals as their Director of Security. Peggy thanked Patrick for his years of service and contribution to the Commission
 - Peggy and Paul are working with ASU for a recommended replacement. This replacement could be a faculty member or a member from ASU Police.

Agenda Item 6 – Report on Field Trip to Maricopa Victim Services Center

Kristen and Paul Bentley provided an overview of their recent tour of City of Maricopa's Advocacy Center. The owner of the Advocacy Center receives funding from Victim of Crimes Act (VOCA), runs strictly on donations and does not receive support from the local city council.

Agenda Item 7 – Review and Approve Domestic Violence Awareness Memorandum (attachment)

The Commission reviewed and edited the draft of the Domestic Violence Awareness Memorandum. Josie Montenegro will provide updated crime statistic numbers. Further edits will be tabled until the August meeting.

Commission Member Jill Oliver left the meeting at 5:00pm. This did not impact quorum.

Agenda Item 8 – 2020 Boards and Commissions Annual Report Accomplishments/Goals

The Commission identified the following accomplishments and goals:

Accomplishments (Past 12 Months):

- Submitted periodical reports to Mayor and Council surrounding topics related to: domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking.
 - Created a process to continue submitting periodical reports
- Support CARE7's awareness campaigns surrounding Domestic Violence Awareness month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness month, Stalking/Human Sex-Trafficking Awareness month, and Sexual Assault Awareness month.
- Continued to encourage City Council action on the Advocacy Center.
- Tempe Police Department and Human Services CARE7 continued to provide statistical updates on victimization within the City of Tempe.

Goals Related to City Council Strategic Priorities, if Applicable (Next 12 Months):

- Continue to update data research to include statistics identifying the need for a center in Tempe
- Supporting the City Council in its actions on an Advocacy Center.
- Continue to provide periodical reports to the city regarding crimes involving children (including child abuse), domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking.

The Commission will continue to add to their accomplishments and goals at the August meeting.

Agenda Item 9 – Review and Update Strategic Plan Accomplishments

1.0 Access to Justice/Safety

- ☑ 1.1 Family Justice Center (Tinsley) – MEMO COMPLETE
- 1.2 Less Fear More Reporting (Scharlau)

2.0 Wrap Around Services

- ☑ 2.1 An EMS Liaison - like A. Carbajal (Carbajal) - COMPLETE
- ☑ 2.2 Supporting Next Steps: Re-Entry Program (Lathan) - COMPLETE
- 2.3 Trauma Informed Department Champions (Scharlau)
- ☑ 2.4 Better Use of Existing Resources/Identify Partners/Identify Other Agencies Doing Trauma Informed Care in Tempe [Combined Accomplishments] (Dode) - COMPLETE

3.0 Training

- 3.1 Simulation Strategies – (Kastenbaum)
- 3.2 Outreach and Training for Justice, Health Community, Public Officials – (Oliver/O’Grady)
- 3.3 All Departments Use Organization Assessment Tool (Scharlau)
- 3.4 Supervisor Trained to Recognize and Respond to Traumatized Staff (Oliver)

4.0 Education & Opportunity

- 4.1 Education and Outreach – (Tinsley/Lathan)
- 4.2 Outreach, Networking and Training Activities (Foster)
- 4.3 Identify the Populations that are Vulnerable – (O’Grady)

Agenda Item 10 – Commission Member Updates

- Commission Member Mary O’Grady is scheduled to meet with Mayor Woods and Councilmember Garlid about memorandums submitted related to the Advocacy Center on Thursday, July 23, 2020 and will provide an update at the August meeting.

Commission Member Robin Nelson left the meeting resulting in a loss of quorum. Meeting adjourned at 5:31pm.

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items

Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

Next meeting will be on August 18, 2020

Minutes Prepared by: Tori Feltman/Melissa Placencia
Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
THROUGH: Naomi Farrell, Human Services Director
FROM: City of Tempe Family Justice Commission
DATE: xxxxxxxxxx, 2020
SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month--DRAFT



Purpose

October is designated as Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. To recognize the prevalence and severity of this crime in Tempe, and in support of the City Council’s Safe and Secure Communities policy, the Tempe Family Justice Commission (TFJC) presents the following information based on its research and makes these recommendations for action. This year, COVID-19 has had a direct and negative impact on incidents of domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence (IPV), in Tempe. Shelter in Place orders coupled with financial pressures have led to tensions in the home. Families are now frequently together twenty-four hours a day seven days a week, dealing with a variety of mixed emotions and stressors. Isolation from others in partnership with forced togetherness in the home has led to increased partner abuse.

Context

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, IPV is abuse or aggression that occurs in a close relationship. “Intimate partner” refers to both current and former spouses and dating partners. IPV can vary in how often it happens and how severe it is. It can range from one episode of violence that could have lasting impact to chronic and severe episodes over multiple years. IPV includes four types of behavior: Physical violence, Sexual violence, Stalking and Psychological aggression.

Several types of IPV behaviors can occur together. IPV is connected to other forms of violence and causes serious health issues and economic consequences. By using a public health approach that addresses risk and protective factors for multiple types of violence, IPV and other forms of violence can be prevented.

The Tempe Police Department has had to adapt with the increase in reporting. In 2019 there were _____ domestic assaults reported. ((((((Currently, there are six specialty detectives that investigate sexual assaults, two that address internet crimes against children, one sex offender notification detective and one detective who investigates child physical abuse and neglect.)))))) All of these detectives are required to receive extensive training in these specific areas which can take up to a year to receive with continued annual trainings.

Best Practices for Assisting Victims of Domestic Violence

The City of Tempe, consisting of city government, non-profit organizations, schools, faith community, business community and families must band together in coordination to address this issue and apply the following best practices:

Current City of Tempe Practices

The City of Tempe incorporates many, if not all, of these best practices through the actions of the Police Department, Human Services Department and CARE 7. Examples include a robust victim assistance program that has embedded advocates in the Prosecutor’s Office, Domestic Violence Unit and the Special Victim Unit of the Tempe Police Department. CARE 7 also provides daily advocacy services for Tempe Municipal Court including assistance with obtaining Orders of Protection. Additionally, CARE 7 has placed Youth Specialists in all seven Tempe high schools and four middle schools to provide supportive social-emotional services and connection to resources. The Youth Specialists are able to directly connect school-aged victims to advocates who can guide the student and their family through the criminal justice system. The CARE 7 program also provides clinical counseling for victims, free of charge. All victim services, including counseling services, can be accessed remotely, via computer or phone.

((((((((The Tempe Police Department (TPD) is part of the Maricopa County Sexual Assault Multidisciplinary Team which works together to provide resources to victims through victim advocates and investigate reports of sexual assaults, collect evidence and ultimately prosecute offenders. The investigations move forward when the victim is ready and at the pace they

are comfortable with/can control. (((((The majority of reports involve known suspects and many cases involve DNA and the use of technology (social media and/or devices), both of which can take time to process and analyze. TPD utilizes the Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZDPS) crime lab for DNA processing which can take up to a year depending on the case and resources available at AZDPS.))))

However, services to victims of domestic violence could be enhanced if the Mayor and City Council consider and implement the recommendations set forth below:

Recommendations

1. Expand the purview of the City Council led workgroup on Sex Trafficking to include exploring best practices toward providing centralized services to victims of domestic violence. Centralized trauma-sensitive services at the local level are proven to result in more positive outcomes for victims. Mayor and Council recently approved a Community Services Complex (CSC) Master Plan. We recommend that centralized victim services be included in that planning process. Examples of such services can be found in surrounding jurisdictions such as Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, Glendale, Chandler and Maricopa.
2. Televisе existing CDC domestic violence awareness videos on Channel 11.
3. Repeat the City’s recent public awareness video campaign on Domestic Violence.
4. Discuss this issue both officially and in casual conversation.
5. Issue a city proclamation acknowledging this month-long observation.
6. Display a purple light on city hall in honor of this event.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>