



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission May 18, 2021

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, May 18, 4:00 p.m., via Microsoft Teams

(MEMBERS) Present:

Mary O'Grady, Chair
Ilene Dode, Vice-Chair
Patricia Riggs
Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley
Kristen Scharlau
Robin Nelson
Josie Montenegro
Mark Perkovich
Jeanette Costa
Megan Brown

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Jill Oliver

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
Ami Johnson, Administrative Assistant II+
Anastasia Stinchfield, Victim Services Coordinator

Public Appearances

None

Guest Appearances

None Present

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Mary O'Grady called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of April 20, 2021 Minutes

MOTION: Commission Member Ilene Dode moved to APPROVE the April 20, 2021 minutes.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Margaret 'Peggy' Tinsley; Motion passed on a 9-0 Vote

AYES: Chair Mary O'Grady, Vice Chair Ilene Dode, Commission Members Margaret 'Peggy' Tinsley, Patricia Riggs, Robin Nelson, Jeanette Costa, Mark Perkovich, Kristen Scharlau, and Josie Montenegro.

ABSENT: Megan Brown, Jill Oliver

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

Agenda Item 6 – Constable Karyn Lathan Recognition of Service

- This agenda item was postponed until a later date.

Agenda Item 7 – Presentation: The Experience of a Victim of Sexual Assault

- This agenda item was postponed until a later date.

Agenda Item 8 – Family Advocacy Center Update and Discussion

- Paul Bentley updated the Commission on the Family Advocacy Center. He advised that the proposal to open a Family Advocacy Center with funding for a rental location over the next 5 years remains in budget process. Funding looks positive with two stages left in the budget process. In addition to identifying the location, work is being done to finalize a partnership with a medical provider, and City resources such as IT and Custodial.

Agenda Item 9 – Tempe Police Department Quarterly Data Review

- Commission Member Josie Montenegro reviewed statistics of crimes of interest from the Tempe Police Department for Quarter 1 of 2021.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Family Justice Commission In-Person Meeting Schedule

- Paul Bentley updated the Commission on moving back to in person meetings. As of now, the Tempe Public Library is planning to open to the public in August. There is a new board room that will be available for future meetings. The board room supports the ability to do hybrid meetings, with attendees in person and remote.
- Chair Mary O'Grady proposed to start meeting in a hybrid model in August, when the Tempe Public Library is set to be open to the public. The Commission agreed to move forward with those plans, and to adhere to any guidelines that will be in place at that time.
- Chair Mary O'Grady also proposed to change the Commission meeting time back to the later time, as the meetings were changed to 4 PM to accommodate virtual meetings. As of the now, the Commission agreed to continue with meeting at 4 PM, until further notice.

Agenda Item 11 – Commission Strategic Planning Methodology Discussion

- Commission Member Kris Scharlau addressed the Commission with her thoughts for future strategy. Her thoughts included that Victim Services is seeing a lot of emotional crisis, in all ages. She would like to see support for addressing the health and wellness of people in crisis and people living with chronic trauma and domestic violence issues which can lead to a life full of behaviors that are negative and preventative. Her proposal is to provide services before, during and after a crisis, with a goal of healing families and preventing the problem before it gets worse.
- Commission Member Patricia Riggs added to those comments and addressed the Commission, wondering if the Commission has any power to recommend to the City different organizations that are better quality or specialize in and can better address the issue that caused the issue in the first place.
- Other thoughts expressed by Commission Members regarding this agenda item included to address the trauma of the perpetrator as well. While it is not a solution for all families, the goal is to keep the families together.
- Chair Mary O'Grady proposed a longer strategic planning session in addition to portions of future meetings with guided brainstorming to create reasonable goals for the Family Justice Commission's projects and opportunities. These meetings or portions of meetings would be facilitated by trained professionals and include presentations by appropriate parties that can educate and share knowledge on subjects the Family Justice Commission should be focused on.

Agenda Item 12 – Future Agenda Items

- Planning for the Family Justice Commission's Strategic Plan process for early September 2021.
- It was proposed to have a representative from the Yuma Family Advocacy Center to join a future Commission meeting, so that the Commission can ask questions regarding the City of Tempe project. Another possibility is to reach out to Maricopa County to have a representative join a future meeting.
- Introduce Tempe Human Services – CARE 7 Trauma Trainer Robin Ofinowich, to provide a training for the Commission
- Presentation on the Victim Experience.

Agenda Item 13 – Commission Member Updates

Agenda Item 14 – Adjournment

Mary declared the meeting adjourned at 5:11pm.
Next meeting will be on June 15, 2021

Minutes Prepared by: Ami Johnson
Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Mary O'Grady, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission