



Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission February 15, 2022

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, February 15, 4:00 PM., via Microsoft Teams

(MEMBERS) Present:

Mary O'Grady, Chair
Ilene Dode, Vice Chair
Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley
Anastasia Stinchfield
Jeanette Costa
Mark Perkovich
Josie Montenegro
Patricia Riggs
Jill Oliver
Robin Nelson

(MEMBERS) Absent:

City Staff Present:

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
Jorge Benavente, Administrative Assistant II+

Public Appearances

Guest Appearances

ASU Student Journalist

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Mary O'Grady called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Attendance was taken; some commission members were not present at the given time, though they arrived later.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

The guest made no public comments.

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of January 18, 2022 Minutes

MOTION: Commission Vice-Chair Ilene Dode moved to APPROVE January 18, 2022 Minutes

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Margaret "Peggy" Tinsley; Motion passed unanimously

AYES: Chair Mary O'Grady, Commission Members Mark Perkovich, Josie Montenegro, Patricia Riggs, Anastasia Stinchfield, and Robin Nelson

ABSENT:

Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks

No remarks have been given at the moment.

Agenda Item 6 – Victim Awareness Campaign – Commission Jeanette Costa

The commission looked and reviewed various signages of Victim Awareness. Members spoke on what they hoped the signage would say and remarked on other campaigns such as sex trafficking during major sporting events.

The commission also spoke on the logistics of running such a campaign, its cost, where this signage will be, and who will lead it. It is the initial hope of this commission that CARE 7 could be the leading department at the given moment. Commissioner Costa and Stinchfield will provide more information on this topic and present it next month.

Agenda Item 7 – Review Tempe Police Department’s Quarterly Report- Commission Josie Montenegro

The report showed that the final quarter of 2021 saw a decrease in reported cases interested in this commission. This included assault DV, aggravated assault DV, and sexual assault, among other crimes. Still, this lower number may not reflect the status of crime in Tempe, as there could be a disconnection between it and actual crimes. There could be several factors affecting the reported cases.

The commission talked about this potential disconnection. Tempe PD is always trying to build a good rapport with our community. They promote victims to feel safe and report whatever may have happened. This includes promoting victims to come forward with past assaults.

Agenda Item 8 – Review CARE 7 Quarterly Report- Commission Member Anastasia Stinchfield

Past victims are returning at a greater rate; they seek assistance in numerous fields. The number of victims here may not be a one-to-one comparison to Tempe PD’s report. Some victims acknowledge their assault to CARE 7 but may be fearful of reporting it to Tempe PD. CARE 7 and Tempe PD have a close working relationship and acknowledge the benefits of each other’s department

CARE 7’s 4th quarter report ended on September 31, while Tempe PD’s 4th quarter report ended on December 31.

Commissioner Stinchfield is open to gathering additional information if the commission requests it. It would be helpful to know what particular services are being requested of CARE 7.

Agenda Item 9 – Commission Strategic Goals Review and Discussion

The commission is on track with its goals

Agenda Item 10 – Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Discussion

Commission members and Paul Bentley moved through the memorandum, editing specific sentences to reflect better the voice that the commission would like to have. Details of specific sentences were discussed at length; they clarified elements so that commission members would fully understand the meaning of the memorandum. Moreover, information from other departments will be pulled, so the memorandum provides updated information.

Agenda Item 11 –Family Advocacy Center Update and Discussion

The task force has had ongoing discussions with a property manager and owner. The Family Advocacy Center Task Force and property manager/owner have agreed on a space plan. The property owner/manager will provide a cost estimate for tenant improvements (TI) in the near future. Lease agreement negotiations will begin once the TI estimates have been provided. It is the hope of the task force that the Center be open for services before the end of the fiscal year.

Agenda Item 12 – Commission Member Updates

Tempe Leadership is sponsoring a charity golf tournament in which the proceeds will go to the Family Advocacy Center.

The commission is currently looking for an ASU faculty member to fill the current vacant commissioner position; commission members were asked identify/recruit qualified candidates.

Agenda Item 13 – Future Agenda Items

- Communications and Media Relations guest speaker
- Strategic Management and Diversity guest speaker
- Victim Awareness Campaign

Agenda Item 14 – Adjournment

MOTION: Commission member Margaret “Peggy” Tinsely moved to ADJOURNMENT the meeting

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Vice-Chair Ilene Dode; Motion passed unanimously

AYES: Chair Mary O’Grady, Commission Members Mark Perkovich, Jeanette Costa, Jill Oliver, Josie Montenegro, Patricia Riggs, Anastasia Stinchfield and Robin Nelson

ABSENT:

Mary declared the meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.

The next meeting will be on March 15, 2022.

Minutes Prepared by: Jorge Benavente

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

Mary O’Grady, Chair
Tempe Family Justice Commission