

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE, IN REGULAR MEETING OF MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024 AT 5:00 PM, MUNICIPAL CENTER I, HERITAGE ROOM 300, 50 E CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, GILBERT, ARIZONA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Natosha Ash, Marc Beasley, Bradyn Bredemann, Owen Fermoye, Justin Fink, Lisa Ulibarri Hatlen, Deena LeBio, Angela Rogers, Katy Walter, (regular members); Nneka Aguwamba, Isabelle Brice, Andrew Lewis, and Courtney Salamon-Fejt (alternates)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Members Maxwell Udall and Kelly Westerberg; Shane Stuckey (San Tan Charter School)

STAFF PRESENT: Staff Liaison/Volunteer and Community Resources Manager Melanie Dykstra, Council Liaison Kathy Tilque, Town Attorney Payne, Deputy Clerk Judy Martinez, Town Clerk Specialist Ashley Doering, Senior Organizational Development Consultant Wendy Davidson

ADVISORS PRESENT: Susan Cadena (Gilbert Public Schools), Stefan Reid (Higley Unified School District), Mark Huish (Chandler Unified School District), Dan Provonsha (American Leadership Academy), Holly Garza (Gilbert Christian High School), and Levi Leyba (Gilbert Police Department)

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathleen Dowler of Dignity Health

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Clerk Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Liaison Tilque led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Council Liaison Tilque administered Oaths of Office to the members in attendance.

ROLL CALL

Deputy Clerk Martinez called roll and declared a quorum present.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Council Liaison Tilque welcomed everyone and reviewed housekeeping items.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome and Task Force Overview, Purpose, and Objectives

Council Liaison Tilque discussed the vision of the Community Engagement Task Force (CETF) and the current assignment of reducing or eliminating teen violence by considering existing resources, identifying gaps, and preparing recommendations for the Council in the areas of Resources, Education, and Promotion. She said the final report was to be provided to the Council in December 2024, then discussed the tight timeline and actions to move the needle. She highlighted efforts including resident providing information that led to arrests, weekly press conferences held, an enhanced anonymous hotline, a teen survey, budgeting for a new youth community engagement officer, the passing of Town ordinances regarding brass knuckles and unruly gatherings, contracting a private security company to patrol the Heritage District parking garages, and meetings with Council liaisons and school districts.

2. Introductions

Council Liaison Tilque asked the members to introduce themselves and to state the top reason they wished to join the Task Force. She announced key staff in attendance and asked the others in the audience to introduce themselves.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Council Liaison Tilque discussed the importance of working as a team and said the group would have advisory members and alternates as well. She noted that the Task Force had 11 regular, voting members of adults and teens, and six members or more would be needed for a quorum. She stated that the advisory members were key community partners and experts who were appointed by their organizations and would actively participate in all discussions; the only difference being that they

would not vote or be counted as part of the quorum. She discussed that alternates should attend every meeting and participate in all conversations as well, adding alternates would step in to vote and be counted as part of the quorum if members were absent. She noted attendance regulations and protocol for the Communications from Citizens portion of the agenda. Lastly, she spoke of the Task Force's role in working with the Town Council, as a link between the community and the Council.

4. Open Meeting Law Overview and Meeting Protocol

Deputy Clerk Martinez provided an overview of Open Meeting Law, as part of Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S). She discussed provisions in the Code of Gilbert, as well as Council Policy No. 2023-03, Code of Conduct. She highlighted differences with regular members, advisory members, and alternates, then discussed quorums and the importance of attendance. She highlighted what was considered a meeting, different types of meetings, and pitfalls of Open Meeting Law including serial meetings, emails, and social media. She discussed the protocol for Communications from Citizens and highlighted conflicts of interest and public records. Lastly, she noted some expectations for meetings, per the Code of Conduct.

5. Learning Exercise

Staff Liaison Dykstra noted the members were asked to complete a Predictive Index (PI) Assessment and introduced Senior Organizational Development Consultant Davidson. Davidson said the assessment indicated how people preferred to communicate, how they took on challenges, and how they interacted with others. She explained how to review each members' individual graph in the areas of Dominance, Extraversion, Patience, and Formality, then asked the members to share their thoughts on their results with those sitting near them. She shared a team snapshot, then asked the members to share one thing they could be counted on for by the team.

6. Meeting Rules of Decorum Review

Councilmember Tilque introduced Kathleen Dowler of Dignity Health who reviewed meeting ground rules that had been previously developed, including that the space was safe zone and that everyone participated but no one dominated. She reviewed the items on the list and asked the group to consider if anything should be added or removed; there were no recommendations.

A MOTION was made by Member Ash, seconded by Alternate Aguwamba, to accept the meeting rules as presented. *Motion carried 11-0.*

7. Overview of Compression Planning

Kathleen Dowler of Dignity Health discussed what compression planning was and how it was used. She said each session would have a specific purpose and a non-purpose. She discussed the process of generating ideas through presentations, and breakout sessions to gather ideas on awareness, education, and resources. She explained when sticker dots would be used to help prioritize the items to a shortlist. She said for the ideas moving forward, they would be arranged in a matrix to determine categories of high, medium, and low impact and if they would be quick and easy, take some time and effort, or a heavy hitter. She discussed the need for goals to be measurable. She said when they came to the final recommendations, they would be reviewed and added to a report before going to the Council in a Study Session. Dowler requested during the presentations that the members had a document with the columns of Awareness, Education, and Resources to make listing their ideas easier.

8. Discussion of Priority Focus Area


Council Liaison Tilque said the Task Force would be meeting again in August 2024 to hear presentations and start capturing their feedback. She said one of the things learned from the previous Task Force was that some of the recommendations were already moving forward by the Town, such as the Advocacy Center and adding crisis response staff. She said they would next be asking the members to complete a survey to capture ideas. Staff Liaison Dykstra asked the members to log into the survey using Mentimeter for what presentations requests and from whom they thought would drive informed recommendations and what programs they would like to see explored or information shared that relate to Education, Awareness, and Resources; she said the gathered information would help set their August meeting. Council Liaison Tilque stated the information would be shared with the membership.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

None.

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE AND TOPICS

Council Liaison Tilque noted the future meeting schedule was provided by Staff Liaison Dykstra, and the next meeting would be on August 12, 2024. She noted that the Teen Violence Subcommittee had put together a survey for teens and the results

would arrive soon and be provided to the Task Force in an upcoming meeting. Council Liaison Tilque said the Council liaisons assigned to the school boards would be meeting with them to consider how to expand their roles, and they would be coming to present information to the Task Force. She noted in October 2024, there is the potential for more presentations but could start the compression planning process which would also be in November. She said the December 2024 meeting would be for finalizing the recommendations. 

Council Liaison Tilque discussed the proposed meeting dates and asked about conflicts with Veterans Day and fall break. The consensus was to meet on October 21, 2024 rather than October 14, 2024, and November 4, 2024 instead of November 11, 2024. It was noted the calendar and postings online would be updated.

COMMUNICATIONS

Report from Council Liaison on current events.

Council Liaison Tilque reported that she would typically update the members on any action from the Council that would impact them. She said the Council would have an update on the Task Force at every Council meeting in the near future.

Report from Staff Liaisons on task force assignments and current events.

Staff Liaison Dykstra said she would typically send any relevant information with an agenda to the Task Force on the Thursday before a Monday meeting. She asked the group to respond no matter what to let her know if they could attend or not. She added she would send out a reminder about any homework with a resource list, things to do prior to the meeting, and any items critical to read or help prepare for meetings. She noted she would also send out information on what was happening around the community that related to topics and things that were already available. She asked for anyone interested in being the Chair or Vice Chair to let her know. She said if anyone had information or events to share with the group, to send them to her for sharing. Lastly, she said she would prefer members to attend the meetings in person; if sick, let her know.

Report from Task Force Members on current events.

Council Liaison Tilque said this would be the time for members to share information about events to the group. Members asked about communicating with members out of the meetings, which was not recommended because of possible open meeting law violations. Member Beasley asked about the Human Relations Commission article that was in the newspaper.

ADJOURN

A MOTION was made by Councilmember Tilque to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

Melanie Dykstra, Staff Liaison

Judy Martinez, Deputy Twon Clerk