

MINUTES OF THE
MAG REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL MEETING
February 6, 2020
MAG Office Building, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Celeste Adams, Save the Family
#Zach Altman, Gilbert Prosecutor's Office
Councilmember Lupe Bandin, City of
Tolleson
#Councilmember Robin Barker, City of
Apache Junction
#John Belatti, City of Mesa Prosecutor's
Office
Vice Mayor Eddie Cook, Town of Gilbert,
Chair
Dolores (D.C.) Ernst, Phoenix Fire
Department
*Naomi Farrell, City of Tempe
Laura Guild, Arizona Dept. of Economic
Security
#Elizabeth Herbert, City of Chandler
Prosecutor's Office
Samantha Hinchey, Arizona Coalition to
End Sexual and Domestic Violence
*Councilmember Sam Huang, City of
Chandler
^#Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on
Aging, Region One [Cyndi Patterson]

*Patricia Klahr, Chrysalis Shelter, Inc.
Andy LeFevre, Arizona Criminal Justice
Commission
Councilmember Kathy Littlefield, City of
Scottsdale
^Rachel Mitchell, Maricopa County
Attorney's Office
Councilmember Anita Norton, City of El
Mirage
Amy Offenberg, Phoenix Prosecutor's
Office [Michele Gamez]
Gerardo Pena, Chicanos por la Causa
#Lynette Pompa, Glendale Fire
Department
Lt. Rick Leyvas, City of Phoenix Police
Department
Chief Steve Stahl, Maricopa Police
Department, Chair
*Sheryl Steele, City of Avondale
Det. Brandon Wilson, Gilbert Police
Department
Erin Yabu, City of Phoenix Human
Services
#Sarah Youngblood, Community Legal
Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Armijo, Bloom365
Donna Bartos, Bloom365
Ramon Batista, Mesa Police Department
Heather Bonnett, ACJC
Aaron Dickens, TEKsystems
Monica D'Ortenzio, Town of Gilbert
Doreen Nicholas, ACESDV
Araceli Guinn, City of Phoenix Prosecutor's
Office

OTHERS PRESENT, CON'T.

Chloe Jones, ASU
Julia Martin, CARE7
Doreen Nicholas, ACESDV
Anastasia Stienfield, CARE7
Kathryn Wickersham, Bloom365
Arizona Department of Education

MAG STAFF

Brandi Mead
Maria Piña

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
Attended by telephone conference call.
^ Attended via proxy

1. Call to Order

Chief Stahl opened the meeting and welcomed members at 2:04pm. The Chair welcomed Lt. Rick Leyvas, as a new member, replacing Lt. Rutledge who retired in December. Mr. Leyvas thanked the Chair and members for a warm welcome and noted that he has been with the Police Department for about 20 years, and is happy to serve on the Regional Domestic Violence Council.

Councilmember Norton was introduced as a new member of the Regional Domestic Violence Council. The Councilmember has served as a Councilmember for the City of El Mirage since November 17, 2019.

The Chair recognized the Department of Education for attending the Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

3. Recognition of Leadership Transition

Brande Mead, MAG, welcomed Chief Steve Stahl, City of Maricopa, as the incoming Chair of the Regional Domestic Violence Council and Councilmember Robin Barker, City of Apache Junction, as the incoming Vice Chair. Ms. Mead also thanked Councilmember Eddie Cook, Town of Gilbert, for his outstanding leadership of the Council. She indicated that Councilmember Cook did a great job as Chair, guiding the Council to develop new goals to make DV zero in the region, which is his passion.

Councilmember Cook thanked the members of the Council and said that he looks forward to having a Family Advocacy Center in Gilbert, and has been privileged to serve on Council. He encouraged members of the Council to ask Councilmembers in their communities to help make domestic violence zero.

Chief Stahl thanked Councilmember Cook for his leadership and added that he has done a lot of work for the community and will continue to make an impact. He added that Councilmember Cook is an original thinker and pushes people out of their comfort zone, and leads as a great example.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Stahl requested a motion to approved the meeting minutes of the October 3, 2019 Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by D.C. Ernst, Phoenix Fire Department and seconded by Vice Chair Robin Barker, City of Apache Junction. The motion passed unanimously.

Laura Guild, Department of Economic Security, noted that a change should be made on page six of the minutes regarding the comments from the Office of Victim Crimes.

5. Vulnerable Adult Protocol Update

Brandee Mead, MAG, provided an update on the Vulnerable Adult Protocol project. Ms. Mead thanked members of the working group that has been meeting for a period of a couple of years. She noted that the group has been meeting regularly, almost monthly, for the past year and is close to completing the review and final editing of the protocol. On January 24, 2020, the work group completed a review of the final section and is in the process of incorporating all edits, changes, feedback to revamp the protocol. The workgroup suggested giving the protocol a new look and will have a revised version to the Council this year. She mentioned that the work group will convene again on February 21 at 3:00 p.m. and invited members of the Council to attend, if interested.

6. Recognizing Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Chair Stahl noted that February is teen dating violence awareness month and invited Devin DeFendis and Angela Rose, from New Life Center to discuss an upcoming community conversation about the impact of teen dating violence. It was noted that 1.5 million kids are affected by teen dating trauma every year. The forum will take place February 27 at Grand Canyon University. The forum is free and open to the public.

Angela Rose is the Training Director at New Life Center and was awarded a grant to provide training. They will be working with subject matter experts to provide trainings on 11 topics across the state on topics like trauma informed care and other important topics.

Councilmember Cook asked if any training will be provided for Judges. Ms. Rose responded that the training contract is for law enforcement and open to criminal justice professionals but not specifically for Judges.

Chair Stahl asked if the training calendar is full or if there are openings available. Ms. Rose indicated that there are openings available and if the group is interested in certain topics to let her know. She added that some courses are open to Victim Advocates and community members but the majority of the trainings are specific to law enforcement.

Members of the Council noted other events taking place during teen dating violence awareness month. The City of Peoria is asking for a call to action, using the #breakthesilence on teen dating violence. Bloom 365 is hosting a training on February 18-19, more info on their website.

Councilmember Norton, El Mirage, noted that they will have representatives from Bloom 365 address the Middle School on healthy and unhealthy relationships. Both Goodyear and Fountain Hills are coming up with programs.

7. Office of Violence Against Women – Elder Abuse Grant Partnership

Brandi Mead updated the Council that the AZ Department of Economic Security is applying for an elder abuse grant opportunity through the Office of Violence Against Women and has asked for partnership among the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council.

If awarded, MAG, through the Domestic Violence Council, would agree to convene and facilitate partners to achieve work outlined in the grant. Funding from the grant will support consultant work to be provided in coordination with the Domestic Violence Council, DES, and MAG, and funds to attend mandatory national trainings and bring training information back to region. As a partner, the Council would agree to host cross training throughout the project.

8. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Chair Stahl asked if members have suggestions on topics to include on future agendas.

The Council discussed several training needs to include training for public officials, law enforcement, courts, advocates and Judges.

Chair Stahl suggested an update on the AZ Point system.

9. Comments from the Board

Chair Stahl thanked members of the Council for attending the meeting and thanked Councilmember Cook for his service as Council Chair.

10. Motion to Adjourn

Vice Chair Robin Barker, City of Apache Junction, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m., Councilmember Lupe Bandin, City of Tolleson, seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.