

Mayor's Commission for Children Mtg Minutes

Zoom February 9, 2021 8 am

Commission members present: Dr. Elizabeth Andrews, Amy Chenoweth, Chris Jarratt, Brandy Harris
Linda Saturno, Monica Horton, Jennifer McClure

Commission members absent - Christy Davis and Missy Riley

Advisory Council Present: Gerry Lee, John Chastain, Dr. Tamara Fusco, Dr. Doug McNeal. Dr. Jennifer Baker, Jan Fisk, Carol Wooten, Mike White, Dr. Kayce Morton, Mike White, Kimberly Shinn Brown, Dr. Denise Fredrick, Christian Mechlin, Dr. Tamara Fusco, Susie Henderson

Dr. Andrews opened the meeting at 8:03 by welcoming our presenter Dr. Pam Thomas from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in Jefferson City. Also attending -Sara Camp from DESE who works in the region.

The January minutes were presented. Monica Horton made a motion to approve. A second by Susie Henderson. Minutes approved.

Dr. Pam Thomas opened by giving a timeline on how the newly formed Office of Childhood that will be established by DESE. A needs assessment showed services could be more streamlined from Department of Social Services and Department of Health particularly in home visitation and development.

The office will begin on August 28th and house around 45 people in the Jefferson building which is DESE headquarters. The office of Early Learning at DESE will merge into the Office of Childhood. Commission members and advisory council members had watched the video explaining the changes. Dr. Thomas answered questions from the group regarding home visiting and the sharing of data and how every family could develop a pathway.

Dr. Fredrick gave us an update on the Superintendent search. 7 school board candidates for three seats Election is April 6.

Jan Fisk reminded us that twelve candidates are vying for council seats and mayor-election is also April 6. Covid numbers are down with a below 5 percent infection rate. Vaccinations rate is around 8 percent for one dose and 4 percent for two doses. City will be hearing from Tulsa development firm regarding expanding soccer fields and basketball courts by Deer Lake Golf course. Tonight you can give input on Grant Ave Parkway grant online. Forward SGF 2040 continues as the City's strategic plan process.

Linda Saturno announced she would be vacating her position at the CACat the end of June and returning to North Carolina. Dan prater will be heading up the search for her position.

Dr. Kayce Morton talked about an Eating Disorder/Obesity grant through the clinic. Family approach but geared to youth.

Gerry Lee talked about current legislation being put forth in the state legislature. We will have another update in March before Spring Break.

Zoom called adjourned at 8:58.