

May Minutes Mayor's Commission for Children

May 14th, 2024, 8 am

Springfield Chamber of Commerce

202 John Q Hammons Parkway

Springfield MO 65804

Commission members present: Dr. Kaleen Long, Chris Jarratt, Bria Coale, Dr. Christy Davis, Amy Chenoweth,

Advisory Council present: Kimberly Shinn Brown, Rinda Davis

Guest: David Lewey, Prevention Specialist -Community Partnership of the Ozarks

Dr. Long opened the meeting and welcomed our presenter from CPO. Chris Jarratt made a motion to approve last month's minutes. Bria Coale seconded that motion, Minutes approved by the Commission.

Announcements around the table. Brigitte noted that this was the last week of the legislative session and that movement in the senate was stalled due to a filibuster to stop the initiative to change the state constitution – and the makeup of votes needed to pass statewide initiatives.

Next month Crystal Quade, Missouri House of Representative Minority Floor Leader and State Senator and Appropriations Chair Lincoln Hough will be at our meeting to give us a wrap up of the 2024 Legislative session.

David Lewey and Amy Chenoweth presented during May Mental health Awareness Month. David brought Safety kits/Suicide prevention kits for everyone for families that could use these in the home. The home safety kits included lock boxes that will hold a handgun or medications. The lock boxes were filled with a (cable gun lock-), Narcan, and a variety of resources for suicide prevention and crisis counseling. Mr. Lewey followed up with a link to a video created by CPO which shows members of local law enforcement demonstrating how to use gun locks in multiple types of firearms. Statistics/Data show suicide for children, teens and young adults have increased substantially in Missouri. CPO is sponsoring the 988 Walk on June 1st. MCC will participate. The Ozarks has a 20 percent higher suicide rate than Missouri as a whole. Mental Health is to be a top Springfield community priority-based on the regional community assessment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55

