



Commissioner
Jaime Masters

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Family and Protective Services Council Meeting
Friday, February 14, 2020 9:00 am
701 West 51st Street, Austin, Texas 78714
John H. Winters Building, Public Hearing Room

MEETING MINUTES

Council Members Present:

- Bonnie Hellums, Chair
- Dr. Connie Almeida, Vice-Chair
- Dr. Dorothy Calhoun
- Matt Kouri
- Liesa Hackett
- Omedi "Dee Dee" Cantu Arismendez
- Greg Hamilton

Council Members Not Present

- Aureka Simpson
- Janice Washington

The meeting to order at 9:00 am by Judge Bonnie Hellums, Council Chair. Council members introduced themselves.

Cheryl Gomez, Council Liaison called the roll. Seven members were present, two were absent.

Judge Hellums determined that there was a quorum with seven council members present.

Judge Hellums recognized staff and special guests.

The council accepted the November 8, 2019 meeting minutes.

Judge Hellums reaffirmed the date of the next meeting, May 8, 2020.

Judge Hellums discussed the 2020 council meeting dates, May 8, 2020, August 14, 2020, and November 13, 2020.

The Council bylaws were presented by Judge Hellums and staff member, Cheryl Gomez. The bylaws were adopted by the council.

Judge Hellums asked for nominations for Vice Chair and explained the responsibilities. Dr. Connie Almeida volunteered to serve as vice-chair. The council voted to approve Dr. Connie Almeida as vice-chair. All were in favor of her serving as vice-chair.

Each committee provided a report on their activities.

Child Protective Services/Child Protective Investigations/Human Trafficking: Dr. Connie Almeida gave a report on a meeting with DFPS's Human Trafficking Division and Judge Bonnie Hellums gave a report on an event in Houston declaring NRG Stadium a "No Trafficking Zone."

Adult Protective Services: Dorothy Calhoun, Liesa Hackett and Dee Dee Cantu Arismendez gave a report on a meeting they had with Kez Wold, APS Associate Commissioner.

Prevention and Early Intervention: Aureka Simpson and Matt Kouri gave a report on the phone meeting with Sasha Rasco, Prevention and Early Intervention's Associate Commissioner.

Judge Hellums discussed the workgroup structure.

Judge Hellums introduced Commissioner Masters. Commissioner Masters gave a report and thanked the council for their support.

Judge Hellums introduced Jane Burstain, the Director of Systems Improvement who provided a tutorial on how to use the online DFPS Databook.

Kez Wold, the Adult Protective Services Associate Commissioner gave an update on Adult Protective Services.

Kristene Blackstone, Child Protective Services' Associate Commissioner, gave an update on Community Based Care.

Two stakeholders testified before the council during public comment.

Judge Hellums provided closing remarks and thanked the staff and guests.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.

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