



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission  
222 Paul Scannell Drive • San Mateo, CA 94402

**Minutes of the Regular Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 30, 2015, 5:15 p.m.  
455 County Center, Room 402, Redwood City**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Susan Swope – Chair, Mieke Barrows, Michele Gustafson, Marianna Klebanov, Lara Montoya, Bonnie Miller

**Commissioners Excused:** Valerie Gibbs, Al Serrato, Marianna Klebanov, Irv Rollins

**Staff Present:** Larry Silver, Deputy Chief (Institutions), Christine Villanis, Deputy Chief (Juvenile Services)

**Additional Attendees:**

Nancy Magee - SMCOE

Loriann Villanis - SMCOE

Nicole Haley - FLY

Nick Jasso

Kathy Meola (County Counsel)

Maya Perkins, Supervisor Slocum's Office

Candace Newnes – Star Vista

**I. Administrative Business:**

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.
- Roll Call and Establish Quorum: A quorum was established.
- Agenda Review: The agenda was approved as corrected: The next meeting is July 28, 2015 not July 27.
- Approval of Minutes: The minutes are approved as distributed.

**II. Oral Communications:** None.

**III. Encouraging Youth Participation (Candice Newnes, Star Vista)**

Candace Newnes shared some reasons that Youth Commissioners did not feel part of the Commission.

- They felt that most of the focus was on adult issues not youth.
- They could not participate in inspecting the Juvenile Hall and camps.
- Youth do not like being called kids. They prefer being called youth, or young people.

After reviewing relevant County documents, Kathy Meola concluded that any Youth Commission liaison has the right to vote even if they do not go through the full JJDPC vetting process. Probation can rule on who can inspect the Hall or camps based on age, so Youth commissioners under the age of 18 may be involved in group home or police department inspections, but not Juvenile Hall or the camps because of confidentiality concerns.

Commissioner applicant Nick Jasso thinks that youth at the Juvenile Hall may more readily speak with him than with an older adult. Deputy Chief Silver said that it would not be a

problem for a Commissioner who is 18 and has graduated high school to go into the Juvenile Hall.

#### **IV. Commission Composition JJDPC or JJC and DPC (All)**

Commissioner Swope stated that a Juvenile Justice Commission reports to the court and has the ability to have closed executive meetings. A Delinquency Prevention Commission reports to the Board of Supervisors and is subject to the Brown Act, so would only be able to have open meetings. When the two were combined it was agreed that the combined JJDPC would go by the Board of Supervisors rules for Boards and Commissions, which only allows for open meetings. We do not often need to have closed door meetings unless there is a sensitive issue to discuss. When sensitive issues involve youth confidentiality, the Brown Act still applies and the Commission cannot hold a closed door meeting to protect youth confidentiality. The only way, as the Commission is currently constituted, to discuss sensitive issues would be to have an ad hoc committee of less than a quorum that could meet with Probation. The committee can then share redacted information with the entire commission.

Kathy Meola clarified that the Juvenile Justice Commission, which each county is required to have, reports to the court and would not be a Brown Act Body. The County may, but is not required, to have a Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Commission. The Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Commission is intended to coordinate the work of those community agencies engaged in activities designed to prevent juvenile delinquency. In 2000, these two bodies were combined by the Board of Supervisors, which decided that all County Boards and Commissions would be subject to the Brown Act.

The Juvenile Justice Commission's duties are to inquire into the administration of the Juvenile Court Law, to have access to the authorized institutions, and to inspect those institutions at least once a year.

Commissioner Swope said that at the last meeting we opted to form an ad hoc committee to meet with Probation to inquire into an incident that occurred in January and to determine how the Commission will handle situations like this in the future. This ad hoc committee consists of Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Gustafson, Commissioner Barrows, and Commissioner Miller.

#### **V. Probation Remarks**

##### **Camp Glenwood**

The first bi-weekly Camp Glenwood Re-design Steering Committee meeting was on June 25, 2015. The Steering Committee will form subcommittees to look at what is in the best interests of the youth. The Re-design will look at what programming works and what doesn't, family involvement, curriculum, mental health needs and evidence-based programs. Evidence-based programs open up opportunities for future funding.

The Court has decided that Glenwood will stay in La Honda, rather than move to the juvenile hall during program re-design. The Glenwood Staff will be very involved in the redesign; they have many years of experience working with youth. The original time frame was 90 days but it's hard to say if the re-design will be done by then. Also, the stream that provides water to the Camp is low and may affect the Camp's ability to continue in that location.

## **Competency**

Deputy Chief Villanis has been meeting with James Wade, Rick Halpern, Jeff Rolston and Paul Sorbo to put together a protocol to help youth to become competent to assist in their defense in court. The draft is now going through the system (meaning it must be approved by the forensics committee and the presiding judge before Probation can implement it).

The problem is that the County has very few cases of very young, delinquent youth who are too developmentally immature to understand court proceedings, so it would be too costly for the County to create a program. Santa Clara contracts with the University of Virginia for its competency program, which is very expensive. Probation looked into subcontracting with Santa Clara County to use their program, but Santa Clara and San Mateo were unable to reach an acceptable cost basis for licensing UV's program.

## **VI. Court Remarks – None**

## **VII. Liaison/Study Group Reports**

### **a. Inspection Liaison (Gustafson/Rawlins)**

The inspections are being scheduled right now. The school inspections will be separate from the general inspections.

July 17 -- YSC general inspection (Bonnie, Marianna, Michele)

July 23 at 9:30 -- Hillcrest/Kemp school inspection (Irv, Valerie, Susan, Michele)

July 27 at 11:00 -- Kemp general inspection (Michele, Lara, Susan)

July 28 at 10:00 - Glenwood school inspection (Irv, Valerie, Susan, Michele)

August 18 -- Glenwood general inspection (Mieke, Al, Valerie)

When the inspections are completed, the school inspections will be combined with the general inspections for the reports.

We have not yet heard which police departments we need to inspect. We only inspect police stations where youth have been held in secure detention. This information is due from the State by the end of this week. We still need to assign these inspections.

Commissioner Swope has asked Judge Cretan if he wants us to inspect group homes this year.

### **b. Educational Study Group (Rollins): No report.**

### **c. Legislative Liaison (Klebanov): No report**

### **d. Regional JJDPC Survey Liaison (Swope)**

Commissioner Swope has received completed surveys from 6 of the 9 Bay Area counties. She provided some preliminary information from those 6. Four are combined JJDPCs, 2 are JJs, none have a DPC. Three are subject to the Brown Act, 3 say they are not (including the two JJs), and one doesn't know.

As far as number of commissioners, Contra Costa has 10, Marin 9, San Mateo 9, Santa Clara 15, Sonoma 11, and Alameda 12. She has not heard from Solano or San Francisco. Contra Costa and San Mateo have open meetings, Sonoma is all closed meetings, Marin,

Santa Clara and Alameda have a combination of open and closed meetings. Commissioner Swope is getting a lot of useful information from the survey.

- e. **Camp Glenwood Redesign** –Deputy Chief Silver covered this topic earlier.
- f. **Community Schools Advisory Committee** The Commission needs a liaison for the Community Schools Advisory Committee. Commissioner Barrows felt this could be deferred so we can concentrate on our priorities. She volunteered to assist Commissioner Swope in calling Commissioners to see what they are willing to do. She noted that asking for volunteers at meetings doesn't seem to work very well.
- g. **Nomination Committee** Commissioner Montoya agreed to chair the Nominating Committee.
- h. **Court Liaison** Commissioner Miller agreed to be the Liaison for the courts until the end of her term. Nick Jasso also expressed interest. Commissioner Miller will work with Nick Jasso during this time to prepare him to take over the responsibility.
- i. **Consideration of Commission Application**  
Commissioner Barrows said she would like to see a more formal process for interviewing potential commissioners, to make sure prospects understand the time commitment and ask about other interests and commitments.
- j. Nick Jasso has attended two meeting. Tonight is his third. He was interviewed by Commissioners Swope and Gustafson. **M:/Gustafson S:/Miller** that the Commission recommend that the Court appoint Nick Jasso to the JJDPC. **Passed unanimously.**

#### **VIII. Commissioner Comments/Announcements**

Notes From the Field, a one-woman show by Anna Deavere Smith at Berkeley Rep, was recommended to us by former commissioner, Milton Reynolds. The topic is the school-to-prison-pipeline. We can apply for free tickets but need to know who is interested in attending. Commissioners Montoya, Gustafson, Swope and Nick Jasso would like to attend. Commissioner Swope will request the tickets.

Commissioner Miller stated that she would be taking over the Glenwood youth Court Reviews from former Commissioner Ross, as she has moved to San Diego.

#### **IX. Meeting Adjourned 6:56 p.m.**

**The Next JJDPC Meeting:** Tuesday, July 28, 2015  
**Location:** 455 County Center, Room 402, Redwood City, CA.