



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
Tuesday, October 27, 5:15 p.m.
455 County Center, Room 402, Redwood City

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Susan Swope – Chair, Mieke Barrows, Irv Rollins, Michele Gustafson, Valerie Gibbs, Al Serrato and Sonoo Thadaney

Commissioners Excused: Marianna Klebanov

Commissioners Not Excused: Bonnie Miller

Staff Present:

Christine Villanis, Deputy Chief (Institution)

Larry Silver, Assistant Chief (Probation)

Additional Attendees:

Nancy Magee - SMCOE

Loriann Villanis - SMCOE

Jan Ellard - County Counsel

Peter Ehrhorn – Star Vista

Rodney Martinez – SMC Youth Commission

Natasha Palestino – SMC Youth Commission

Maya Perkins – Office of Supervisor Slocum

Nicole Haley – FLY Program

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 distributed.
- Approval of Minutes: The version of minutes that was handed out was not correct. Minutes will be re-distributed and approved at the next meeting.

Commissioner Barrows asked Jan Ellard if it was possible to have a smaller sub-committee to approve a correction or a report according to the Brown Act. Jan Ellard said a sub-committee cannot approve an amendment to a report. They can bring the information to the Commission, but the only body that can take action on behalf of the JJDPC is a quorum of that commission, in which case a meeting is required.

II. Oral Communications: None.

III. Court Remarks

- a. **Swearing in of Sonoo Thadaney (Deputy Chief, Christine Villanis)**--Sonoo Thadaney was sworn-in by Deputy Chief Villanis.
- b. **Update on Splitting the Commission**--County Counsel, Jan Ellard advised the Commission, that if the JJDPC is split into two separate commissions (Delinquency Prevention Commission and Juvenile Justice Commission), the new Juvenile Justice Commission would not be governed by the Brown Act because it is not a legislative

body. It reports to the Judiciary. A separate Delinquency Prevention Commission would report to the Board of Supervisors and would be subject to the Brown Act.

The commission discussed meeting with the Juvenile Court Judges to find out what they expect from the Commission. After that meeting, they would meet with Supervisor Slocum to get the Board of Supervisors position on splitting the Commission. Commissioners Rollins, Barrows, Gustafson and Swope would attend both meetings. **M:/Gustafson S:/Barrows** that the designated committee meet with the judge and Supervisor Slocum. Unanimously approved

IV. City of San Mateo Juvenile Diversion Program--Rescheduled for January meeting

V. Probation Remarks

a. Camp Glenwood Re-Design Update (Christine Villanis)

Rebecca Ross, James Wade and Rick Halpern put together a proposal that reflects all of the Steering Committee's recent discussions and decisions. That proposal was sent out to the Steering Committee. Comments are expected at the Thursday Oct 30th meeting.

There have already been changes at Camp Glenwood – they now have Multi Disciplinary Team meetings on Wednesdays, so Mental Health, Probation, Camp Glenwood staff and Education all come together to discuss each youth's progress.

Commissioner Gustafson asked about the distribution of the comments regarding Glenwood re-design. DCPO Villanis will recommend that they distribute comments to all interested parties and sub-committees. Currently, sub-committees consist of 1) Education, 2) Gangs and 3) Aftercare.

b. Staff Changes

Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Christine Villanis, is now assigned to the Institutions Division since Mr. Silver has been promoted to Assistant Chief. Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Roy Brasil, is now at the Juvenile Division - he will be attending the JJDPC meetings starting in January 2016. Mr. Silver will no longer be attending the meetings unless something requires it.

c. YSC Weekend Program

Commissioner Gustafson asked for further information and clarification about the YSC weekend program. From her understanding, a youth checks in on Friday evening, is put into a room and not integrated with other youth. Commissioner Gustafson has also been told they have their meals in their rooms and are not allowed to come out of the room except for showers or LMA. She expressed concern that they are not able to interact with anyone and are left alone with their thoughts without access to a counselor.

Assistant Chief Silver answered that the weekend program has been corrected as of last month's JJDPC meeting when it was brought to his attention. Youth who are at YSC for a weekend, whether for therapeutic reasons or probation violation, will participate in general programming following clearance from Medical.

Assistant Chief Silver reported that YSC does have mental health on-call 24/7. After normal business hours, staff will contact the on-call mental health staff. If they cannot come immediately, the youth can speak with them by phone. Mental health staff are required to come in to speak with a youth if the youth is displaying suicidal tendencies. Institutions has a variety of levels of observation and interaction up to and including taking them to the hospital for psychiatric evaluation.

Commissioner Thadaney suggested offering the youth a framework to structure their reflections of the choices they make and the impact it has.

There was discussion of issues that came up during a previous BSCC inspection. Following that inspection, Assistant Chief Silver established a self-audit process and established a Title 15 Safety and Security Officer. That officer ensures that they are complying with Title 15 (documenting properly, doing 15-minute checks, that youth are getting their program and LMA, etc). Commissioner Rollins requested that the audit findings be shared during the annual inspection and incorporated into the inspection report.

There was discussion about how the Commission would know about youth committed for the weekend. Commissioner Barrows recommended modifying the inspections form to ask if there is a population difference between the weekend and during the week.

d. Accommodation of Youth's Religious Needs

Assistant Chief Silver said that if a youth expresses specific religious needs, YSC will do everything it can to accommodate them.

VI. Liaison/Study Group Reports

a. Inspection Reports

1. Consideration of Juvenile Hall Inspection Report—The Juvenile Hall Inspection Report has not been submitted. It will be re-agendized at a special JJDPC Meeting.
2. Follow-up with BSCC--Commissioner Barrows followed up with the BSCC on the discrepancies between what the BSCC reported about youth in secure detention (at police stations) and the information at those police stations. The BSCC confirmed that their report was incorrect and the information at the police stations was correct. This incorrect information led to the Commission needlessly inspecting 2 police stations that had not held youth in secure detention. The BSCC contact assured us that they were revisiting their processes to ensure this does not happen in the future.

There has been no response from the BSCC regarding questions that came up during our inspections. Multiple attempts to get an answer from our representative were unsuccessful. Commissioner Swope stated she was told over a year ago by the BSCC that they do not have any authority or oversight over the Commission. They simply receive the reports and cannot comment on how good or bad the inspection reports are.

b. Educational Study Group (Rollins):

Commissioner Rollins said that he and Nancy Magee will meet on Monday, November 2, 2015 to discuss the County Grand Jury investigation of SMCOE. Commissioner Rollins invited other commissioners to join him at this meeting.

c. Youth Commission (MacAvoy, Martinez, Palestino):

The Youth Commissioners met with Commissioners Swope and Gustafson two weeks ago to learn more about the Commission. Additionally, the Youth Commissioners are working on the Big Lift Project.

Commissioner Gustafson also spoke with the Youth Commissioners about taking the Community Resource Booklet and evaluating how to make it more user-friendly for teenagers. Youth Commissioner Martinez stated the Youth Commission does have a Facebook page with resources listed there; however, he will confirm with the other Youth Commissioners exactly what resources are listed. Commissioner Thadaney added that Facebook has free advertising for non-profits and she will connect the Youth Commissioners to the resources at Facebook.

e. Legislative Liaison (Klebanov): No report.

f. Regional JJDP Survey Liaison (Swope): Commissioner Swope presented the Draft Report of the Regional JJDP Survey (see attached) and asked for comment. Commissioner Swope would like to help publicize what the County of Education is doing in the community, particularly with the Big Lift and introduction of PBIS and restorative practices in the schools.

Commissioner Barrows suggested that the Commission should consider checking references for potential commissioners and reassessing the 2016 application and recruitment process. She suggested that the Commission look at getting Coastside representation on the Commission. Commissioner Barrows also suggested that if facilities could pre-fill out certain sections of the inspection reports, it would save Commissioners a lot of time.

g. Community Schools Advisory Committee (Gibbs): Commissioner Gibbs attended an October 1st meeting also attended by Each One Reach One, Project Change, Acknowledging Alliance, Rape Trauma Service, El Centro Libertad, BHRS, SWAG and StarVista. The next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2015.

h. Nominations Committee (Montoya/Swope): Nominations Committee has nominated Commissioner Swope for Chair and Commissioner Gustafson for Vice Chair. Chair Swope asked for any additional nominations. There were none.

i. Court Liaison (Miller): No report. Commissioner Gustafson volunteered to replace Commissioner Miller as the Court Liaison.

VII. Consideration of Possible Delinquency Prevention Activity (Swope):

The Commission discussed possible future activities. Commissioner Swope commented that the Commission is charged with advocacy both for delinquency prevention and for the youth that are in the system. She suggested that the Commission take a look at what other Commissions are doing for their recruiting process.

Commissioner Gustafson suggested that the Commission should first find out from the Court and Board of Supervisors what they expect from the Commission. The framework based inquiry of what should be done, what's impactful and what's relevant to San Mateo County. Then, bring the two together where the Courts and Board of Supervisors would be partners in the process going forward.

Nancy McGee spoke about the Coalition for Safe Schools and what was being done in San Mateo County. Commissioner Thadaney added the potential of having someone from SMCOE come in and talk about it and give an overview of what work that has been done, where the need is and for us to ask ourselves where can we have the most impact and be a part of a solution of the identified problems.

VIII. Election of 2016 Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Swope called for a vote on the Nominating Committee's report nominating Commissioner Swope for Chair and Commissioner Gustafson for Vice Chair. It was **Unanimously Approved**

IX. Presentation of Thank Yous to Departing Commissioners Ross and Miller

Deferred, as Commissioners Ross and Miller were not present.

X. Commissioner Comments/Announcements

- a. Education Achievement Gap Summit (Swope, Gibbs and Barrows)
- b. Jerry Hill's Town Hall on Education (Swope): Commissioner Swope reported that the Town Hall featured John Gundry, the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, Anne Campbell, San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools, and Tom Torlickson, California Superintendent of Schools.

Commissioner Swope will work out a meeting date to review the Juvenile Hall Inspection before the end of the year.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15pm

The Next JJDPC Meeting: January 26, 2016
Location: 455 County Center, Room 402, Redwood City, CA.