



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

July 25, 2017

5:15-7:15pm

455 County Center, 4th Floor, Room 402, Redwood City

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Co-Chair Susan Swope; Co-Vice Chair Sonoo Thadaney; Co-Vice Chair Rebecca Flores; Valerie Gibbs; and Al Serrato.

Commissioners Excused: Michele Gustafson; Nick Jasso; Irv Rollins; and Melissa Wilson.

Staff Present:

Rich Hori, Probation Services Manager II, Juvenile Division
Sheree Calhoun, Probation Services Manager II, Institutions Division

Additional Attendees:

Bill Silverfarb – Legislative Aide for Supervisor David Canepa
Nancy Magee – Associate Superintendent, San Mateo County Office of Education
Mike DeMoss – community member
Daniel Casillas – Project Change

I. Administrative Business:

- a. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. Roll Call and Establish Quorum: A quorum was established.
- c. Introductions
- d. Agenda Review: **Approved** as distributed.
- e. Approval of Minutes: May 30, 2017 and June 27, 2017: **Approved** as distributed

II. Oral Communications:

Mike DeMoss, of Menlo Park, shared information about the juvenile diversion program he worked for in Minnesota before relocating to the Bay Area. Mr. DeMoss, who identified himself as a semi-retired attorney, said he would be happy to do similar work here in San Mateo County as a volunteer. He also said he would be open to possibly serving as a JJDPCC Commissioner in the future.

III. Swearing In of New Commissioners (Toni Barrack and Mary Oleksy): Deferred to future meeting

IV. Commission Leave/Absenteeism Policy

Commissioner Thadaney proposed developing a more detailed Leave of Absence policy for Commissioners seeking to take extended breaks from their duties. Three of nine Commissioners are currently on leave.

Commissioner Swope noted that Article II, Item E of the JJDPCC's Operating Policies states, "A leave of a definite period of time may be granted a Commissioner by the membership." Also, Article II, Item G states, "Any Commissioner who accumulates three unexcused

absences from regular Commission meetings during the Calendar Year shall be considered by the Commission as having resigned from the Commission.”

Commissioner Serrato said he thinks the Commission is too small to enforce stricter attendance rules. He recommended the Commission continue to deal with absenteeism on a case-by-case basis. M:/Gibbs, S:/Thadaney to keep the Leave of Absence and Regular Attendance policies as they are for now. **Approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Thadaney requested the matter be revisited in a year. Commissioner Swope suggested revisiting it during the Commission’s annual policy review in January 2018.

V. Project Updates (Commissioner Swope)

a. Update on Proposed Response to the California Child Welfare Continuum of Care

1. Commissioner Swope participated in a July 6, 2017 conference call with Susanna Kniffen, Manager, Advocates Meeting, CCR, CDSS.
2. Commissioner Swope participated in the July 7, 2017 CCR Strategic Implementation teleconference meeting. Among the issues raised were problems when a youth’s placement changes and therapy providers don’t follow their clients. They want a statewide policy that would enable dependent youth to continue with the same provider if geographically feasible. They also pointed out that many foster children suffer from trauma of separation and either abuse or neglect, but only 22 percent receive mental health care. They recommend clear guidance on early childhood mental health assessment, and are looking at the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) and Treatment Outcome Package (TOP). California Health and Human Services has selected CANS as its statewide functional assessment tool. They also said we need to be able to provide crisis services 24/7 for foster parents and ensure there is no interruption of Medi-Cal benefits when children move from one county to another. There also is a need to ensure all members of a youth’s team are notified when a youth is hospitalized.
3. R. Flores participated in the CCR Stakeholder Implementation Advisory Committee Meeting webinar on July 18, 2017. She reported: The committee is working to develop a process for tracking children not accepted into placement and is looking at trauma-informed and cultural training for foster parents; it is executing contracts to expand the ability to recruit and support foster families; temporary, 30-day shelter and care facilities are being licensed, and performance measures are under development; the committee has had trouble getting input from every county but San Mateo County remains involved.

Commissioner Swope mentioned one issue that’s been raised with Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) facilities is the staffing cost. She said the required FTEs would cost \$350,000 annually, infeasible for six-bed facilities. She said one proposed solution is to consolidate the management of smaller facilities and use on-call employees.

4. Sonoma County JJC brochure on CCR ramifications

Commissioner Swope shared a Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission brochure titled “A Crisis in Care for Dependent Youth,” which argues for a mix of short- and long-term group care facilities to serve the different needs of dependent youth.

5. Bay Area Group Implementing CCR

Noting that the San Mateo County Probation Department is involved in the AB 403 implementation effort, Commissioner Swope inquired why the Commission hasn't been asked to participate. Rich Hori, Juvenile Probation Director, said he would relay the question to Deputy Chief Roy Brasil. R. Hori also offered to have someone from the Department's Placement Unit attend a future Committee meeting to speak about placement issues affecting court dependent, delinquent youth.

b. Other possible projects for 2017

1. Youth Access to Phone Calls: Sheree Calhoun, Director of Institutions, discussed the rule of limiting youth to two five-minute phone calls per week to parents/guardians. She said the five-minute limit is no longer strictly enforced, partly because the juvenile hall's population has declined in recent years resulting in less demand to use the phones on the units. Most calls last over five minutes, she said.

Commissioner Thadaney asked how the staff navigates difficult family situations where parents don't want to speak to their child on the phone. S. Calhoun said the staff usually refers those situations to the probation officer to help bridge communication gaps.

Commissioner Swope asked if a lot of the youth in the juvenile hall have regular group or family or individual therapy. S. Calhoun said some do, but not all have family therapy.

Commissioner Thadaney emphasized the benefits of encouraging better family communication and cohesion, especially among immigrant families. S. Calhoun noted a parenting program is available to parents whose children are in the juvenile justice system.

Nancy Magee, San Mateo County Office of Education's associate superintendent of student services, added that the San Mateo County Health System's Office of Diversity and Equity offers a 12-week program called The Parent Project, whereby parents can learn parenting skills and get information about resources in their communities. She said it is funded by Measure A.

S. Calhoun noted another resource available to kids and families are Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers. R. Hori added most of the youths at Camp Glenwood and Camp Kemp have had CASA workers assigned to them, but there is a shortage of volunteers.

2. Consideration of fees charged to parents of delinquent youth: **Deferred to a future meeting.**

VI. Probation Updates (Hori and Calhoun)

- a. Update on any new developments re Grand Jury Report on juvenile facilities.
S. Calhoun reported that a new grand jury has been convened and she is working with jurors to plan a group tour of the juvenile hall in August.

- b. Number of youth in the YSC, Camp Kemp and Camp Glenwood as of 7/25/17:
YSC = 64 (55 boys, 9 girls), Camp Kemp = 13 girls, plus 6 in Girls Empowerment Program (GEP), Camp Glenwood population = 16 boys

S. Calhoun reported that the Summer Olympics will be held at the YSC Aug. 7-11. She will send the event schedule to the group in case any members want to attend.

S. Calhoun reported the wheels are in motion to replace YSC housing unit carpeting with nonporous flooring. The goal is to improve the health and hygiene of the units and eliminate costly carpet-cleaning fees. The project is in the early stages. Next steps likely will include getting cost estimates and holding a bidding process to do the work. The project timeline is uncertain at this point.

VII. San Mateo County Office of Education (N. Magee)

- a. New School year updates
 - The County Office of Education has hired Nafeesah Mustafa to fill the newly created position of assistant principal of the Court Schools Program.
 - Camp Kemp has a new English and social science teacher with an agricultural science and social justice background. Recruitment of a math/science teacher for Camp Glenwood continues.
 - Four Court Schools Program teachers attended a summer conference on the personalized learning model. All but two or three of the Court Schools Program teachers have now been exposed to this model.
 - The partnership with Project Change continues. This year, a psychology class will be offered at the YSC. College Readiness Block Grant funds will be used to pay for the instructor. Classes will be held two nearly full school days per week.
 - An orientation class for students new to Hillcrest School will soon be implemented. The class will consist of three days of instruction (morning to noon) and summarize key aspects of the school, resources, credit-recovery and college readiness opportunities, provide assessment testing, et cetera.

Commissioner Swope noted that Social Innovation Fund grants may end under President Donald Trump, potentially hampering the goals of the Big Lift, a program that seeks to improve educational outcomes for San Mateo County low-income children. N. Magee said the program has enough funding to get through the 2017-2018 fiscal year, but new funding may need to be identified to make up for the projected \$9 million loss in grant funding.

VIII. Liaison/Study Group Reports

- a. Inspections Committee Update (Thadaney)
 1. Inspections status

Commissioner Thadaney reported the SMPD inspection was completed on June 29, 2017. She said she was very impressed overall. M:/S. Thadaney, S:/R. Flores to accept the SMPD inspection report. **Approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Swope reported she and Toni Barrack inspected Camp Glenwood on June 26, 2017. At the time of the inspection, 11 boys were under the old Glenwood program, and 9 were under the new program. The old program lasts 6 to 9 months and uses a point system. New program lasts 9 to 12 months and is based on individualized assessments and a level system. Commissioner Swope noted she was impressed by the camp's vocational learning program, garden and chicken coops, and the overall positive spirit of the boys and staff. M:/S. Swope, S:/Thadaney to approve the Camp Glenwood inspection report. **Approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Thadaney reported the San Bruno Police Department inspection occurred last week. She said the report should be ready by the August Commission meeting.

R. Flores reported the Camp Kemp inspection occurred July 17, 2017. She indicated the report should be ready by the August Commission meeting.

A. Serrato said YSC inspection report is nearing completion.

The Schools inspection has been completed except for Canyon Oaks' school, which has yet to be scheduled.

Commissioner Swope said the Canyon Oaks facility inspection is set for Aug. 14, 2017.

- b. Court and Probation Liaison (Wilson)
No report
- c. Youth Commission Update (MacAvoy)
No report

IX. Commissioner Comments/Announcements (COMMISSIONER Swope)

- a. A JJDPC training is scheduled for Sept. 14, 2017, at the CPPCA annual conference in Long Beach. More information is available at www.cppca.org.
- b. JJC/JJDPC Workshop, sponsored by Sonoma County JJC, is set for Nov. 4, 2017, in Sebastopol. Registration deadline is Sept. 15, 2017.
- c. Juvenile Justice Standing Committee Meeting will be held Aug. 3, 2017, in Sacramento.

Meeting Adjourned 6:41 p.m.

The Next JJDPC Meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2017
Location: 455 County Center, Room 402, Redwood City, CA