



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

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission**  
**Feb. 27, 2018**  
**5:15-7:15pm**  
**455 County Center, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 405, Redwood City**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Michele Gustafson; Co-Vice Chair Sonoo Thadaney; Susan Swope; Toni Barrack; Mary Oleksy; Melissa Wilson; Al Serrato; Daniel Casillas; Nick Jasso.

**Commissioners Absent:** Valerie Gibbs, Rebecca Flores

**Staff Present:** Deputy Chief Probation Officer Jeff Morino

**Additional Attendees:**

Clara MacAvoy – San Mateo County Youth Commission

Ghada Ahmed – Parent, Foster City

Tara Ford – Stanford Youth and Education Law Program

Stacy Young – Youth Law Center, Stanford University

Bill Silverfarb – Supervisor David Canepa’s Office

Rick Halpern – Managing Attorney, Private Defender Program’s Juvenile Services

Hon. Elizabeth K. Lee – Superior Court Juvenile Supervising Judge

Jan Ellard – Deputy County Counsel

Christine Ford – San Mateo County Deputy District Attorney

Doug Winter – Prospective Commissioner

Billy Brimmer – Program Manager, Edgewood Center for Children and Families

Bonnie Miller – Attorney, Private Defender Program

**I. Administrative Business:**

- a. Call to Order: Co-Chair Gustafson called meeting 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: Jan. 30, 2018: **Approved** as distributed.
- f. Review/Readopt JJDPC Operating Policies.

M:/S. Swope, S:/M. Wilson: Amend Article 2, Section E (Leave of Absence) to read, “A leave of a definite period of time may be granted a Commissioner by the membership, taking into account current membership and number of leaves of absence in effect when the leave is requested.” **Approved unanimously.**

M:/S. Thadaney, S:/M. Wilson: Amend the JJDPC Operating Policies to make them gender neutral. **Approved unanimously.**

M:/M. Gustafson, S:/M. Wilson: Amend Article 2, Section G (Regular Attendance), adding the line, “Failure to provide notice prior to missing a Commission meeting shall be an unexcused absence.” **Approved unanimously.**

## **II. Oral Communications:**

Ghada Ahmed suggested the creation of a handbook for parents of children going through the juvenile justice system, citing a handbook provided by San Francisco's juvenile hall as an example.

## **III. Review and Discuss Letter Re: Court Fines and Fees / SB 190**

The Commission reviewed a letter to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors drafted by Chair M. Gustafson, asking the board to 1) stop collections on outstanding juvenile detention fees incurred prior to Jan. 1, 2018, 2) discharge of all previously assessed juvenile fees and 3) consider allocating funds and establishing a process for refunding fees paid in cases where chargers were not sustained.

Deputy Chief Probation Officer Jeff Morino said the Probation Department doesn't oppose the Commission's position. However, he said issuing refunds in cases where charges were not sustained would come at an unknown cost to the Department because new administrative systems would have to be created.

Commissioner Swope recommended doing further research on need and potential impact of refunding fees to parents in cases where charges were not sustained.

M:/S. Swope, S:/M. Gustafson: Send the letter to the Board of Supervisors, removing the request to consider allocating funds and establishing a process for refunding fees paid in cases where petitions were not sustained. **Approved unanimously.**

## **IV. Private Defender Program Presentation**

Rick Halpern said he is interested in developing individualized counseling services for at-risk youth and suggested that the Commission could play a role in improving coordination between Probation, the Courts, the DA's Office, Private Defender Program and community resources. He cited Santa Clara County as a model, adding it may have taken several years to develop it.

Co-Chair Thadaney suggested devoting more resources to the siblings of incarcerated youth, citing the effects of youth incarceration on siblings and families.

Bonnie Miller of the Private Defender Program shared her perspective on recent changes at Camp Glenwood. She said she supports the fact that the staff receives trauma-informed training, and believes the overall atmosphere of the camp is positive. She also said the addition of education liaison Lauren Sneed of the San Mateo County Office of Education has made a positive impact on the education program. However, Miller said she's concerned about the availability of resources for boys when they leave the Camp. In particular, she asked why school reentry plans couldn't be done further in advance, so boys don't remain at home after leaving the Camp while awaiting the completion of necessary reenrollment steps.

Miller added she's heard positive things about the Camp's new multifamily group meetings for parents, counselors and children. The meetings are held every other Saturday at the Youth Services Center in San Mateo. Deputy Chief Probation Officer Jeff Morino stated there's been strong participation among families. Morino added that families will be invited to continue attending the meetings after their minors leave custody.

Chair Gustafson thanked Miller and stated the Commission would welcome the input of the Private Defender Program prior to the Commission's next round of annual inspections of juvenile facilities within the County.

**V. Court Remarks and Discussion (Judge Lee)**

Judge Lee advised that behavioral health therapy at Camp Glenwood includes cognitive as well as neurosequential therapy, and that these services continue after a youth leaves custody to help him learn to moderate his impulses.

Judge Lee said the County is working with the Office of Education to improve school re-enrollment for youth transitioning out of the juvenile hall and camps. Judge Lee said being able to return to school with their friends can be a big motivator for youth in the juvenile justice system. She also said she is advocating for getting a CASA worker appointed to each child at the camps.

Judge Lee said she has been talking with Probation and the Private Defender Program to try to bring in more vocational programs for the youth. Deputy Chief Probation Officer Jeff Morino said Camp Glenwood has relaunched its vocational education program. He added the program is entry-level and does not provide leads into jobs or apprenticeship programs.

Judge Lee said she has spoken with Judge Edwards from Santa Clara County regarding Santa Clara County's Parent Partner Project. She said if we could develop a strong parents group, members could then interface with the community and develop more resources for youth and families.

**VI. Probation (Deputy Chief Jeff Morino – Juvenile Services)**

The 2017-2018 Grand Jury toured Camp Kemp in February 2018. They've also toured the Juvenile Hall and Camp Glenwood in recent months.

Regarding the 2015-2016 Grand Jury's report entitled "Juvenile Services Division's Youth Detention Facilities: Underutilized and Overpriced?" Morino said the Controller's Office is creating a financial analysis that takes into account the debt service on the Youth Services Center, which opened in 2006.

Morino provided the following population numbers for San Mateo County's juvenile detention facilities:

Juvenile Hall – 63 boys, 12 girls  
Camp Glenwood – 9 boys  
Camp Kemp – 8 girls

In addition, there are 280 juveniles on active supervision by Juvenile Probation within the County, 149 investigations pending, about 20 juveniles in diversion and another 170 pending diversion or adjudication. In addition, there are 11 minors in general placement including 1 out-of-state, 9 non-minor dependents and 7 in the Wrap-Around program.

## **VII. San Mateo County Office of Education (Nancy Magee)**

On Feb. 10, 2018, the Court Schools Program held its first parent orientation event for the parents of minors detained in the juvenile hall. The event was held at Gateway School rather than at juvenile hall due to logistical considerations. The entire school staff was present. Magee said the staff was energized by the event and hope to see it continue and grow.

The Directed Studies program in the juvenile hall has been restructured so that students attend school in a classroom rather than in their rooms. The new program is called the CARE class. Teachers rotate through the class by period. The staff created the model and so far teachers have been getting great engagement and feedback from the students.

Judge Lee said she recently toured the class and was impressed by the students' level of engagement. Commissioners Swope, Wilson and Gustafson also recently toured the school and were similarly impressed with the setup and with meeting Ms. Sneed.

At the beginning of the year, the Court Schools Program launched a three-day orientation program for new students.

Chair Gustafson stated that the Commission would be interested in receiving more information about efforts to improve school re-entry outcomes for students transitioning out of juvenile detention facilities within the county. Magee said the Office of Education has created new data collection methods to track students coming out of the juvenile hall and will engage school districts to improve re-entry outcomes. She said she will share data at the next JJDPC meeting.

## **VIII. Projects for 2018: Ideas and Brainstorming**

Bill Silverfarb, legislative aide for Supervisor David Canepa, informed the Commission of an opportunity to apply for discretionary Measure K funds available in fiscal year 2018-2019.

Silverfarb also informed the Commission of the Trades Introduction Program, a workforce development program that connects trainees to apprenticeship programs.

The Commission discussed several proposed projects for 2018, including developing a parent handbook on the juvenile justice system, performing a juvenile probation "system test," developing resources to assist with expunging marijuana convictions under Prop 64, recognizing staff and youth for achievements, expanding vocational training and apprenticeship opportunities, and researching the creation of a county-wide youth court program. The Commission also reviewed ongoing projects, such as seeking funding for Commission activities, annual inspections of juvenile detention facilities, and recruitment of future members.

Chair Gustafson said she would email Commissioners reminding them which projects they said they were interested in working on. At the next meeting, project teams will present proposed goals and timelines.

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

Deferred to March 27, 2018 meeting. The Inspections Committee will begin signups for Inspections at the March Meeting

**X. Algorithmic Risk Assessments (Thadaney)**

Deferred to March 27, 2018 meeting

**XI. Project Updates**

- 1) Community Resource Project (Flores): No report
- 2) Wayfinding Project (Wilson): No report

**XII. Commissioner Comments/Announcements**

No Report

**XIII. Adjournment**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:20 p.m.**