

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission**  
**October 29, 2019**  
**5:15-7:15 pm**  
**455 County Center, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 405, Redwood City**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair: Michele Gustafson, Co-Vice Chair Sonoo Thadaney; Co-Vice Chair Rebecca Flores; Susan Swope; Debora Telleria; Paul Bocanegra; Douglas Winter; Monroe Labouisse

**Commissioners Absent:** Toni Barrack; Valerie Gibbs; Melissa Wilson

**Probation Staff Present:** Administrative Secretary Jannet Bonilla

**Additional Attendees:**

Aurora Pena – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services	Judge Susan Jakubowski – Juvenile Court
Ally Hoppis – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services	Sathvik Nori – Youth Commissioner Liaison
Kate Hiester – Fresh Lifelines for Youth	Rebecca Baum – District Attorney
Ron Rayes – Private Defender Program	Vikram Seshadri – Youth Commission
Asante Spencer – Youth Commission	Jasmine Milles – Youth Law Center
Jenee Littrell – San Mateo County Office of Education	Rebecca Baum – District Attorney

**I. Administrative Business:**

- a. Call to Order: Chair Gustafson called meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. Roll Call and Establish Quorum: A quorum was established at 5:15 pm.
- c. Introductions
- d. Agenda Review: **Approved** as distributed.
- e. Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2019: **Approved** as amended.
- f. Membership: Clara MacAvoy resigned as JJDPC Commissioner. There are currently four open commissioner slots and two of those are youth slots.
- g. Elections reminder: Chairs and Vice Chairs will be elected at the December 10<sup>th</sup> JJDPC meeting.

**II. Oral Communications**

*None*

**III. Swearing of New Commissioner Monroe Labouisse**

Judge Jakubowski swore in Commissioner Monroe Labouisse

#### IV. Update and Discussion: AB 1793

District Attorney Rebecca Baum stated AB 1793 is a follow up of Proposition 64 in order to dismiss or reduce prior marijuana convictions. AB 1793 required the California Department of Justice to provide the District Attorney's Office with information on marijuana convictions to decide whether the DA would oppose the dismissal/reduction and notify the private defender. Except for 1 case, Ms. Baum stated all marijuana charges were reduced to infractions for San Mateo County. The District Attorney's office is working on analyzing data received from the Department of Justice to figure out whether they have any information on juvenile marijuana offenses.

Private Defender Ron Rayes stated all attorneys who handled juvenile cases were asked to review their files to identify clients affected with marijuana offenses and to file petitions to reduce the offense and seal the file. Chair Gustafson raised concern about those with marijuana cases charged as felonies and resulting in hiring disqualifications. Mr. Rayes stated the Private Defender's Office moves to seal juvenile files for those who complete Probation; sealed files should not appear in background checks. They do not have access to cases handled outside of the Private Defender's office, so this could not be a blanket assurance that all records are sealed, nor that petitions were filed to reduce all eligible marijuana offenses in our County. Judge Jakubowski also cautioned against being able to make any blanket statement about the whether all eligible juvenile marijuana offenses in the county were reduced or sealed, as it could depend on the case.

#### V. 2019 Inspection

- a. Commissioner Winter stated the San Bruno Police Department (SBPD) inspection was standard without any major concerns. Commissioner Labouisse found that from July 2018-December 2018, 25 youth were in unsecured detention and from January 2018 – July 2019 it spiked to 55 youth. SBPD did not have an explanation for this spike as they stated their numbers fluctuate. SBPD has an orientation process, but it is not formal.  
M:/Winter: Accept the San Bruno Police Inspection Report as submitted. **Approved** unanimously.
- b. Commissioner Winter stated the inspectors were overall impressed with the Camp Kemp Education inspection. Juveniles in the Girls Empowerment Program (GEP) stated they felt they were missing out on their High School experience by attending school with youth who are in custody. Responding to the suggestion that GEP youth could benefit from attending the orientation that the youth in custody at the Youth Services Center (YSC), Chair Gustafson raised concern about GEP youth having to attend a 3-day orientation at YSC. Aurora Pena with Behavioral Health & Recovery Services stated most GEP youth were in custody at the YSC and completed the orientation while there.  
M:/Winter: Accept the Camp Kemp Education Inspection Report as amended. **Approved** unanimously.
- c. Commissioner Winter reported juveniles at Hillcrest do not have access to computers in school or on the units as they do not have enough staff to monitor all computers. Youth felt that most teachers were engaged and cared about their educational experience, but some teachers just handed out packets and showed movies. During the

time of the inspection, the YSC was on lockdown due to an incident and school was being held on the units as opposed to the classroom. Youth also felt that some of the work they were doing was repetitive.

Jenee Littrell with the San Mateo Office of Education stated there has been updates since the report was completed. With the closure of Camp Glenwood there were changes for the teaching staff and Hillcrest now has teachers teaching their credentialed areas. Regarding the lack of technology, the school department had issues with the WiFi connection in the YSC, but their IT department is working on installing hardwires for the internet connection and Chromebooks have been ordered. Ms. Littrell also reported that youth attending school at Hillcrest now remain enrolled in their school district for 30 days in order to avoid having to restart the time-consuming process of re-enrollment.

Chair Gustafson stated they will hold off on approving the Hillcrest inspection until the recommended changes are made.

- d. The Canyon Oaks inspection found that the classrooms are very small and this can cause irritability with the youth. One of the youth interviewed felt that he was not given enough time to complete his work, but overall youth were satisfied with the teachers. All youth at Canyon Oaks are given an IEP and teachers are very involved but it was taking time from their focus teaching so they will bring on additional staff to assist with IEP. Ms. Littrell also stated they are working with their legal counsel to assure the home district is completing their part of the IEP as it was found that the Court schools were stepping in and completing parts of the IEP that are not their responsibility.  
M:/Winter: Accept the Canyon Oaks Inspection Report as amended. **Approved** unanimously.

## **VI. Update on Probation**

- a. Chair Gustafson reported that she and Commissioners Barrack and Swope met with Chief Keene. He informed her that Probation will not be attending JJDPC meetings for at least the rest of the 2019 year. Chief Keene informed Chair Gustafson that Probation did not ask Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY) to change their policy around banning JJDPC members from volunteering in Juvenile Hall. Chief Keene also said that one of the reasons he has pulled Probation from attending JJDPC meetings is concern around the June 14, 2019 letter sent to the Board of Supervisors; Probation felt they were being excluded from the conversation of this letter. JJDPC commissioners agreed they would be drafting an addendum letter to the Board of Supervisors in order to clarify they did not have any intention to exclude Probation from any conversation around Juvenile Justice and Therapeutic Services for Juveniles. Chief Keene also stated Probation feels JJDPC meetings single out Probation as being responsible for issues with Juvenile Justice. Co-Chair Flores stated she believes that JJDPC has had a good relationship with Probation and commended them for their positive work, but it is difficult to have a collaborative relationship with them if they stop attending JJDPC meetings. The Commission generally disagreed that its requests for information about the operation of Probation was intended to single Probation out, but acknowledged that questions to Probation had been pointed at times and that the JJDPC should also do

more to examine the role of other stakeholders in youths' entry into the Juvenile Justice system and helping to keep youth from coming back.

- b. JJDPDC will be able to continue to receive written information from Probation and liaison meetings will also continue. JJDPDC would like to continue to work collaboratively with Probation and establish common goals in the future. JJDPDC will also work in the coming year on a training for commissioners volunteering in the Youth Services Center in order to keep volunteer roles separate from their work as commissioners. Chair Gustafson reported that Probation will begin low level staffing for the Phoenix Re-Entry Program (PREP) in November, as of the reporting date only one Juvenile in the YSC was eligible for PREP and they would like to begin the program with five youth so the plan is to set the December court calendar for PREP and Probation will have Multidisciplinary Team recommendations for juveniles.
- c. Jannet Bonilla with Probation reported as of October 29, 2019 there was 51 males and 3 females in the YSC. Camp Kemp had 6 juveniles in Camp and 4 juveniles between phase two and three, 4 juveniles in GEP, and 1 juvenile in GEP aftercare. Chair Gustafson reported there is a delay on quarterly data as Probation recently lost their Management Analyst, but they will be working on providing updated data.

**VII. Court Remarks and Discussion**

Judge Jakubowski stated the Courts would like to start PREP review dates and they are anticipating that they will be able to begin these reviews in December. The Courts are also continuing to work towards a competency protocol and mediation programs.

**VIII. Private Defender Program Remarks and Discussion**

*None*

**IX. District Attorney Remarks and Discussion**

*None*

**X. County Office of Education Remarks and Discussion**

*None*

**XI. Youth Commission Update**

The youth commission, which previously was assisted by an outside agency under contract with the County, is transitioning to being run internally.

**XII. Discussion: Proposal for Strategic Planning**

Deferred to the next meeting

**XIII. Report Outs**

- a. Sonoo reported there were no updates on the Letter to the Board.

- b. Chair Gustafson stated she decided not to write a letter to FLY Board of Directors and instead had a meeting with FLY leadership team. The outcome of that meeting is that FLY remains firm that they will not be changing their policy around banning JJDPC Commissioners from volunteering in the Youth Services Center.
- c. Commissioner Winter reported he met with a couple members from the Youth Commission who are interested in being part of Youth Court collaboration process. They have decided they will put together a group of potential advocates of people involved in Youth Court to discuss what a restorative program would look like for youth. Commissioner Winter met with members of San Mateo County Health, YMCA Urban Services, and YMCA of Marin, San Mateo, and Silicon Valley. YMCA Urban Services and Silicon Valley would like to take on the project and assist with funding. The plan is to start a pilot program with South San Francisco and East Palo Alto that will include a drug and alcohol program and work towards alternative to suspensions.
- d. Commissioner Swope reported that Probation reviewed the Parent Guide draft and provided their input. The Courts will be last to review it and once that is complete the JJDPC will need to find funds and an illustrator to put it together and print it.

#### **XIV. Commissioner Comments/Announcements**

Commissioner Swope announced she had sent the commissioners information on Charlie Appelstein's presentation on working with youth. She also asked if anyone is interested in re-entry there are helpful guides found on the internet, including through the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Meeting adjourned 7:20