



*Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services*

YOUTH COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes November 23, 2009

The Youth Commission of the City of San José convened in regular session on November 23, 2009 in the City Council Chambers of San José City Hall at 6:00p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Shankar, Ong, Aldama, Uzoh, Stromfeld, and Commissioner Khan
Late: Commissioner Chung & Commissioner Carrera
Absent: Commissioner Taxera and Commissioner Polussa

II. APPROVAL OF MINTUES

October meeting minutes were approved.

III. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

IV ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT (Information Only)

Council assistant Tiana Seymore informed the commission about a council meeting on December 8th – the council will be reviewing the Green-print. The redevelopment message has come out and will also be coming to council December 8th; which affects funding and projects throughout the city. She also informed the commission of district skate nights at downtown ice – coupons available online.

VI. LIAISON REPORTS (Information Only)

Sergeant Quezada informed the commission the total number of students truant for the month of October; 688 were picked up, this was an increase from last year. 166 were repeat offenders, 11 were arrested and 3 were reported as runaways. 28 council reports were made and 26 home interventions. 15, 16, and 17 years olds comprise the biggest age group of truants. This number is an increase especially given the fact that the TABS program and staff were reduced. Sergeant Quezada also informed the commission that the TABS program comes in on Saturdays so that they are able to make contact with parents and get the students counseling and other resources they need.

Angie Miraflor from the San Jose Public Library informed the commission of the FLY program and the services they provide at the East branch library. She also informed them about a program out of the King Library – social workers in the library. The program gives people 20

minute consultations on anything from emergency services to immigration issues; it is meant to connect people with resources. Commissioner Kahn asked about the opening of the Santa Teresa branch and Commissioner Ong asked about a lot space in district 4.

VII. AD HOC WORKING TEAMS REPORTS

(Information Only)

Commissioner Shankar reported on the Youth Bill of Rights. She reported that the commissioner was planning on reviewing the articles and recommendations after the meeting and that a specials meeting was going to take place in the next two weeks in order to complete a rough draft of the bill.

Commissioner Ong reported about the YAC training day that took place on Saturday November 21st. She reported about the different workshops that were available, the large group workshops and also about the food donations that were available for the YAC members.

VIII COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1 Commissioner Shankar reported that the D1 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) was able to distribute their newsletter, which is available online. The next newsletter is scheduled to come out in late January. She also reported that they are working on a family giving tree project specifically for teens, they are partnering with the Blakcford NAC on this event, the YAC is getting gift donations and cards for the event.

District 2 Commissioner Chung reported that she has her second YAC meeting; they worked on their workplan and discussed the prop 8 issue. Her YAC is also going to volunteering at the holiday banquet.

District 3 Commissioner Carrera reported that his YAC met and talked about the workplan and about the prop 8 issues. His YAC also talked about funding ideas and about having another litter pick up event in his district. His is also going to partner with an organization to help with a lowrider show.

District 4 Commissioner Ong reported that she had a YAC meeting and talked about the prop 8 issue, future events. Her YAC is also going to a sharks game as an appreciation gift from the council office.

District 5 Vacant

District 6 Commissioner Taxera was not present to report.

District 7 Commissioner Aldama reported that she has 4 new members, they talked about their workplan and about the prop 8 issues. The YAC is also going to be decorating a tree at Christmas in the Park.

District 8 Commissioner Uzoh reported that her YAC met and talked about the prop 8 issues and they are close to completing their revised work plan. They are also looking into more events for their district.

District 9 Commissioner Stromfeld reported that he had a YAC meeting and they were able to finish their workplan. He also reported that he was a special meeting tomorrow in order to start planning some of the events. He reported that he was able to recruit new members through his leadership class and that the YAC will be decorating a tree at Christmas in the Park.

District 10 Commissioner Polussa was not present to report.

City Wide Commissioner Khan introduced herself and talked about why she joined the Youth Commission and what she hopes to accomplish from being a part of the Youth Commission.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

a.) District 6 Specific Work Plan

This item was moved because of the absence of Commissioner Taxera

b.) District 6 Specific Work Plan

This item was moved because of the absence of Commissioner Taxera

c.) District Specific Workplans (3, 4, 8, 9)

Commissioner Carrera reviewed the 5 main goals of his district's workplan.

Moved: To approve the district three workplan with changes made to the mission, vision and core values so that they align with the Youth Commission's mission, vision and core values.

M/S Commissioner Ong / Commissioner Stromfeld **Ayes:** All

Commissioner Ong reviewed the 5 main goals of her district's workplan.

Moved: To approve the district four workplan with changes made to the mission, vision and core values so that they align with the Youth Commission's mission, vision and core values.

M/S Commissioner Carrera / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** All

Commissioner Uzoh reported that she did not have a workplan to present.

Commissioner Stromfeld reviewed the 5 main goals of his district's workplan.

Moved: To approve the district nine workplan with changes made to the mission, vision and core values so that they align with the Youth Commission's mission, vision and core values.

M/S Commissioner Ong / Commissioner Uzoh **Ayes:** All

d.) Human Rights Recommendation

The Commissioners discussed whether they wanted to support the Human Rights Commission in their litigation to the State of California. Tiana Seymore informed the commission that this issue came to the rules committee twice but was not pulled from the public record. She also informed them that the amicus brief was closed at this time but if it comes up again it can be brought up to council.

Moved: To postpone the decision to join the Human Rights Commission recommendation to a later date.

M/S Commissioner Ong / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** 7
Nos: 1

e.) **Time Commitment Recommendation**

The Commissioners discussed the number of hours that they put into the commission on a monthly basis and whether or not they should reduce the amount of time spent on commission duties. Commissioners felt that they needed to work additional hours because they address multiple issues instead of a specialized issue.

Moved: To keep the time commitment of the Youth Commission the same.

M/S Commissioner Ong / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** all

f.) **Plastic Bag Ban**

Commissioner Shankar reported on the ordinance that was passed by the City, she also informed them that the council is going to consider another ordinance to decide how they would manage the previous ordinance. She suggested that the commission take a formal stance on the Plastic Bag ban that the council already approved. Commissioner Uzoh suggested postponing this discussion till the next meeting so that people can talk to their YACs.

Moved: To postpone discussion of the plastic bag ban till the next meeting.

M/S Commissioner Uzoh / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** all

X **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

a.) Harker students and Valence Energy presented the commission with a project that they worked on in order to reduced energy emission, cost and energy used. The students reported about the smart meters that were put into their schools and how those smart meters are used to track energy consumption in real time. The goal of Valence energy is to place smart meters in 500 schools in San Jose and they are working towards a grant to get funding to do so. They are looking to work with the Youth Commission to help get information about school energy use for all public schools in their districts – the commission decided to get that information for Valence by the end of December.

Moved: To collect energy consumption information for all schools in their respective districts.

M/S Commissioner Ong / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** all

Moved: To discuss a formal partnership with Valence Energy at the next meeting.

M/S Commissioner Uzoh / Commissioner Aldama **Ayes:** all

XI STAFF REPORTS

(Information Item)

a.) Neighborhood Committee Reporting

Staff reminded the commission of the report they are giving on December 10th during the committee; it was suggested that as many commissioners be present as possible.

b.) YAC Attack

Staff reminded the commission of the YAC attack that is coming up and a choice of two themes that they can have.

c.) Holiday Parade

Staff reminded the Commission about their participation in the Holiday Parade, commissioners need to meet at 7:00am near the HP Pavilion on Sunday December 6th.

d.) Commission Vacancies

Staff reminded the commission that there is still a vacancy in district 5 and we are looking to fill that position as soon as possible.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm by Commission Chair Shankar.