



YOUTH COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes December 14th, 2009

The Youth Commission of the City of San José convened in regular session on December 14th, 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, Chu, Carrera, Ong, Aldama, Polussa & Khan
Late: Commissioner Taxera
Absent: Commissioner Stromfeld & Commissioner Uzoh

II. APPROVAL OF MINTUES

November meeting minutes were approved.

III. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

IV ORAL COMMUNICATION

Dana Bennett – (Kid in Common) informed the commission about the third annual children summit taking place this year. She informed them that high school journalists were invited to participate in the conference. Commissioner Shankar reported that the Youth Bill of rights would also be presented at this conference. Dana mentioned that Commissioner Shankar would be a panelist at the conference and encouraged all commissioners to attend.

V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

(Information Only)

Council assistant Tiana Seymore was not present to report.

Mayor's office assistant Lauryn Livengood introduced her self to the commission; she will be filling in for Ben while he works on the campaign. Commissioner Taxera asked for an update on the SJ2020 initiative, Lauryn reported that the team is currently working on creating nine committees that they hope to fill with people who are interested. She encouraged commissioner to participate in the subcommittees.

VI. LIAISON REPORTS

(Information Only)

Sergeant Quezada informed the commission the total number of students truant for the month of November; 534 were picked up, this was an increase from last year. 128 were repeat offenders, 15 were arrested and 4 were reported as runaways. 18 council referrals were made and 55 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. Commissioner Khan informed Sergeant Quezada about the AD HOC working teams next step; they plan on distributing surveys, shadowing the TABS center and collecting data on their schools. Sergeant Quezada recommended some questions and also answered some questions about home interventions and their effectiveness.

Angie Miraflor from the San Jose Public Library was not present to report

VII. AD HOC WORKING TEAMS REPORTS

(Information Only)

Commissioner Shankar reported on the Youth Bill of Rights. She reported that the steering committee meeting with Project Cornerstone went well; they suggested some changes for the two additional articles the commission is writing. Next steps include finalizing the wording of the articles and working on the document to hold organizations accountable.

Commissioner Polussa reported that the executive board gave a presentation to the Education and Neighborhood Services committees, he said that the presentation went really well.

Commissioner Ong reported about the YAC training day, she informed the commission of the goals of the training day and whether or not the commission was able to meet these goals. She reported that the commission met or exceeded the majority of their goals.

VIII COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1 Commissioner Shankar reported that the D1 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) attended download day for the council office, the day was created to create awareness of a new application for the iPhone. Her YAC is also working with Starbird Teen Center on the family giving tree project. Her YAC is also working on their second newsletter and finishing up their website.

District 2 Commissioner Chung reported that she had a YAC meeting in which her YAC was able to finish their work plan. Her YAC attended a holiday banquet for D2, the holiday parade and the YAC will be creating a special meeting in order to create storyboards for the PSAs.

District 3 Commissioner Carrera reported that his YAC was going to be volunteering at the Washington United Youth Center. His YAC is also going to be working on creating a community clean up day and also some fundraisers in order to raise money for t-shirts and other activities his YAC wants to do.

District 4 Commissioner Ong reported that her YAC helped with the district's Breakfast with Santa. Her YAC meeting is tomorrow and they will be deciding if they are going to do the PSA.

District 5 Vacant

District 6 Commissioner Taxera reported that he attended the vigil for a Del Mar student who attempted suicide. He reported about the Amanda Network and the issues of cyber bullying. He also presented a thank you letter to the Vice Mayor on behalf of the commission. He also reported that his YAC attended the holiday parade and that his

YAC was going to create a PSA storyboard and that they are interested in shadowing the TABS center. He also reported that he attended the Park and Recreation commission meeting,

District 7 Commissioner Aldama reported that her YAC is going to participate in the West Evergreen Holiday event.

District 8 Commissioner Uzoh was not present to report.

District 9 Commissioner Stromfeld was not present to report.

District 10 Commissioner Polussa reported that his YAC is going to be meeting and talking about policy issues. He also reported that he was going to be considerate of time this next meeting because of finals. He also reported that his YAC will be hosting another movie night in January.

City Wide Commissioner Khan reported in the progress of the AD HOC working Teams, specifically she is going to set up shadow days at the Alum Rock Counseling center. She also reported that the commission has begun to plan for their city-wide conference.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

a.) District 6 Specific Work Plan

Commissioner Taxera reported on his work plan

Moved: To approve the district six updated work plan.

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

b.) Plastic Bag Ban

Commissioner Shankar reviewed the commission's plans to take a stance on the issues and updates on where council is at regarding the issue.

Moved: To support the Plastic Bag Ban ordinance.

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

c.) Valance Energy Proposed Partnership

Commissioner Ong reviewed what the commission had agreed to do for Valance Energy and whether or not the commission had the capacity to formally partner with Valance Energy, specifically creating an AD HOC Working Team for Valance Energy.

Moved: To Validate the work that Valance Energy has been doing and review support needed by the commission on a case by case basis.

M/S Commissioner Polussa / Commissioner Taxera **Ayes:** All

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

XI STAFF REPORTS

a.) End of the Year Report

Staff wanted to congratulate the commission on all their hard work for the year and to reiterate that the report given to the committee was really well received. Staff also reminded the commission about upcoming deadlines and projects.

b.) YAC Attack

Staff reminded the commission of the YAC attack that is coming up gave them the registration forms.

c.) Vacancy Update

Staff reported that they presented information to Mt. Pleasant students and got two of them to submit their applications for the vacant district 5 Commission position.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm by Commission Chair Shankar.