



*Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services*

YOUTH COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes **February 22nd, 2010**

The Youth Commission of the City of San José convened in regular session on February 22nd 2010 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, Stromfeld Polussa & Khan
Absent:

II. APPROVAL OF MINTUES

January minutes were approved.

III. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

IV ORAL COMMUNICATION

Abraham Benia & Juan Ann from the International Youth Fellowship. They informed the commission what the International Youth Fellowship is and about their World Camp to be held at UCLA June 28th – July 2nd. They gave the commission information packets and wanted the commission to let juniors and seniors know that they can apply to the camp.

Gabby Flores from the Camden Youth Center informed the commission about an upcoming dance for high school students. The dance is opened to all high schools in San Jose. She wanted to extend a personal invitation to the commission and YAC members to attend the dance.

The commission agreed to change the agenda to have informational items come before council liaison reports.

V INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a). BEST Funding Allocations

Abraham Chaco from PRNS gave a small presentation to the commission regarding the BEST program and how the program allocated funding. Abraham explained the purpose of the BEST program, the types of program they offer and also information regarding the amount of clients the BEST program reached in the 2008-2009 year. Commissioners asked clarifying questions regarding the committee that chooses which service areas the BEST program will address.

b). HNVF Gap Services Analysis

Matt Shelton from PRNS gave a presentation regarding the HNVF program and its allocation plan. Matt informed the commission how the HNVF grant program gets its money, what service areas HNVF programs address and what organizations HNVF provides grants to. He also informed the commission on the service areas that the HNVF funding would cover and asked them to review the categories with their YACs and to make recommendations on any areas that they felt were important but not listed.

VI. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT (Information Only)

Council assistant Tiana Seymore reminded the group about the 2010 census and it's importance to the San Jose community. She asked the commission to let adults know of the importance and to plug the key date of April 1st. She also informed them of the Mayor's Budget speech and important dates for the public. She also reminded them of the Project Cornerstone breakfast and also the relay for life team, asking the commission to ask their YAC members to join the team sponsored by the Vice Mayor's office.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS (Information Only)

Sergeant Quezada informed the commission the total number of students truant for the month of January, The total number was 605. 62 were repeat offenders, 4 were arrested, 15 were on probation, 2 were runaways, 6 were picked up at home and taken to schools. 6 were given council referrals. 16 and 17 year olds comprised the majority of the truants. He also informed the commission about an incident where TABS officers were able to stop a minor and discovered that he was armed at on his way to retaliate for gang related activity. He also informed that commission that this would be the last meeting he would be attending as he was reassigned. Commissioner informed him on their next steps including an op ed in the Mercury News and the surveys to be given out to students.

Sandra Stewart from the San Jose Public Library informed the commission about the Battle of the Band event and the timeline and process for bands to apply. She also mentioned that the library will have a graphic novel contest for teens and adults and the timeline for that as well.

Vanessa from the Human Rights Commission informed the commission about the commission's upcoming retreat in which they will be revising their work plan. She also informed them that there are three commission vacancies. She also informed them that the commission has requested a report from the independent police auditor and about a public meeting from the IPA office.

VIII. AD HOC WORKING TEAMS REPORTS (Information Only)

Commissioner Shankar reported on behalf of the executive board, she reported that roles have been delegated for the Youth Conference.

Commissioner Kahn reported about the truancy ad hoc team. She reviewed the survey that has been distributed and reminded the commission what they next steps were for administering the surveys and the deadline for the surveys March 14th. She also informed them that the commission will take information from the surveys and create a presentation for council and is looking to include a workshop about truancy at their conference.

Commissioner Shankar informed the commission about the Kids in Common conference that she attended and was a panelist for. She reminded the commission about the next steps, which include designing the sheet, creating the recommendation form and presenting the Bill of Rights to Project Cornerstone and various organizations to get them to endorse it.

IX. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1 Commissioner Shankar reported that her YAC had a successful Senior Game Night with the Cypress Teen Center. She also reported that her YAC attended the Starbird Master Pan meeting and was able to get youth input and will also be asking the input of the teens that go to Starbird. Her YAC also reviewed the City budget and is submitting a recommendation letter to all of the council members.

District 2 Commissioner Chung reported the Santa Teresa library branch opened and she attended the opening along with 5000 other community members. She also informed them that her YAC finished her work plan and asked the commission to review it.

Moved: To approve the district two work plan.

M/S: Commissioner Ong/Commissioner Aldama

Ayes: All

District 3 Commissioner Carrera reported that he was able to go to the different community centers and talk to the staff about created smaller leadership groups. He also reported that he will be updating his work plan with his new members.

District 4 Commissioner Ong reported that she has been working on outreach for new members and she will now attend the Teens Reach meetings at Berryessa. She also informed them that her YAC volunteered for an event at the library and that her YAC will be working on a project proposal for her middle school dinner to be approved at the next meeting.

District 5 Vacant

District 6 Vacant

District 7 Commissioner Aldama reported that her YAC has worked on a project proposal for two events they will be a part of, she will discuss the proposals later in the meeting.

District 8 Vacant

District 9 Commissioner Stromfeld reported that his YAC created a project proposal for a fundraising dinner benefiting the Children's Shelter. He also informed the commission that he was able to fill the positions for his executive board.

District 10 Commissioner Polussa reported that his YAC will be meeting last this week; he also reported that he would be informing his YAC about the relay for life event.

City Wide Commissioner Khan reported that she will be sending the workshop letters tonight and asked the commission to send the letters. She also informed them that the City Mangers' office might not be able to do a workshop because it is very close to the date that the budget comes out and will be very busy.

X. ACTION ITEMS

a.) San Jose Mercury News Article

Commissioner Khan informed the commission that she contacted the Mercury News asking to write about the issue of truancy and the impacts of budget cuts. She is in the process of writing her the first draft and will share with the commission for suggestions. The hope is that the article if published before the Mayor's budget message in May.

b.) District 7 College and Career Fair & Litter Pick Up project proposals

Commissioner Aldama reviewed her project proposal for two events that the D7 YAC will be working on. The first is partnership with Alma Community Center in which the YAC will help out with food set up and recruit YAC members. The second is a Litter Pick up scheduled for Global Youth Service Day on April 24th – this proposal was given to the Council office.

Moved: To approve both project proposals from the District 7 YAC

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

c.) District 9 Project Proposal – Adopt a Child

Commissioner Stromfeld reviewed the project proposal for a fundraising dinner to take place on march 23rd that will benefit the Cambrian Children's shelter.

Moved: To approve the District 9 project proposal

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

d.) District 10 project proposal – Community Movie Nights

Commissioner Polussa asked the commission to postpone the approval of his project proposal to the next meeting because the project proposal was incomplete and needed to be updated.

Moved: To postpone the approval of the project proposal to next meeting.

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

XI. STAFF REPORTS

(Information Item)

a.) YAC Attack reminder

Staff wanted to remind the commissioners of the date and registration process for the YAC attack event. She also reminded the commission of the workshops that the San Jose Youth Commission will be facilitating.

b.) Commission Vacancies

Staff informed the commission that D5 and D8 council offices were reviewing applications at this time and hopefully we would be hearing from the council offices soon. Nothing has come up for D6, Commissioner Shankar informed staff that she

does have someone interested in the D6 position and needed application information.

c.) Code on Conduct

Staff informed the commission of a code of conduct that all commissioners must sign.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm by Commission Chair Shankar.