



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

September 29, 2020 | 5: 15-7:15 pm  
Remote Meeting

### MINUTES

**Commissioners Present:** Co-Chair, Toni Barrack; Co-Chair, Debora Telleria; Paul Bocanegra; Monroe Labouisse; Sathvik Nori; Susan Swope; Melissa Wilson; Douglas Winter

**Commissioners Absent:** Vice-Chair Rebecca Flores; Vice Chair, Sonoo Thadaney

#### Additional Attendees:

Judge Susan Jakubowski – Juvenile Court

Ron Rayes – Private Defender Program

Rebecca Baum – District Attorney's Office

Jenee' Littrell – SMC Office of Education

Kate Heister – Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY)

Johnna Rasmussen – Potential Commissioner

Nicole Sbragia – Potential Commissioner

Aurora Pena – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

Ally Hoppis – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

Ameya Nori – Youth Commission

Austin Willis – Youth Commission

Judith Gable – Acknowledge Alliance

Suki Reddy – Potential Commissioner

#### I. Administrative Business

- a. **Call to Order:** Co Chair Telleria called meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. **Roll Call and Establish Quorum:** A quorum was established at 5:17 p.m.
- c. **Welcome and Introductions**
- d. **Vote on Leave of Absence:** Commissioner Labouisse made a motion to approve a one-year leave of absence (10/01/20-10/31/21) for Vice-Chair Thadaney. Commissioner Swope seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.
- e. **Agenda Review:** Approved with correction of typo.
- f. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from August 25, 2020 meeting approved as amended.

#### II. Oral Communication: *None*

#### III. Acknowledge Alliance

- Presentation by Judith Gable, Program Director of the Court and Community Schools Collaborative Counseling Program, which provides services to high-risk youth.
- Added programs through Boys and Girls club to give at-risk youth more opportunities and follow them throughout high school and college to ensure they aren't falling through the cracks.



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- Grown clinical staff by focusing on professional full-time positions, rather than volunteers, to be able to offer youth better services.
- Challenges during COVID include lack of access to kids through traditional environments like schools, however they are working with Peninsula Bridge and other CBOs to reach and better serve the youth.
- Working on increasing connection with at-risk youth through online platforms (Google Meets, Zoom, etc.).
- Incarcerated youth often face discrimination because of their incarceration history, which leads to hopelessness about future prospects regarding high school, getting jobs, going to college etc.
- There is need for internship programs and apprenticeship opportunities for youth especially for those who are not going to college.

#### IV. Department Updates

**a. Juvenile Court** (Jakubowski)

- One courtroom is running at Juvenile Court.
- No issues with getting cases heard timely or having access to a trial.
- Many people are appearing by Zoom or phone. Working to maintain confidentiality through Zoom.

**b. Private Defender Program** (Rayes)

- Discussed Senate Bills, including one raising the age to 18 for a minor to waive their Miranda rights, and another dealing with the closure of DJJ.
- Office is working overtime to ensure youth are fairly represented and receive best results.

**c. District Attorney's Office** (Baum)

- Everyone has come back to work and the office is fully staffed.
- The DA's office will continue to appear remotely in court.

**d. Behavioral Health & Recovery Services** (Pena & Hoppis)

- Very few youth in hall.
- BHRS is working to provide services to youth remotely.
- Transitions out of juvenile hall are taking longer and BHRS is working with clients even after they leave hall.

**e. County Office of Education** (Littrell)

- 33 students in county schools (Canyon Oaks, Gateway, YSC and Camp Kemp).
- Continuing distance learning until October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Office of Education is working with the teachers' union to ensure transition to in-person learning goes smoothly.

**f. Probation** (Barrack)



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- Currently 16 youth in custody at YSC including 2 girls at Camp Kemp (holding steady at around 16-20 youth during past month).
- No Covid-19 cases.
- Probation is creating a de-escalation room at YSC to help youth self soothe and calm down when stressed.
- Probation officers are in the field, but not entering homes.
- Merging Investigation Unit and Intake Unit because of declining populations.
- Offering WhyTry? curriculum to parents for free.

**V. Inspections Update**

- a. Canyon Oaks inspection was reviewed. Co-Chair Barrack moved to approve the inspection with suggested changes. Commissioner Swope seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.
- b. Commissioner Labouisse reported that the YSC, Camp Kemp and education inspections are in process and should be ready for review at the October meeting.

**VI. Strategic Project Milestone Reviews**

- a. **Develop Truancy Strategy** (Swope)
  - Working on SARB initiative with Carrie Du Bois, who is on the school board for Sequoia Union High School District and also a member of the State SARB.
- b. **Parent Handbook** (Swope)
  - The Parent guidebook almost ready to go.
  - The design is ready to be signed off on.
- c. **Describe Existing Transition Programs** (Labouisse, Telleria)
  - Still investigating and interviewing.
  - Research indicates that it is harder to start up new mental health or substance abuse facilities because of declining youth population at YSC and increased costs.
- d. **Marketing Strategy** (Barrack, Nori)
  - Working on proposal for upgrading the website and reaching out to relevant stake holders.
  - Will use any commission input to complete strategy this month.
  - Would like to fill marketing coordinator position to move execution of the marketing strategy forward.
- e. **Elected Officials** (Bocanegra, Labouisse)
  - Continuing to reach out to more elected officials including school boards and mayors.
  - Making good connections with elected officials through Supervisor Canepa.
- f. **Youth Recruitment** (Wilson, Telleria)



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- Created flyer and reached out to CBOs, volunteer sites, high schools, community colleges, etc.
- Created press release for distribution.
- Working on updating County website

**VII. Youth Commission** (Nori and Willis)

- Working on jump-starting the process of creating a youth court in San Mateo County, which was put on hold because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**VIII. Announcements:** *None*

Meeting adjourned 7:16 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 27, 2020**