



San Francisco Youth Commission

Minutes ~ Draft

Monday, December 4, 2017

5:15 pm~8:00 pm

City Hall, Room 416

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Elsie Lipson, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Conna Chen, Arianna Nassiri, Mary Claire Amable, Kristen Tam, Paola Robles Desgarennnes, Mampu Lona, Mike'l Gregory, Bahlam Vigil, Jarrett Mao, Jonathan Mesler, Chiara Lind, Felix Andam, Zak Franet

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Meeting called to order at 5:15pm by Chair Lind. Commissioners present: Chiara Lind, Elsie Lipson, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Conna Chen, Arianna Nassiri, Mary Claire Amable, Kristin Tam, Bahlam Vigil, Felix Andam, Zak Franet, Jonathan Mesler.

Commissioner Franet, seconded by Commissioner Vigil, motioned to approve Robles and Lona as excused absences. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker, seconded by Commissioner Mesler, motioned to approve Mao and Gregory as excused absences since they gave advanced notice. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Commissioner Andam is running late. Commissioner Lona arrived at 5:41pm.

Staff present: Leah LaCroix, Kiely Hosmon. No public comment.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Tam, seconded by Commissioner Franet, moved to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by acclamation. There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

A. November 6, 2017

[\(Document A\)](#)

Andam arrived at 5:19pm. Commissioner Yu, seconded by Commissioner Amable, motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.



4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)

Teddi Silverman, from SF Collab Against Human Trafficking. Writing and poster contest happening with theme of “open your eyes to the signs of human slavery”. Winners announced at closing event on Feb. 22nd.

Dr. Zachary Marcus, Doctor at UCSF. Offering his time, thoughts on any of the work that you’re doing if it’s helpful to get a medical perspective. Has colleagues that are also interested in helping with policy goals with a medical perspective.

5. Presentations (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Presentation on Non-Citizen Voting in School Board Elections (Prop N, November 2016) Implementation Efforts
Presenters: Hong Mei Pang, Director of Advocacy, and Kenzi Hilario, Dream SF Fellow, Chinese for Affirmative Action
(Document B)

Hong Mei thanks you for your leadership and taking the lead on advocating for youth vote in prior election cycle.

Represents Chinese for Affirmative Action and have been serving Chinese community for over 50 years and works in other ethnic collaborative and focus on immigrant rights and issues.

Background-Prop N passed in 2016 that allows for non citizen parents/guardians to vote in school board elections. This is the third time this has made it on the ballot (2004, 2010, 2016). Passed by popular vote. Previous Supe Eric Mar led the charge with support from Assembly member David Chiu. Would start in 2018 and extend into 2022.

1/3 of SFUSD students are from immigrant families. Prop N is a civil rights victory, ensures equity for immigrant, low income, and limited English proficient (LEP) communities in SFUSD School Board. SF can take the lead in responding directly to threats from Trump Administration to harness community power to implement Prop N.

Where they are now with advocacy efforts:

Working with Supervisor Fewer. The immigration policies that have come down from Trump administration there has been increased enforcement activities and SF is a model for other regions of having a safety net to protect immigrants. Community efforts can offset the risks of implementation process of Prop N. Community voice is so important and that no matter what we are being responsible and responsive to those that are the most marginal.

SF currently engaged in federal lawsuit since we won’t cooperate with ICE. But then we are a target and under a magnifying glass. So with this lawsuit anything can be “sunshinable”. So the city could be asked to provide voter rosters which would then show immigrants information if they register to vote in School board elections. There is a way to implement this while working with the Department of Elections and the question is how. Possibility to delay implementation is being put on the table because of the fears and the risk associated.

Two routes: Implement or Delay.



Implement: ID BOS Champion/Introduce Ordinance->Introduce implementation ordinance->Committee Review->Full board vote to implement via Dept of Elections in 2018->Community Education & Outreach

Delay: Sup Fewer introduce delay ordinance->Committee review->full board vote->June Ballot/voters decide-> 1) if it fails then implementation proceeds-> community education & outreach 2) if it is passed then delays prop implementation->community education & outreach

All arrows point to robust community outreach and education. The community needs to know what to do no matter how the Prop pans out.

SF Youth Commission leadership:

- Partner with community efforts to safely and responsibly implement Prop N in 2018 elections.
- meet with CBOs via Civic Engagement and Immigration Cmte
- Solicit and include community feedback during leg referral process
- Engage CBOs in district level outreach and education on Prop N and immigrant rights
- Provide input on Prop N implementation via youth perspective and leadership

Commissioner Lona arrived at 5:41pm

Commissioner Andam-is there evidence that people would still vote even if it was fully implemented; how is it perceived among undocumented populations and if they would take the risk to vote? Holding town halls to get community input but would be 7th municipality to implement this type of policy. What they have seen is that if even if they don't come out the first time, it puts a structure in place for 2020 and 2022. So it's a phase in implementation. They may decide to not participate this time around, but could participate moving forward. Want to make it as easy as possible to make the choice to participate in voting.

Commissioner Amable-repeat the delayed portion if it fails and passes. Delay would mean to put something on the June ballot. Voters would decide to delay the implementation of non citizen votes. Make a decision, as a city, to either delay it or move it forward.

Commissioner Vigil-excited to see this passed, and angry that cautions weren't being seen. Technically still running the risk since federally undocumented folks can't vote, even if allowed for SFUSD elections. Very real fear of deportation and wants to know why this is the case. CAA is part of local collaborative of D11 working on immigrant issues. Precautions measures-no one anticipated the federal administration that was going to be in place. There is a way to implement this and be responsive to the concerns of undocumented folks. They themselves are angered by the rolling back of rights if Prop N was rolled back. Wants to work with you to engage your community.

Commissioner Vigil-there should have been more precautions in general because Obama had highest deportation rate. SF has given most amount of resources for rapid response network to help support undocumented folks in SF. SF does have a safety net for undocumented folks.

Commissioner Tam-can you clarify how folks could vote in the wrong election? No real mechanism to stop anyone from filling out a registration card for voting. You have to sign an oath that you are a US citizen and are eligible to vote. So some folks may not know they aren't eligible to vote for various reasons. CAA sees community education very important because of examples like these. Have been working with Dept of Elections to be very accessible to limited English proficiency folks. So when someone goes to the poll to cast the vote, a poll worker would give a ballot for you to vote on, so working with DoE of what mechanism is best to have



safe and responsible process. This part is being held up so they can't know how to move forward and need guidance on how to push it forward.

Commissioner Tam-so are you supporting delaying it or continuing it? If delay is what the voters choose they understand that and CAA's role changes.

Commissioner Franet-what other 7 municipalities and have there been backlashes there? Maryland, NY, Chicago and a few other in progressive cities. Each has had successes and challenges. Commissioner Franet-has federal administration gone after these other municipalities? The overarching witch hunt is what they are concerned about but so far hasn't gone after the municipalities. Voter fraud is part of the greater political climate and are worried about.

Commissioner Franet-would both go to ballot? The de facto is implementation. Will this go to ballot no matter what? The delay ordinance would say the implementation process would be delayed until BOS to deem it safe and could have the power to reverse it. Depends on how the ordinance is written and would love to share it with you once she gets it.

Commissioner Andam-believes trump admin is putting emphasis on undoc folks who are criminals as well. So those who are 18 and older and have criminal history would they be allowed to vote. Yes, but they would run the risk of being a target as their info would become visible. Folks who have had run ins with the law get shuffled to a pipeline of experiencing deportation so there is an intersection of immigrant rights and criminal justice. Would still tell population they would be at risk. Would be at higher risk if they cast a vote, but would want to make this info available to the outreach of community members. Commissioner Andam-could they amend the ordinance? Yes BOS could do whatever they want.

No public comment.

6. Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)

Item 6B called out of order.

- B. [First Reading] Resolution 1718-AL-06 [Resolution in Support of Youth Justice Reform]
Sponsor: Justice and Employment Committee
(Document D)

Critical Resistance, Karyn and Andrea, presenting a bit on context. Updated current situation on jail expansion and history of YC's involvement in expansion of SF jail. See handouts.

Sheriff's main desire to replace 850 Bryant and in 2015 BOS voted to reject funding to build a replacement jail in that location. A replacement jail would expand and cement in jail capacity and encourage policing and criminalization of marginalized demographics. Rejection of jail by BOS was seen as vote for alternatives and investments not in incarceration and policing but in other things that support the community. The YC at the time supported voting against the jail replacement. Keeping an eye on the issue and lot of needs for bodies, like the YC, to advocate and continue advocating for things that decarcerate the current population of the jail so the Sheriff has no excuse to try and get another jail open. Looking to try something new at CJ2.



Regardless 850 Bryant has to close as it is a hazard. Campaigns have been able to stop campaigns to get money to construct new things. Whatever gets built would be out of the general fund which would be a decrease in other services.

Creation of a task force in 2016 came up with recommendations that are applicable to the TAY population. Having a task force doesn't mean that it will materialize and there are some recommendations that YC could take up and help push (housing, treatment, direct access to services). TAY is largest population and most amount of days in the jail so YC could help bolster action to implement recommendations.

Recommendations are (see the sheet that they gave out): expansion of child diversion, bail reform and reduction, transparency from police on charging of TAY youth (they are being overcharged), reforms from the DA to not advocate for higher bail levels and cooperate TAY to be released pre trial, transitional housing and long term housing for TAY, classification of TAY as well, look at gang injunctions, could push for no TAY youth to be held.

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker-what is pre trial diversion? It offers various projects to assist TAY to be released pre trial and give services to follow through on court dates without being held. 80% of jail population are there because they can't afford cash bails. So looking at ways to reduce that number.

Commissioner Andam-so instead of building a new jail, take the money for this and put into other community measures to stop people going into jail, so these seem more long term so how would the implementation effort work? Long term necessary and may not have immediate impact but other aspects would be more immediate to address root causes. In short term, could reduce population by 20% which gives more time to implement long term strategies.

Commissioner Franet-850 Bryant would cost more to retrofit than to tear it down. The county has other jails that are active and CR and No New Jail advocate decarcerate enough people so they don't have to add more people to a new jail.

Commissioner Vigil-are TAY who go into jails more susceptible to mental health issues? Yes. Are they more susceptible to sexual harassment and assault? Probably, for exploitation, but don't have firm numbers. But even coming out of the jail they are higher risk. Need specific programs for TAY. Do TAY have higher rates of suicide? TAY with mental health issues have higher rates of suicide.

Resolution read into the record for the first time.

Commissioner Vigil-Police Commission wanted youth there so is it possible to put in the resolution. Commissioner Franet-grey area that would divert the focus of this resolution. Conversation should be had about this at a later time.

Commissioner Andam-Line 14/15 brain development of 25 should add reason why it would impact youth brains so put in why it's important. Yes, Commissioner Franet is pushing this through with getting it done before the holidays. Will have more info on impacts on mental health and tie it to other states increasing rates of ages.

Commissioner Amable-needs footnotes.



Staff-consider putting all examples of what other states/cities are doing together to be more impactful of others taking the lead.

Public Comment-Kayai, fresh out of TAY and impacted by jail system, from Young Women's Freedom Center, also LGBTQ, gender non-conforming. Would love to be a part of the subgroup/task force to create changes. Kayai shared experience in jail: no contact with people, trauma is real, when got out had PTSD, couldn't sleep, best that the money go towards our communities create and design to support youth who can regain and reengage back into the society. Thanks to all YC for their work on this issue.

Ashley-Young Women's Freedom Center, housing is main and biggest issues of 18-25 as there is no transitional housing for this range, and even harder for those who have been incarcerated. Still issues with court and being an adult. Need to support the youth in this area and get orgs for people who have been incarcerated so they don't go back. Also need support for those who are this age range who have children. At the Center they are leadership and advocacy group and have Sisters Rising group and would be good program for TAY who have been incarcerated. Also ties into issues of transportation and access to food as well. Appreciate the YC being a voice for the people.

Another public commenter-YWFC really wanting to change how young people are raised. Echo's what Ashley said and think about what the YC voice can do and how are we going about making changes so that everyone is being provided for. These jails don't uplift us or help us heal. What happens if you are in wrong place wrong time and you're taken in, what if instead of going to jail you went to a holistic healing place. Job preparedness important and taking leadership in organizations. Let's take them to a farm and learn how to grow their own food and be realistic about jail impact on youth.

Called item 6A and resuming order of the agenda.

- A. [Third Reading] Resolution 1718-AL-04 [Resolution to Support the Erection of the Comfort Women Statue in St. Mary's Square]
Sponsor: Commissioner Mao
(Document C)

Read the resolution into the record for the third time. They do have updates/edits but did not inform staff they had done so so no updated draft available at this time. This isn't fully updated version so some things will be changed.

Commissioner Amable motions to include amendments to page 1 line 16 to put in more numbers/data. Amendment 2 is to include experiences of another survivor on page 2 to go right after line 8. Amendment 3 is to change victim to survivor. Commissioner Franet seconds it. No public comment.

Roll Call vote: unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Franet, seconded by Commissioner Vigil, motion to approve the resolution as a whole. Motion approved by acclamation.

- C. Discussion on Youth Experience of Open Space in San Francisco
Presenter: Commissioner Amable
(Document E)



SOMCAN is doing research under a national organization. Conducting research on pedestrian safety, open space, and housing. Specifically wants to discuss open space with YC. Wants to know how to make SOMA more livable for children and families.

Question 1-Commissioner Lind goes to the beaches to walk dogs. Sitting areas, natural beauties with plants, water. Commissioner Tam-GGP, Fort Funston, isolation away from the city to have quiet space away from cars, people and buildings; trees and parks. Andam-skate park. Franet-Bodecker park doing ping pong; Sunday Streets in the TL, TL national forest, civic center plaza spaces. Tam-also yerba Buena park. Vigil-in excelsior the pool that hasn't opened yet, strolling by Balboa or Excelsior Park; take smaller kids to the playgrounds.

How you use the parks? Lind walks her dogs, Franet does ping pong, rec activities, games, Yu used to give tours and attend community events, gathering area for communities, sweeping/clean ups, karaoke or dancing outside

How often do you go to the park/open space? Lind 4 times a week, Franet once a week, Andam once every two months (not on Treasure Island a lot and doesn't really like being outside), Tam once a week, Nassiri once every day.

How do you travel to the park? Lind walks, Vigil walk (5 min), Franet there should be a park within 10 minutes in any part of SF, Franet 1 minute, Tam 7 minutes.

How are these spaces occupied? Franet mostly children and families from community, Civic Center rarely sees family in plaza and mostly those not in SF, Vigil-construction a lot and filled with graffiti and filled with adults and teens doing illicit stuff so only child friendly at a certain hour, Tam has kids at hers so not always open because other teens are using the fields or school kids use it because school near by

How do you feel about the amount of accessible open space in SoMa/downtown? Franet there should be more, Andam lots of open space and should lease out more to businesses and if we support capitalism we support our future, Tam they should be cleaner and safer, Vigil more space needed to communicate with other youth that are focused on hanging out or space reserved for youth to have fun, Franet agrees about safety but dynamic then comes up about drug and alcohol use and so how do we make them safe and not criminalize the people who are there

Vision of open space in SoMa/SF if no constraints? Andam would go to something with as many businesses as possible, food trucks, less regulations, likes being surrounded by people and not nature, Lona cool to have parks on top of buildings, Nassiri promote eco awareness and eco tourism plant indigenous plants from CA, Tam colorful, lots of trees, water, Franet, water and built in activity spaces, play structures that are geared towards children, teens, and adults, Yu activities that are accessible to seniors to get out there to be actively moving, enough seating for everyone to sit down since adults are supervising youth need more seats, Andam wants vending machine, Nassiri have local food vendors.

How do you feel about private and public space public and private? Franet likes both and city should invest in open spaces for its residences and a certain impact could create other spaces in their portfolios, Vigil Excelsior holds private funding for donations, Franet our parks have most private funding, Vigil it works because Parks and Rec depends on money and it changes every year so having private funding can help be maintained,



How do PoPos work? Westfield has one. When there are tall buildings they have to compensate to assist the community so people in the public have to have access to the space. Majority of PoPos people don't know about or you need ID or restricted elevators or security guard, so there are hoops to get into them. Privately owned publicly opened space. POPOs. So each development needs to give a portion of green space and option of putting money towards existing open spaces or they could build their own on site open to the public, but there are some restrictions to getting there. Tam-could we push for them to fund local parks instead of making their own? Commissioner Amable-thinks it's a loophole and not the best course of action.

Commissioner Andam-do they have vending machines at those parks. Give Commissioner Andam a list of the Popos.

Do you think POPOS play role for SOMA folks? Commissioner Franet, probably not.

No public comment.

D. Discussion on Possible Holiday Party
Presenter: Executive Committee

Who can't make Dec 18th? Franet can make meeting but not party.
Plan to host party after the Dec 18th meeting.

Activities have to be contained in the room so no hide and go seek or tag.
White Elephant option with price of what you're willing to spend or green elephant to regift. Cap is \$10 and can choose between white and green elephant. Will gift giving be against their chartered duties? Leah will look into this.

Email Lisa or anyone on EC for help in planning holiday party.
Chiara will be sending out a doc regarding potluck options. Staff will provide a few things from YC budget.

No public comment.

7. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)

A. Executive Committee

Holiday party and buddy system. If no one has reached out to you then there job to reach out to you.

B. Housing, Environment and City Services Committee

Researched different priorities and presented them to each other.

C. Justice and Employment Committee

Working on resolution and someone from OEWD present next meeting.

D. Civic Engagement and Immigration Committee



Mid Point check in for voter pre reg stuff on Wednesday.

E. Our Children Our Family Council

No meetings yet.

8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

- Mid-Year Retreat is January 13-14th and looking for folks to join Budget (Felix, Jonny), Research (Arianna, Kristen), or Icebreaker (Chiara, Lisa, Claire) teams.
- Huckleberry is looking for a youth speaker to talk to youth at their programs to be more involved in the community on Tuesday, December 5th at 5:30pm. Commissioner Vigil is taking the lead
- Please keep the YC office clean and tidy. It is not up to the YC staff to do this for you.
- There is a meeting for full YC December 18th and Tuesday, January 2nd. Everyone should be able to make the 18th and so far Tam and Vigil can't make the 2nd.
- Folks still need to turn in their orientation paperwork. You have one more month to get it all filled out, if not, then you will have to stay after the mid year retreat and get it done.
- Rickie is our new YouthWorks intern
- Kittens are up for adoption in Supervisor Tang's office.
- Proposed hearing on municipal and public bank. Should staff keep an eye on this? Commissioner say yes
- Leah will be out from December 7th and returning December 18th

9. Announcements (This Includes Community Events)

Market meetings on Sunday in the SOMA. Ask Commissioner Amable for more info.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.