

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION



JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
5:30 p.m.
City Hall, Hearing Room 408
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Commissioners

Susan Jones, President
Joseph Arellano, Vice President
Julian Chang
Gabe Harp
Annie Wong
Rebecca Woodson

Meeting Minutes

Proceedings:

1. Roll Call:
President Jones called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
Present: Joseph Arellano; Gabe Harp; Susan Jones; Annie Wong and Rebecca Woodson.
Julian Chang was excused.

Others Present:
Chief Probation Officer: Allen Nance
2. No Public Comments.
3. Approval of the Full Commission Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2014.
Motion to approve the Full Commission meeting minutes of April 9, 2014 by
Commissioner Harp; second by Commissioner Woodson.
AYES; Arellano; Harp; Jones; Wong and Woodson. Minutes approved.
No public comments.
4. Juvenile Advisory Council (JAC) Presentation by Ricardo Garcia-Acosta,
JAC Youth Development Specialist/Coordinator (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Mr. Garcia-Acosta was accompanied by JAC: Kimberly Butler; Jesus Martinez; Dillon
Martinez; Lorena Flores; and Tina Ding. Mr. Garcia-Acosta said that JAC supports youths on
probation because they too have gone through the system.
JAC focuses on three areas: First, the Saturday probation orientations, held the first Saturday
of each month. They discuss conditions of probation, what is expected and how to access
Community Based Organization (CBO's). JAC guides youths through probation and provides
them with the right tools while on and after probation. An exit interview is conducted to see

what helps youths through probation to determine "best practices." A 2009-2012 study tracked 400 youths that went through the orientation and it showed an impact on recidivism. Second, JAC focuses on school-based and community presentations. JAC discusses the juvenile justice system; how to avoid it; and how to make right choices. Third, JAC is involved in projects through the Department where they share their experiences. These projects include: the annual job fair, annual camping trip, teen outdoor experience, and other projects. Mr. Garcia-Acosta said they are a support system of peers. They motivate and talk to youths so that they do well with their PO's plan.

Commissioner Wong asked about JAC's recruitment process. Mr. Garcia-Acosta said they have an application process to determine experience, such as what they did to overcome probation and their ability to reach youths, and two to three PO's help with the hiring process.

Commissioner Harp said that "best practices" is really important to everyone, which is what JAC is doing, and to continue trying new approaches. Mr. Garcia-Acosta said they are always trying to evolve to have a better impact on kids.

President Jones asked how JAC is involved with youths once they leave probation and what are the biggest success factors. Mr. Garcia-Acosta said that through the exit process and databases, they reach out to see how youths are doing with the PO's plan, and ask if they need assistance or resources.

No public comments.

5. Green Streets Presentation by Tyrone Mullins, Shannon Watts & Dublandu Alemu, Green Streets Founders (DISCUSSION ONLY)

David Mauroff gave an overview of how Green Streets evolved. His company, McCormick, Barron, and Madge, manages three public housing projects in SF and faced two challenges: they were mandated to recycle and compost; and to meet the zero waste goals. They were not meeting these goals and faced fines from DPH and Recology. When a solar installation company installed solar panels at one of the projects, they hired some of the residents. After the completion of the installation, Tyrone Mullins spoke with David and said that he wanted to work. With the growing pressure from DPH and Recology, David asked him to come up with a business plan to manage waste and David's company could offer them support to start their own social enterprise. Green Streets was born out of a need and desperation. David's company tried working with other companies, but failed, until Green Streets came along.

President Jones said that she was so inspired by the Green Streets documentary, she invited them to share their story in May with the youths at JJC.

Tyrone Mullins discussed how Green Streets got started. After coming home from prison in 2009, he was given the opportunity to be a part of the solar installation in his neighborhood and was excited because this was his first opportunity to work. He did well on the job, but it ended after three months, just as he was getting used to his paycheck. Eager to continue working, he met with David to discuss the recycling problems at the housing project and the blue print for Green Streets evolved. This was the outlet he needed. They recruited people from opposing neighborhoods, which was challenging because these neighborhoods never intertwined, and they started working in Hayes Valley, Plaza East and Bernal Dwellings. Within the first six month, 50% of the trash was going into the proper receptacles. They took classes to better prepare themselves and educated their community.

Dublandu Alemu said that Green Streets has now expanded to Richmond and West Oakland. In addition, they are in discussions to work with the Sunnydale, Alice Griffith and Garden projects; SF MTA; City of Sacramento; and the state of Atlanta.

Shannon Watts said that they took the facilitator's training, Wellness Recovery Action Plan, which is a plan to help people get through day-to-day obstacles. In addition, they give back to their community with mental health services.

James Riley said Green Streets does three things: janitorial services, using green products only; recycling and compost; and beautification of the grounds. The main source of income is through sorting for the zero-waste initiative.

Grant Goughley, Jr., thanked Green Streets for saving his life and their loyalty.

Commissioner Harp congratulated Green Streets on their success.

President Jones congratulated and thanked them for speaking to the JJC youths. The youths were engaged and identified with the members of Green Streets. She also asked what advice they could give the Commission to help these youths. Mr. Mullins said that collaborative efforts and community outreach has inspired them to give back. President Jones would like to continue the relationship with Green Streets to create jobs for youths exiting the system.

Chief Nance also thanked Green Streets not only for their commitment to themselves, but their commitment to the youths at Juvenile Hall. These youths face tremendous challenges without the support of the community and hopes to discuss ways of getting these youths into Green Streets.

President Jones also thanked Mr. Mauroff for helping make Green Streets happen.

No further public comments.

6. Report to the Commission (DISCUSSION ONLY)

a. Chief's Report:

- SF Bar Association beautification project at Log Cabin Ranch (LCR)
On May 17th, twenty-five SF Bar Association attorneys and LCR youths participated in a successful gardening, planting, and barbeque event. The attorneys were inspired by this event and would like to return to LCR. Chief Nance formally acknowledged Julie Tron, Director of Programs with the SF Bar Association.
- Presentation to European Association for Forensic Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Chief Nance discussed collaboration with Juvenile Justice systems in the United States. Psychiatrist, George Forrest, an employee of the Health Department and Juvenile Hall, also attended.
- BayCat – Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) video project
BayCat has a sophisticated audio/visual training and project management programs for youths. They will help develop the video to orient youths as they enter juvenile hall. JAC is also helping with the development of the video.
- County and Court School Graduation (Woodside Learning Center, LCR, and SF Success Center) at City Hall
Chief Nance acknowledged Liz Jackson-Simpson, Executive Director, SF Success Center for her leadership and efforts to coordinate this yearly event. He said that twenty-eight youths graduated this year.
- Site visit to George Junior Republic (GJR)
George Junior Republic is an out-of-home placement facility, located in Grove City, Pennsylvania, and is used for youths when needs cannot be met locally. Three of the ten youths placed in the facility, were graduating from the program, and Chief Nance attended the ceremony. Chief Nance spoke with the youths and was pleased to see how well they were doing; what vocational programs were available; and viewed the residential model, a place where house parents actually live. There were over 525 youths in the facility and the facility was at capacity during the visit. The youths are thriving in this type of setting. They are learning new skills, such as masonry, carpentry, welding, automotive repair, and other programs, including an equestrian program with 17 horses that the young men care for. Chief Nance intends to visit all sites where youths are placed and feels it is important for probation managers to see the facilities that provide residential care to their youths. Probation Officers visit each youth in out-of-home placement monthly.
President Jones asked how the Commission can support the SF Bar Association beautification project at LCR to make this an annual event. Chief Nance said that he has a meeting scheduled with Julie Tron to discuss this further.
President Jones also asked about the house parents at George Junior Republic and how

it worked. Chief Nance said they moved to the house model because GJR was concerned with the changing shifts. A lot was being lost in the transition. The house parents create consistency and stability because they live there. The parents live in a separate wing, are off at night and staff supervises the youths while they sleep.

- Public comments:

Liz Jackson-Simpson, Executive Director, Success Center SF, thanked Chief Nance and the Commission for their support. She said this year marked the 16th graduation and the 10th at City Hall. The GED curriculum changed significantly this year and is being aligned with common core standards to better prepare youths. Success Center SF taught teachers from three counties how to prepare for this new GED curriculum.

Beatrice Duncan, Vice-President of the Board, Success Center SF, spoke of the graduation in May and how honored she is to be part of the organization. She said it is rewarding to see proud parents watching their children graduate and the youths being recognized by Supervisor London Breed and the president of the SFUSD. She thanked Chief Nance and looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Department.

Vicky Rega, President of the Board, Success Center SF, discussed the new GED curriculum and how they are putting together a testing center with the new computer model at SF Success Center, as well as getting GED testing and proctors in juvenile hall.

Robin Sonin, Executive Director and Founder, Each One, Reach One, discussed the changes with Federal laws. She said they have been providing services to the boys' maximum security unit at JJC for the past 14 years and providing one-on-one GED tutoring for these youths for the past six years.

- b. Committee Reports:

President Jones said the Ad Hoc JPC Retreat Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis, working on the retreat content, and preparing for the final Commissioner to be appointed. The Committee is making good progress and will be putting together a binder, which will also be an online tool.

No public comments.

7. Future Agenda Items (ACTION ITEM)

- President Jones asked the Commission to think about off-site locations for future JPC meetings. She said that Commissioner Chang was looking into the Sunset District and she will look into Japan Town.
- No public comments.

8. President Jones adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

For more information, contact the Commission Secretary at 415-753-7870 or visit:

Juvenile Probation Commission: <http://sfgov3.org/index.aspx?page=542>

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