

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION



PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING
Programs Committee Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2019
2:30 p.m.

Juvenile Probation Department
375 Woodside Avenue, Main Conference Room
San Francisco, CA 94127

Commissioners

Suzy Jones, Chair
Toye Moses
James Spingola
Rebecca Woodson

Meeting Minutes

Proceedings:

1. Roll Call
Commissioner Jones called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m.
Present: Susan Jones; Toye Moses; James Spingola; and Rebecca Woodson.
Others Present: Allen Nance, Chief Probation Officer; Paula Hernandez, Assistant Chief Probation Officer; and Luis Recinos, Juvenile Hall Director.
2. No Public Comments.
3. Review and Approval of the Programs Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2018 (ACTION ITEM)
Motion to approve by Commissioner Woodson; second by Commission Moses.
Ayes (4): Susan Jones; Toye Moses; James Spingola; and Rebecca Woodson.
4. Update on Expanded Service Options for Short-term Commitments to Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) by Allen Nance, Chief Probation Officer (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Chief Nance said Log Cabin Ranch (LCR) discussions have ceased and conversations are now focused on the future of Juvenile Hall and the Blue Ribbon Task Force, created by Mayor Breed, to determine the utilization and feasibility of Juvenile Hall. Chief Nance believes there is a need for youths in Juvenile Hall, which would keep youths closer to their families and said the Department will continue to work through programming, as directed by the Mayor. Mr. Recinos added that the Department has started discussions with CBO's to address different components to work with community partners.

5. Update on Budget Request for Additional Flexible Beds to Meet the Needs of Youth with Mental Health Issues at JPD by Sandra Dalida, Deputy Director of Administration, and Paula Hernandez, Assistant Chief Probation Officer (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Assistant Chief Hernandez said the request is still pending. She added that the Department had an urgent need for funding for a specialized acute mental health treatment program and Director Dalida secured funding for one youth, through LCR funding.
Chief Nance said he met with Max Rocha, Acting Director, DCYF, DPH, and expressed the need for clinical psychiatric hospital beds for youths within Juvenile Hall. In addition, Chief Nance said they have explored Education Resources Augmentation Fund (ERAF) funding, recommended by Commissioner Montejano; they have contacted local hospitals to identify the feasibility of available beds in an emergency; and he met with Grant Colfax, Director, who was responsive to cause. Chief Nance said the Board of Supervisors would like more data to show the need for the level of psychiatric resources the Department is requesting. Mona Tahsini, Director, SPY, DPH said that capturing more data for this need is needed.
No further public comments.
6. Discuss Strategic Options to Address Gaps in Services for Youth with Mental Health Issues in the Juvenile Justice System by Allen Nance, Chief Probation Officer (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Chief Nance elaborated on the progress met since the 03-27 Programs Committee meeting. He said the Department has been able to develop local psychiatric facilities that have been able to serve youths on a short-term basis; and said they identified a facility in Southern California that deals with youths in the justice system and that have severe psychiatric needs. Assistant Chief Hernandez discussed her visit at the Southern California facility; she said the typical length of stay for a youth is two weeks.
Commissioner Spingola recommended having a discussion with the Department of Public Health to outline the mental health needs for youths in detention.
Robin Sohnen, Success Center/Each One Reach One, said kids experience a lot of trauma and are getting the least experienced practitioners available. She said kids need the most experienced, most knowledgeable practitioners.
No further public comments.
7. Overview of Current and Future Use of and Programing for the Resource Center by Luis Recinos, Juvenile Hall Director (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Director Recinos said the resource center is currently not in use. He said the coding program; Project Pull; writing program; are now available in the units and Merit Center. He said they are looking to add vocational programs for detainees and want to create a positive atmosphere in the units and Merit Center.
Robin Sohnen, Success Center/Each One Reach One, expressed programming has always been an issue for revolving youths.
8. Proposed Closure of Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) by Programs Committee (DISCUSSION ONLY)
Commissioner Woodson asked Chief Nance to brief the Committee on the upcoming proposed closure of JJC. Chief Nance said he learned of proposal last week and said the discussion to close JJC is because juvenile crime is down in California and the cost to care per child in SF has doubled in the past 10 years. Chief Nance said Mayor Breed has asked the Department to look at broader perspectives regarding the needs at Juvenile Hall and look at what opportunities exist for juvenile justice reform to continue to better serve youths in the justice system. The proposed ordinance is requesting the closure of JJC by December 2021.
Commissioner Spingola would like to see more Commissioners on Blue Ribbon Panel.
Commissioner Jones would like the Board of Supervisors to develop policies from keeping kids from entering the system.
Commissioner Moses asked if Chief Nance could advocate for two Commissioners on Panel.
Robin Sohnen, Success Center/Each One Reach One, said the proposal is very complicated

to make arbitrary decisions on without having a back-up plan.

Dinky Enty, Deputy Director, Center on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CJCJ), appreciates the concern of the Department and Commission to protect public safety and youths, but would like to see partnerships so the youths are heard.

No future public comments.

9. Future Agenda Items (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Jones suggested Grant Colfax with DPH present a future Full Commission meeting.

10. Adjournment (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

For more information, contact the Commission Secretary at 415-753-7870 or visit (copy & paste links):
<http://sfgov3.org/index.aspx?page=542><https://sfgov.org/juvprobation/juvenile-probation-commission>
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