



**San Francisco Youth Commission**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Minutes ~ Draft**  
**Wednesday, May 11th, 2021**  
**5:00-6:30 PM**

**Public Comment Call-in:**  
**+1-415-655-0001**  
United States, San Francisco (Toll)  
**Conference ID: 187 540 5504**

*There will be public comment on each item.*

Members: Nora Hylton (Chair), Amara Santos (Vice Chair), Calvin Quick (Legislative Affairs Officer), Arsema Asfaw (Comms Officer), Adrianna Zhang (Comms Officer)

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Vice Chair Santos called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm. Quorum is met. Commissioner Hylton is running late.

**Roll Call Attendance:**

Nora Hylton, not present  
Amara Santos, present  
Calvin Quick, present  
Arsema Asfaw, present  
Adrianna Zhang, present

**2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)**

No public comment. Commissioner Asfaw motions to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Zhang. Motion passes by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Hylton logged on at 5:11pm.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Nora Hylton, aye  
Amara Santos, aye



Calvin Quick, aye  
Arsema Asfaw, aye  
Adrianna Zhang, aye

**3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**

- A. April 28th, 2021  
[\(Document A\)](#)

No public comment. Commissioner Quick motions to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Zhang. Motion passes by a roll call vote.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Nora Hylton, aye  
Amara Santos, aye  
Calvin Quick, aye  
Arsema Asfaw, aye  
Adrianna Zhang, aye

**4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (2 minutes per public comment)**

No public comment.

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

- A. Team Building Activity

Commissioners engaged in a check-in question.

- B. Review Commission attendance

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Excused Absence</b>	<b>Unexcused Absence</b>	<b>Tardy</b>
FYC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sarah G. (1)</li><li>• Sarah C. (1)</li><li>• Amara S. (2)</li><li>• Erika M. (2)</li><li>• Rome J. (2)</li><li>• Rocky V.(1)</li><li>• Valentina A. (1)</li><li>• Gracie V. (1)</li><li>• Nora H. (1)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sarah G. (1)</li><li>• Ariana A. (2)</li></ul>	



EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adrianna Z. (2)</li> </ul>		
CEC			
HLU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erika M. (1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erika M. (1)</li> </ul>	
TJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rome J. (1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amara S. (1)</li> </ul>	

C. Debrief Full YC from May 3rd, 2021

- it was a long meeting...4 hours

Commissioner Quick: review of YC legislation

Commissioner Santos: TAY NAV presentation was cool, it was great to be able to hear about their services. It's important we know they exist, but also build strong and authentic relationships with them. I'd like to hear more from the youth that reside there.

Commissioner Zhang: if i could label that presentation, i'd say strange. simply because it felt off. I'm wondering why people on the commission didn't agree with the collective? I talked to arsema and she said something about transportation. Can someone fill me in on the backstory?

Commissioner Santos: I can speak to that bc it was my big concern. When Jason presented last year, hybrid participation wasn't a thing - I was saying if you want folks from all over the state and they're undocumented, how will you plan to protect them and support them. His response sounded like they'd figure it out later and to me that sounds like a red flag. What I did see from the slides, I felt like the bills they laid out were missing a racial justice lens. I didn't see more information about how they can be more inclusive.

Commissioner Asfaw: I can speak to why I said no. I'm a little confused about the state wide YC and this empowerment collective, not sure if one was dropped for the other. I felt like the presentation was missing information, I don't blame the presenter because it seemed like they were just filling in. I also felt like the state wide leg, the YC could do through the ad hoc committee vs joining a different collective. I also don't have the capacity to review statewide bills all the time.

Commissioner Quick: I don't have a lot to add. I think Amara summed up the history, I would add to the background on why this presentation happened in the first place. A year and a half ago the YC voted to cosponsor and work with TASK and a few other orgs on this bill to create a



state wide YC. This is something that is still happening. Jason Chen was part of the work on this initial bill and then he organized to work on the empowerment collective for this specific initiative. and then covid happened and the original bill got shelved for this year. And when the EC started to open up again they decided to broaden their work and didn't communicate that with staff or me. I don't fault them for that because the YC has very strange rules around what we can endorse, but this is the reason why they came back to us and presented it to the EC. I agree with Arsema that it would've been great if Jason could've been there because he knows the most about the history. This is why they were on our agenda. To be transparent, this is not really changing the level of engagement that the YC puts into this collective. Kudos to Adrianna for joining on the behalf of YC. We don't have to sign off on everything This is not the most ideal relationship, but it is something the YC committed to.

Commissioner Hylton: I wasn't at the last meeting and am wondering what has changed from the original meeting to now.

Commissioner Zhang: from what i understand Jason was supposed to present, couldn't make it, and then sent someone in his place. Does that mean that my role is to rep on behalf of all youth in CA?

Commissioner Quick: you're more like a liaison and you're the YC rep. What makes it easier is that the YC position will always be what we have voted to support. I will communicate to Jason that this commitment ends with this legislative session.

Commissioner Asfaw: I wanted to add on and talk in a broader sense about participation. One thing I've noticed is that we'll have discussion about things after we voted on things. I don't know how to combat this or articulate it, and I know there's a sense that we should vote yes on everything. But I also want to name that we don't have to sign up for things that we don't know the full answer to.

Commissioner Quick: to add, this goes into the discussion we've had before when folks disagree on something and then we talk about it after the fact. Perhaps, i get the impression and idk how to solve it, but as the YC we are encouraged to agree with each other and be on the same page. I think this is not always gonna be the case. Ultimately we are a group of people that represent different identities and backgrounds and we feel like we can't disagree in public. this is problematic because this isnt true

Staff: where do you feel like this encouragement comes from?

Commissioner Quick: I think it comes from a few places. Occasionally from staff (not personally), but how staff approaches learning and youth development. There is an innate tension between the principles of forming cohesion and the fundamental reality that we are a commission that will disagree with each other and this is our job. This is also part of the difficulty of building relationships with people and then disagreeing with them in this formal way.



Commissioner Zhang: Also, part of the reason why I noticed we discuss things after the fact is because we don't utilize the discussion portion as best we can. Part of this is because we're online.

Commissioner Santos: I agree, I chaired and I feel like I asked about discussion and folks just don't respond. We have this conversation a lot. What Calvin said, there's this discomfort to disagree. We voted on Muni and Valentina voted No and I wanted to know why. Sometimes I feel like we vote individualistically. I heard Calvin's point about having a conversation about why people vote the way they do. It can feel disjointed sometimes. If I chaired more regularly, I don't think it's my responsibility to read all the social cues. I think we need to practice more directness. I do it a lot, I know Rome in TJ does it a lot. I know we can only do so much and can't h

Commissioner Hylton: I disagree with you Amara, while I do think people can be individualistic, I think people default on to yes. and I think the default should be no. A no vote doesn't mean we hate it, I think it means like we don't agree or agree with an aspect. I remember from a first meeting - I do think

Commissioner Santos: I feel like no has no other connotation other than just NO. Part of it is critical thinking skills and you can't really teach people that.

Commissioner Zhang: Is there something we can do about this? to prompt discussion? or encourage more folks to speak up?

Commissioner Asfaw: I think it's not something you can teach. at a certain point it's like you're here because you have a job. If you can't do your job then why are you here. When you're repping youth in SF the best thing you can do is think for yourself and consider your experiences. I think one thing we can do is just be honest about the conversations we're having here and be upfront about this. I think folks have a misconception that EXEC members feel super comfortable and that's not true. I get so nervous. I don't think this is anyone's fault, it's just something that is.

Commissioner Quick: Amara the chat has started a queue. Yes to what Arsema has said. Respecting that we don't have the same identities and backgrounds. it's a combination of what I think and also with respect by being transparent. Being in EXEC for 3 years now, there is a trend of regular dissent in my first year. At first it felt awkward but we'd also try to time manage bc it takes up time. Staff have said, don't repeat stuff which I think comes from a place of efficiency but it does have the effect that it encourages people not to speak and I think it hinders the ability of people to speak in general. but idk, there is some value in just letting people talk more.

Commissioner Hylton: Also the nature of our work, we don't get paid and people have other things to do so after 2 hours it's like..... I have things to do. BOS has 8 hour meetings and in recent years, our meetings have been presentation heavy. So I think what we can do is include



time in the agenda for discussion or just limit the amount of presentations we hear or pack in the agenda.

Problem solving & Next steps:

- be more direct in meetings
- continue to encourage people to speak even if things have been said
- ask for verbal comments → like no discussion
  - framing it around “i have no discussion”
- in the future, restructuring MYR and orientation (Arsema available to support)
- EXEC can model - “i'm voting yes because... “
- Kudos to Amara for always setting the example of voting no and being direct

D. [Input] Full Youth Commission FAQ Sheet  
Presenter: Staff Estrada

Notes:

- add in “definitons” of yes, no votes
- add in tips for discussion
- add in language around disagreement and non violent communication.

This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

E. [Discussion] Support for the FREESF Campaign

Is there capacity from folks on this committee?

- Commissioner Santos - not rn, but maybe in the near future around May
- Commissioner Zhang - me too, but if it were to come up in the summer I'd be able to support
- Commissioner Asfaw - next week I'm free, but busy until mid june
- Commissioner Hylton - same

Commissioners Jayden, Sarah C, and Calvin can lead for the first month and then folks can join later on.

F. Review of Updates on Commission Outreach and Communications

Presenters: Arsema Asfaw & Adrianna Zhang, Communication and Outreach Officers

- YC podcast grant was approved, full \$10,000
- We identified topics we're talking about and brainstorming
- final appreciation s for lesly bc it's her last day

G. Review of recent youth-related Board of Supervisors legislation

Presenter: Calvin Quick, Legislative Affairs Officer



- 2 pieces of leg last week that are relevance to the YC and will likely be heard in the coming meetings
  - BOS File No. 210494 - Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Police Department to consult with the District Attorney ("DA") on all juvenile delinquency cases under California Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 651, and provide the DA the opportunity to commence proceedings in the juvenile delinquency court in the San Francisco Superior Court.
  - BOS File No. 210496 - [Health Code - Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Warning for Advertisements] - in litigation, more information to come.
  - Mayor's budget drops on June 1st, 2021.

#### H. Committee reports

##### a. Civic Engagement Committee

- i. for CEC we spent a majority of our meetings just working out the logistics for surveying. We will have surveys that will give us data about the effectiveness of a 3rd campaign for Vote16
- ii. Timeline: launch the survey before this term ends, next term will digest and move the data
- iii. We are hiring people for the creation of the survey questions and we are developing the outcomes

##### b. Housing and Land Use Committee

- i. We looked over the abolition youth guide and discussed it and shared ideas

##### c. Transformative Justice Committee

- i. training from the DOPE Project on how to use Narcan (prevents overdose on the consumption of opioids)
- ii. TAY Services and Outcomes - pretrial diversion - presented on the jist of their program and how they are

#### I. Approve Agenda for May 17th, 2021 Full YC Meeting

No public comment. Commissioner Quick motions to approve the agenda with the following changes:

- Request CART legislation and put on the consent calendar and place items 7A & 7C resolutions under consent calendar at the beginning of the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hylton.

Motion passes by a roll call vote.

#### 6. Staff Report

- Youth Vaccination Town Hall - tonight - details via email
- Anyone available tomorrow at 3:30 for about 30 mins to pitch the YC to a group of service providers? (DCYF is hosting)



- none from EXEC, except for Adrianna
- Commissioner Quick: request to bring up about our BPPs and discussion about formalizing our BPPs for this year - from an updating omnibus perspective and institutional memory purpose (discussion and updates from staff)

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm

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City Hall, Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone: (415) 554-6446, Fax: (415) 554-6140  
Email: [youthcom@sfgov.org](mailto:youthcom@sfgov.org)  
[www.sfgov.org/yc](http://www.sfgov.org/yc)

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Sunshine Ordinance Task Force  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Phone: (415) 554-7724, Fax: (415) 554-5784



Email: [sotf@sfgov.org](mailto:sotf@sfgov.org)

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AVISO EN ESPAÑOL: La solicitud para un traductor debe recibirse antes de mediodía de el viernes anterior a la reunion. Llame a Derek Evans (415) 554-7702.

Paunawa: Ang mga kahilingan ay kailangang matanggap sa loob ng 48 oras bago mag miting upang matiyak na matutugunan ang mga hiling. Mangyaring tumawag kay Joy Lamug sa (415) 554-7712.

翻譯 必須在會議前最少四十八小時提出要求  
請電 (415) 554-7719