



**San Francisco Youth Commission
Executive Committee
Minutes ~ Draft
Wednesday, September 23rd, 2020
5:00-6:30 PM**

**Public Comment Call-in:
+1 415-906-4659
United States, San Francisco (Toll)
Conference ID: 159 759 377#**

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm by Vice Chair Santos. Commissioners present: Nora Hylton, Amara Santos, Calvin Quick, Arsema Asfaw, Adrianna Zhang

Staff present: Itzel Estrada, Austin Truong, Kiely Hosmon & Evelyn Pedraza. Quorum is met.

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

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

No public comment. Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Hylton, moved to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by roll call vote:

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



3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

A. July 15th, 2020
[\(Document A\)](#)

No public comment. Commissioner Asfaw motions to approve of July 15th, 2020 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Zhang. The motion passes by 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

The Commissioners engaged in a team building activity of “Guess that Work Station”.

B. Review Commission attendance

Committee	Excused Absence	Unexcused Absence	Tardy
FYC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah G. (1) 	
EC			
CEC			
HLU			
TJ		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amara Santos (1) 	



C. Debrief Full YC from September 14th, 2020

Staff Estrada offers this as a place for reflection and opportunity to discuss strategies on making Commission meetings more accessible, efficient, or orderly.

Commissioner Santos- Last meeting was too long and someone had mispronounced my last name to Sanchez.

Staff Truong - we can ask commissioners to share their phonetic pronunciations of their name before FYC meeting starts.

Commissioner Hylton- Ask to repeat full first and last name before a FYC roll call meeting.

Commissioner Hylton - can we implement/standardize a 2 min break every hour?

Staff Estrada - EC can also be mindful when approving of agenda

Commissioner Quick - We can give ballpark scheduled breaks especially for guest speakers.

Staff Estrada - The agenda was updated last minute and the bylaws were not fully accounted for.

Commissioner Quick- We should decide or not if we are going to vote for the recess but it is counter to many public record keeping.

Staff Estrada - We will roll call votes for everything and suggest motions for breaks.

Staff Truong - It depends on how long roll call votes are, we should factor in additional time for guest presenters.

Staff Estrada - We can time items for next Monday's agenda.

Commissioner Zhang- First FYC was long but didn't mind because it is a big priority for me but I recommend to stay as close to the time. I thought it was inconvenient to read bylaws out loud, is it required?

Staff Estrada - It is required for parliament procedure.

Commissioner Quick- is there an updated version of this rule?

Staff Estrada - From my understanding yes because we have done this in the past.

Commissioner Quick- If we can ask the clerks before the reading that would be efficient



Commissioner Santos- I reached out to the new commissioners and had similar feelings to

Commissioner Zhang- regarding the formality and longevity of the meeting. Maybe we can find ways to put a disclaimer before an item on the agenda.

Commissioner Hylton - I agree, most meetings are not too long.

Commissioner Quick - I suggest a disclaimer for longevity but if they are then EC will do the best for a disclaimer beforehand.

Staff Estrada - The roll calls add s to the time.

Staff Truong- If possible, the commissioners can send in the questions ahead of time to make the meetings quicker.

Commissioner Quick- Most of the time we dont know of the presentations until they start presenting.

Staff Estrada - Sometimes the presenter will send a different presentation beforehand which can be challenging but we can try it to make it make sense.

Commissioner Hylton- We can have a hard cut off for time but emphasized people can reach out to the commissioner if interested.

Staff Estrada- Need to emphasize people need to read the agenda packet before the meeting.

Staff Truong - I wonder if that is something we can model, even within our own committees.

Commissioner Quick- I like the idea especially if relevant.

D. [Discussion + Decision] Review Applications for SDDTAC Youth Seat Vacancy

Staff Truong relays the format, please share the ranked choice of top three and then we will begin in order why those are our top choices. Please be clear and concise as this will go into our formal recommendations to the Clerk of the Board.

Commissioner Santos - I was interested in firstly Kiana Kesharvez and secondly Yi. Kiana Kesharvez uses BIPOC in application, understands the issue of communities, has their connection to health in their work and understanding the lived experiences in low income and their neighborhood and fellowship in D11 and meeting communities where they are at. In this work it is important because it allows one to understand the impact and consequences the most.



Yi Luo had a lot of experience with going out in Oakland and rising the environmental racism against African Americans. It was a different type of learning of health. They were able to name the experience Black people endure are different than other people of color. I appreciate that and how they were able to recognize that.

Commissioner Quick- I was interested in firstly Kiana Kesharvez and secondly Yi Luo. Kiana Kesharvez- She demonstrates a clear and specific understanding of systemic racism and classism planning issues. In specific, behind food deserts and the taxes going into the measure. She has community organizing experience that is relevant and lived experiences. I liked how she went out of her way to show an understanding of the potential of an equitable allocation of resources and the negative effects. I liked her commitment to language access in the past. The only concern is they do not go into the progressive nature of the tax. The understanding of the issues is far superior than the negatives.

Yi Luo - A lot of the same points apply in terms of language access commitment, both are part of D11 Coro Fellowship, lived experience from D11, experience in environmental justice in legislative policy research, my slight reservation is that the candidate did not highlight that food deserts are highlighted in POC neighborhoods.

Commissioner Hylton - I was interested in firstly Kiana Kesharvez and secondly Yi. Kiana Kesharvez- A lot of the same points. Kiana has lived experiences and interests of the sugary tax committee. Interviewed Kiana during the YC app process, and would highly recommend her

Yi Luo - I wish they could have talked more about their lived experience rather than academic experiences.

Commissioner Zhang- I was interested in firstly Kiana Kesharvez. Kiana Kesharvez- An important part to mention is as a young person on the committee it is important to articulate their thoughts and stories. I would recommend Kiana because they can speak to their own stories and not just spit facts or research about the tax. I think personal experience would speak adequately.

Yi Luo -

Commissioner Asfaw - I was interested in firstly Kiana Kesharvez and secondly Yi. Kiana Kesharvez- I agree with everyone. They were careful and specific of their language, They realized their interaction. I preferred Kiana a little more because they focussed on their experience in their district, therefore, they can become a bridge from city hall to their district.

Yi Luo -

Commissioner Tang - I was interested in firstly Jeremy Lee, secondly Yi Luo, and Samanatha Lee.



Commissioner Veiga - Samantha Lee, Yi Luo, Kiana Kesharvez

Samantha Lee: Has ample connections and personal experience with communities that are particularly impacted by the soda tax. Does clearly have leadership experience and interest in physical health, as demonstrated by professional and civic experience. Her experience taking a class on sugary drink's effects on one's health is particularly compelling because it shows genuine interest and knowledge in the subject. Also from written answers clearly knows and cares about the intersectionality of the issue and the importance of diverse voices on this committee.

Yi Luo: Clearly cares about health issues and said effects on low-income communities and communities of color, as shown in professional experience, civic experience, public health research and personal experience. Has insight into SF local government from District 11 Youth Fellowship. Understands nuances of how sugary drink taxes are related to communities of color and low-income communities.

Kiana Keshavarz: Has important firsthand experience with the issues and communities that SDDTAC must take into consideration, and this is her motivation for applying, which is a great sign and very important. Clearly has experience in leadership and advocacy, with her service on the youth board of Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area especially compelling due to the similar nature of the role to this youth seat. Also has knowledge of the inner workings of the city and of financial allocation, which will be extremely useful skills for this role.

Commissioner Tanaka - Jeremy Li, Kiana Kesharvez, Sabrina Balmaseda, Samantha Lee, Yi Luo

Jeremy Li - No prior direct experience in health programs, seems to have an understanding of how the soda tax affects underserved communities and communities of color especially, seems to be aware of the health disparities that occur in aforementioned communities, tutoring experience, founder of PACA, aiming to provide guidance to peers who want to start advocacy projects, and not from an especially impacted community.

Kiana Kesharvez - No prior direct experience in health programs, understanding of the importance of nutritional education, awareness of the social and health impacts that sugary drinks have on certain communities, demonstrated understanding of the systemic factors that have lead to certain communities lacking access to healthy food options, volunteer work with CORO in D11 in encouraging voter turnout in non english speaking communities, leader of school Activism Club, and from an impacted community.

Sabrina Balmaseda- No prior experience in health programs, adjusted to remote work and experienced in remote communications , project Pull, Tutor @ Rosa Parks Elementary, seems somewhat versed/aware of how sugary drinks and lack of healthy food options affect low income and communities of color, and not from especially impacted community.



Samantha Lee- Experience attending some oral health presentations, seems to be aware of the correlation between one's socioeconomic situation and health/ability to maintain a healthy lifestyle, Mills peninsula medical center ICU volunteer, and analytical Thinker, and from an impacted community.

Yi Luo

Commissioner Murphy - Kiana Kesharvez

Kiana Kesharvez - I was most impressed with Kiana Keshavarz. Through the application, Kiana has shown time management and engagement with the community. Besides community engagement, she has experienced interacting with people who work in related jobs to the official public health programs in San Francisco. I think connections are an essential aspect of working on the SDDTAC. In the application, Kiana also expresses knowledge of the still existing inequality between many districts in San Francisco. Along with well-encompassed knowledge, Kiana has personally seen the economic and racial division between private and public schools in the City. She has gone to Miraloma Elementary School, James Denman Middle School, and Lick-Wilmerding High School; Kiana writes that with the transition between all these schools, "it becomes very easy to notice how food inequality drastically affect some communities more than others, and how income is directly related to this issue." She has also been surrounded by the influence of sugary foods, desserts, and drinks growing up. Growing up in Visitacion Valley and put in the situation where healthy food was stressed; Kiana has repeatedly underlined and conveyed how income inequality contributes to the separation of communities having either healthy or unhealthy choices. With Kiana's values and clear expression on how sugary drinks impact various communities, I can only urge that the Executive Committee chooses Kiana Sezawar Keshavarz as the Youth Commission's recommendation for one of the seats on the SDDTAC.

Question:

Commissioner Hylton - did it mention their grade? that can help with our determining factor
Commissioner Quick - can bring this up when we ask them in person

No public comment.

Commissioner Quick motions to recommend Kiana Kesharvez and Yi Luo to the SDDTAC and invite them to FYC on Sept 28th to share more about themselves, AZ. By roll call vote, the motion passes. Staff Truong will invite them to the September 28th meeting.

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



E. Review of Updates on Commission Outreach and Communications

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

Staff Truong- Commissioner Zhang main lead on instagram and Commissioner Asfaw on Twitter. I will be the main coordinator for all accounts. We will meet biweekly at 4 o'clock as a communications team. In general we are figuring out reaching out strategies. Tara from Boys and Girls Club for an assembly on Social Justice for a town hall. If interested there will be a meeting next week.

Commissioner Zhang- We feel like it's important our followers learn about the commissioners and want to integrate the commissioners on a regular basis as people rather than commissioners.

Staff Truong - We want to highlight commissioners on a weekly basis on our instagram and highlight specific community locations.

Commissioner Santos- People reached out about the instagram post. I was shocked by the post of the person's action. I didn't feel it was malicious rather it was a statement about feelings. It is important to note some people were not too upset about our death. I do not think it was too poor of an action but we should feel our feelings.

Commissioner Zhang- I talked to some members and it was not the criticism rather it was brought up too close to RBG's death. I don't think the timing was not the most appropriate.

Commissioner Santos- Everyone can mourn when she dies but when we can feel our feelings? I do understand the timing but our feelings are just as right to be expressed.

Commissioner Asfaw- When we talk about her achievements as Supreme Court Judge impacted people's lives. In her poisons she harmed indigneous and Black communities. To say it too soon sounds like a contradiction to the person. To me it is not fair and I understand the timing of her death but as a politician she needs to be held accountable. She actively hurted people with her decisions. Her negative impacts overwhelm the needs of being sensitive because of timing. The people that were upset are not here today which rubs me the wrong way because if you want to critique something it should be brought directly as a communications person. It feels like sometimes people say stuff to say something.

Staff Truong- I am glad members feel comfortable about their feelings but I wish as a whole we can talk about things as a learning lesson. How are we going to grow? I am disappointed some of the members aren't here, maybe could have been helpful.

Commissioner Zhang- I want to validate Aresma's and Amara's thoughts. In the future we should be aware we offended people and it is individual judgement.



Commissioner Quick- I have full faith in the communication team's ability and representing many perspectives. We are an oddity in city commissions in which we don't only post our work. We should not be ashamed of validation others experience. In the future I do not feel comfortable walking about anything. I want to support communications in their decision. I recognize people weren't comfortable but I am not going to take that and suggest communication stop posting. I do not know what others expect of us. I don't feel comfortable apologizing because I am not sorry.

Staff Estrada- In addressing the harm, I think it can be helpful to have people who were not comfortable about the post come to a meeting and have a productive conversation on solving a problem. It can be hard to have a conversation when they do not hear how to move forward. Many layers to this conversation for many people but also acknowledge the harm on the indigenous and Black community. This is a problem of Perspective and opinion and there isn't a clear path forward and what are the restorative actions that can come out of this when not all parties are in the room?

Commissioner Hylton- I agree. I don't think there is any harm in expressing their disappointment on the post. We need to recognize underrepresented voices and it can be harmful to not give those voices a recognition.

Staff Truong- What came was a strong response. RBG represents a lot of different communities. How can we honour our feelings and recognize building collective advocacy? If we can have these discussions as a community, how will we hold them in the real world? Hopefully this is a learning lesson on how not to act.

Staff Hosmon- I am here in a position of power. if a commission comes on a compliment, I will advocate for the staff. I am making a commitment to have people reach out to the communications team so there is a full conversation.

Commissioner Hylton- We can write a short statement of the situation for transparency.

Commissioner Asfaw- As a communications team member, I was interested in reaching out to the people displeased with the post. I can email the commission or specific commissioners on understanding people's feelings. I want people to voice their feelings, therefore, I want to reach out to allow people to express their feelings.

Commissioner Quick- I think direct email is a lot, maybe putting a statement in the weekly internal.

Staff Estrada- I agree and to teach new members on the importance of the weekly internal. Before we send out a statement we will get a stamp of approval .

Commissioner Zhang- We do not have to acknowledge a specific side rather agree to disagree.



Staff Truong- I think we should acknowledge different opinions and as commissioners not indifferent. As adults many don't address conflict and I think this can be helpful. I recommend putting a statement on social media and modeling as a unique position as a commission.

Commissioner Quick- As an executive member, we should let communications teams decide.

Commissioner Hylton- I think an important part of the statement should be about recognizing the action and we are different people. I think we should let the commission know the conversation did happen.

Staff Estrada- For next steps draft statement, let commissioners know, draft committee report on Monday.

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

Presenter: Calvin Quick, Legislative Affairs Officer

Commissioner Quick- The board did not introduce any new youth legislation. The debate budget passed at the first meeting yesterday. Next Tuesday it will have a final vote before the Mayor. The CAREN will be on Thursday. For this term I'm waiting to introduce the formal process until the next FYC. I will prepare material to jump start committees priorities in terms of the budget written by December or the latest in January.

G. Committee reports

a. Civic Engagement Committee

Commissioner Zhang- The new chair is Sarah C and the vice chair is Sarah G. We have a lot of media opportunities aligned. In relation to the YC, we are not entirely aware of our goals.

Staff Hosmon- Since we are in the middle of a prop and cannot work on a prop as a staff, we are still figuring responsibilities.

B. Housing and Land Use Committee

Commissioner Quick- Chair- Morris Vicechair- Murphy

b. Transformative Justice Committee

Commissioner Hylton- Chair- Rome Jones Vicechair- Gracie Vega. We went over our history and of the prison industrial complex.

Commissioner Asfaw- We gave feedback to know your rights for police accountability.

H. Approve Agenda for September 28th, 2020 Full YC Meeting

Commissioner Quick- If we can ensure the presentation stays to the 10 minute rule.



There was no public comment. Commissioner Hylton, seconded by Commissioner Zhang, moved to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Roll call

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

6. Staff Report

Bylaws read into record for youth development training and making sure everyone is aware.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.