

YC Bylaws as it is now:

Article IV – Attendance, Resignation & Leaves of Absence

(A) Attendance

The Commission's attendance policy will be as follows. According to SEC 4.123 (c) of the Charter:

“Any member whom the Commission certifies to have missed three regularly scheduled meetings of the Commission in any six month period without prior authorization of the Commission shall be deemed to have resigned from the Commission effective on the date of the written certification from the Commission.”

“Missing” a meeting means *any* of the following: being absent at a meeting; arriving 15 minutes after quorum is called; leaving *any time* before a meeting is adjourned; leaving the Commission meeting room during a meeting for more than 15 minutes at any time.

A Youth Commissioner arriving late to a meeting, but arriving within 15 minutes of when quorum is called, will be marked tardy. Every two tardies will be equated to one absence.

To advance authorize an absence, a youth commissioner must ask for approval at a full youth commission meeting during the Attendance Item. The commission will only be able to retroactively authorize an absence in the event of the cancellation of a regularly scheduled commission meeting at which a commissioner sought to receive advance authorization for an upcoming absence. The full Commission shall have the authority to authorize an upcoming absence by simple majority vote.

Proposed changes to the attendance policy would effectively change the bolded section above.

Here are the following proposed amendments and what it means:

1. Commissioner Persky's proposed amendment:

“All absence authorization requests must be forwarded to the Executive Committee. To request that an absence be authorized, the Commissioner making the request must make a request to the Youth Commission Director via email by 5:00 PM PT on the Wednesday following the absence.

Staff will have the responsibility of calendaring absence authorization requests on the next applicable Executive Committee meeting's agenda.”

Question to pose: Would we rather the Executive Committee simply authorize consideration of the absences, and then have them voted on at the next full YC meeting? (This is what the YC did in 12-13 or, should the EC have the jurisdiction to authorize absences themselves?)

What does this mean? What would this change?

This amendment would allow commissioners the opportunity to seek consideration of authorizing absences both in advance, and after having missed a meeting (with a limit of notifying appropriate staff of absence and reason for absence 2 days after having missed the meeting). This amendment would give the EC the responsibility of approving the consideration of the authorized absence as an agenda item to the next full meeting (like how they are approving other items on current full commission meeting agendas).

2. Commissioner Cardenas's proposed amendment:

"To advance authorized absences or authorize an absence after a Commission meeting, a youth commissioner seeking authorization must inform (via email) the Executive Committee as to a general reason for his/her/their absence prior to the full Youth Commission meeting.

The Commission shall have a standing agenda item dedicated to attendance review for Commissioners to explain their reason to authorize their absences. The full Commission shall have the authority to authorize an upcoming absence by simple majority vote."

What does this mean? What would it change?

This proposed amendment would allow commissioners time up to the Wednesday (EC meeting) before a full commission meeting to request consideration of an authorized absence go forward on the next full commission meeting. This would allow commissioners some time to advance authorize absences, as well as to request for consideration of authorizing absences up to the EC meeting held on the Wednesday before each full commission meeting. Commissioners would have to inform the Executive Committee BY EMAIL with reason for absence. ECers would just consider the request for consideration as an item to include on the upcoming full commission meeting. The responsibility of voting to authorize/not authorize an absence will still rest on the full commission.

3. Commissioner Kong's proposed amendment:

"To advance authorize an absence, a youth commissioner must seek for approval at an Executive Committee meeting prior to the next full Youth Commission meeting...The committee shall have the authority to authorize an upcoming absence by simple majority vote"

What does this mean? What would it change?

This proposed amendment would allow commissioners time up to the Wednesday (EC meeting) before a full commission meeting to request consideration of an authorized absence. However, this proposed amendment would also give the EC the power to consider and decide whether or not to authorize an absence by a simple majority vote. This means that the full commission would not have the ability to vote as a whole group to decide whether or not to authorize an absence. The responsibility would be up to the EC. Concerns that came up around this method is the lack of accountability of having an absence go to the full commission, and the fact that the power to authorize an absence rests solely on 1 committee's simple majority.

4. Any other proposed amendments?