



# San Francisco Youth Commission

## Draft Minutes

Monday, November 21st, 2016

5:15 pm-8:00 pm

City Hall, Room 416

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

*There will be public comment on each item.*

Madeleine Matz (Chair), William Juarez (Vice Chair), Martin Krause, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Joshua Park, Cris Plunkett, Mary Claire Amable, Emma David, Noah David, Hugo Vargas, Cecilia Nicole Galeano, Jarrett Mao, Jonathan Mesler, Tsia Blacksher, Griffin Ng, Chiara Lind

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Interim Chair Plunkett called the meeting to order at 5:16pm. Commissioners Present: Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Joshua Park, Cris Plunkett, Mary Claire Amable, Emma David, Hugo Vargas, Jarrett Mao, Jonathan Mesler, Griffin Ng, Chiara Lind.

Commissioners Absent: Madeleine Matz, William Juarez, Tsia Blacksher, Martin Krause, Noah David

There were 5 requests for an authorized excused absence for Commissioners Matz, Juarez, Blacksher, Galeano, and Krause who all informed staff they would be missing. Commissioner Mao, seconded by Commissioner Amable, motioned to excuse these commissioners. The motion was approved by acclamation.

There was quorum.

Staff present: Leah LaCroix, Kiely Hosmon

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

Commissioner Vargas, seconded by Commissioner Lind, moved to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by acclamation.

There was no public comment.

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

- A. November 7, 2016  
([Document A](#))



Commissioner Mesler, seconded by Commissioner Amable motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

#### **4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)**

There was no public comment.

#### **5. Legislation Referred by the Board of Supervisors (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**

- A. BOS File No. 160019 [Planning Code – Designated Child Care Units]  
Sponsor: Supervisor Norman Yee; Presenter: Erika Maybaum, Legislative Aide  
(Document B)

Top reasons for childcare in SF: parents/guardians are working, seeking work, are in school or in training. In an expensive and urban setting it is critical to have high quality childcare to sustain and support families.

Some families choose family members to take care of their children, some choose center based options (offered by for profits, nonprofits, or located in some work settings). These tend to be larger and serve more children and are more costly. It costs roughly \$29,000 a year for childcare of a toddler.

Family Child Care are small business licensed by the state and are run out of the house of where the person lives. Services up to 6-8 kids and are more affordable but still pricy.

Developer fees are what is paid to the city, one of which is childcare developer fees. Legislation today gives an option, and an incentive, to have developers waive their fee if they designate one of their units as a childcare unit.

There are almost 3000 children on the waitlist for childcare and most are low income. There are more children than licensed places to serve these numbers and that means there is a dramatic unmet need in our city and we need policies and systems to meet these unmet needs.

Childcare options should be close to where families live and work. If a developer builds 10 affordable units and creates 1 childcare unit it will be waived the childcare development fee. It's a small business that will bring income to the family, provide childcare on site, and they would still have to abide by income guidelines for the building. Priority is for low income families to get first priority at using the childcare units in the same building they live.

Currently in Land Use and Housing Committee.

YC'er comments-sounds like no negatives about this and sounds like a great idea.

What's an argument of why someone wouldn't want this? One downside is that it would take away one unit from another low income family and/or displaced family. Original



legislation requested for every 5 units there be a childcare unit available but changed it to 10 units so it would be 10% vs 20% that wouldn't be available to other families.

This was an item that came up last year and the YC voted to support this legislation.

Commissioner Mao, seconded by Commissioner Lind, made motion of general support. Roll call vote with unanimous support of 11 ayes.

There was no public comment.

## **6. Presentations (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**

### **A. Presentation on Mental Health Resources for Youth**

Presenters: Christine Hardiman, Program Administrator, SF Wellness Initiative, School Health Programs

Fenicia Jacks, Central Community Health Outreach Worker, School Health Programs

Mira Feess, Mentor Wellness Coordinator, School Health Programs

SF Wellness Initiative was established in 1999 around time of Columbine shooting and started at two pilot schools. Has funding support from mostly DCYF and now at 18 schools.

The mission is to promote healthy lifestyles, mental health, and substance use and other support at school sites. Inclusive spaces where youth feel welcome. All services are free and confidential.

Each wellness team, except at smaller alternative schools, are staffed by social worker, nurse, and community health outreach worker, and have partnership with another agency for behavioral health issues. All sites have full caseloads, which is a challenge, especially now with recent election results, and seeing increase in numbers of students needing access.

Lot of issues youth come in to talk about: suicide, self harm, problems at home, drugs, alcohol, sexual health, gender and/or sexual identities. WI tries to create place where youth feel comfortable to talk. Every interaction is an intervention.

Students see how staff are interacting with other youth. Building relationships is crucial. This is first time students receive therapy and want it to be a positive experience so they then later on learn the skills to reach out for help and they want to be the place where youth get those skills in place.

Youth Outreach Worker program (WOW) peer ed program, youth receive stipends to promote student health issues. Help organize school health fairs and awareness days. Youth leading/promoting youth issues. Have CBOs that also provide culturally relevant support. 1-on-1 therapy, case management, etc. Student Health Advisory Board-will work with office of school health program to provide safe environment district wide. All schools have monthly events.

Utilization Data from 15-16: served 7856 representing 55% of the student population across all 19 sites

Shared video of youth voices and accessing the provided services.



[www.SFwellness.org](http://www.SFwellness.org)

Questions from YC'ers-some youth don't feel safe to talk to wellness counselors, as a friend, how do you support your friend if they aren't comfortable going to wellness center? Try to bring them to the center with you. They also provide a lot of other services to students: help students look for jobs/internships, they can be a part of a group. Once student gets foot in the door they will be warmly welcomed and then connected with other staff who could help further. What's helpful, too, if you meet with the therapist and talk about what is going on (don't give name of your friend) the therapist can give you the rundown of how it would go if your friend were to come in. You can then move that info on to your friend.

What is it that you would like from us?: helpful if you could advocate for wellness centers to get additional resources and funding. Some centers don't have behavioral health coordinators. Lot of alternative schools have high needs and it's tough for them to provide support to students who need it and they are asking for additional positions. Also need therapist who speak other languages. Have 3.1 million for all 18 sites and that just covers staffing, as cost of living goes up, there is nowhere to go and not able to provide competitive wages to attract new staff (especially for newcomer pathway sites). Students are nervous and afraid especially if they think their family is going to be deported what with this new president elect so it's very critical now to have enough staff to provide support to all students who need it.

Majority of funding is received through DCYF. Only 4 sites funded by PEEF. Tried to go to private foundations without much luck. Can apply for grant money but all staff is so slammed that it's hard to find time to apply to grants.

Important to bring these resources out in the open especially after the election, as many young people are feeling down, scared, afraid, and anxious. Would be great if we could refer our friends/community to these resources. Soon to be threatening President elect that it is important to have centers like this especially when national centers getting threatened (Planned Parenthood).

Commissioner Amable, seconded by Commissioner Park, made a motion of general support. Vote passes by acclamation.

Staff informs YC that part of their job as YC is to advise on budget issues. Think about their mid year budget and how they could incorporate funds or advocate this issue as a BPP item.

- B. Presentation on Strategic Priorities for Re-Envisioning the Jail Replacement Project at Hall of Justice  
Presenter: Roma Guy, Co-Chair of Work Group to Re-envision the Jail Replacement Project, Tax Payers for Public Safety

More information can be found at: [JRPworkgroup@sfgov.org](mailto:JRPworkgroup@sfgov.org). This was brought to YC about a year earlier and this is an update on what is currently happening and in progress.

Under Breed, Campos, and Kim were able to spearhead this and get a working group on how to get an alternative to a jail. Work group was created, 37 members, core of about 26 attended the meetings once a month. ProjectWHAT also works on this issue.



Idea is to close the two jails permanently at the Hall of Justice (904 beds). Mayor doesn't necessarily agree with this and some BOS don't either. Community activists think we can take a few more years to close them permanently. One is closed the other has about 300 men in it. Have to look at whole system of police, arrests, public defenders, etc.

Identified where they can do interventions. Really want youth opinions. Sheriff is another co chair and director of Public Health. First time in SF in criminal justice reform, that public health person involved at this level. It's a big deal to have Dept of PH be a partner in the problem solving. Hope that YC will support that DPH stays a partner.

Over 90% of people in jail have some sort of substance abuse issue. About 14% are pre trial and in custody have seriously mental ill problems (that don't get better in the jail). Have 70% recidivism in SF (so they go back to jail).

Graphs given that are broken down by demographics: black folks spend more time in jail than any other population in SF. 50-53% of jail population is of black folks no matter what the total number of black population is and this is due to policy and racism. 2/3 of folks are people of color in jails. Really want people to pay attention to this and dig in and face it. Even when total general number of those jailed has decreased the amount of black population in jail stays the same.

We need to push the BOS to make the difference as it will take resources and owning that there is racial discrimination in our city. There is racism everywhere in the system (public defender, DA, pretrial, while in custody) and is also court driven.

Main point is we have work to do. Came to give work to do. Need youth to be partners with adults.

Look at gender numbers. Should be able to provide alternatives to get out for women to get out as most have no felony charges. This includes trans male-to-female population. There is an issue here, too.

Really want YC to look at report and see what community advocates are recommending. There is no overview except Police Commission and the Criminal Justice system has nothing to hold it accountable or transparency. The Work group is one way to draw public attention to these issues when there is no other accountability or transparency.

Questions- Policy is around bed days so it's about cutting down the number of beds. \$147/day per bed. A bed day is spending the night in jail. Two considerations-if I'm in a gang and I'm arrested with another rival gang in separate cell, so take up 4 beds instead of 2. Don't put competing gangs in same cell. Same thing for folks in a rage-they get their own cell. That was rational to build 904 beds. That's why they called themselves "tax payers for public safety" cus they want tax payers to pay attention to this.

If we closed the jails, where would the prisons be? This is why we want DPH involved. DPH is asking to renovate 47 beds at SF General so there would be 47 people moved over to SF general campus and will be treated by clinicians and not by sheriffs. For women it's almost 50%. Can we explore community service more for these issues? Swords to Plowshares did this with Vets.



For youth who are incarcerated do you track what happens to them after? The system does not track that. 50-60 youth at YGC vs higher numbers years ago but because there was intervention.

Youth welcome to come to their meetings. Broad coalition and then individual organizations. How can commissioners get involved with this issue? IJE can focus on these issues. Last year's YC took a stance on this issue and rallied commissioners and the public and organizations and went on to full BOS and helped make sure that prison didn't get through. Could recommend doing this again when future issues come up.

When are these issues coming to the BOS? December 1<sup>st</sup> at GAO at 9:30am an interim report will be given. Sometime before March 31 2017 will be full report to the board. Other committee meetings would focus on separate issues (grant, beds at General, etc.) and could give public comment on what you want regarding this issue. Youth voice is encouraged on these issues and public comment!

There was no public comment.

## **7. Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**

- A. Discussion on 2016 National and Local Elections  
Sponsor: Commissioner Matz

Motion to table this item. Plunkett, MCA. Acclamation yes.

## **8. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)**

- A. Executive Committee

Focused on 1-on-1s with new commissioners. Reminder to be respectful to each other as there has been some remarks being made to each other that are disrespectful.

Legislative Affairs Officer gave announcement on BOS resolution on Trump elections: read it into the minutes. Commissioners can write their own youth version of this resolution. Commissioners Mao, E. David, Amable, Plunkett, and Vargas are interested in writing their own resolution. YC could send same general message as BOS and why it's important to young people and growing up in the shadow of this man and how youth won't back down from him.

- B. Housing, Recreation and Transportation Committee

Last meeting E. David chaired, received 12N presentation by YC staff, and discussed how they would want to work on this during their term. Expressed interest in completing 12N work (cultural competency for training on departments that work with youth who are LGBTQ). Reviewed resolutions by Millennium students, and heard updates on post election event that Civic Engagement will be hosting.

- C. Immigration, Justice and Employment Committee



Commissioner Amable shared there was no meeting last week due to Joint BOS and Police Commission hearing and IJE giving public comment there. The youth turnout was amazing and the YC office was packed with different orgs and youth. Time of hearing was pushed back so timing got wonky and youth had to leave which was pretty demoralizing for the youth. Youth couldn't stay and public comment didn't open up until almost 9pm. Commissioners Amable, Juarez, Blacksher, Matz, and Galeano gave public comment. Apparently got good feedback from the BOS but youth had already left by the time that happened.

#### D. Civic Engagement Committee

Met last week for special meeting and worked on next youth forum that will be focused on post election issues. Began to plan how to register 16 and 17 year olds. Got 3000 for next youth forum via YEA group.

#### E. Our Children Our Family Council

Commissioner Galeano not present and OCOF has yet to meet

### 9. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

- Point in time homeless count is looking for volunteers. Pressing need for folks who can drive. Info will be in Weekly Internal.
- Public health dept. looking at better ways to improve traffic safety for youth, seniors, and people with disabilities. Ask for youth to complete a 2 questions survey by December 2<sup>nd</sup> and pass it along to your friends.
- Watch Public comment videos.
- Office will be closed Thursday and Friday of this week
- Come to the special Civic Engagement meeting on Wednesday at 2pm if you want to give ideas for post election event
- Hold dates of Saturday and Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> for the mid year retreat

### 10. Announcements (This Includes Community Events)

Commissioner Vargas shared event called "Miracle on 24<sup>th</sup> Street" at 11am on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Bikes being donated so doing bike builds.

Commissioner Amable shared event on December 10<sup>th</sup> for Festival in SOMA, lantern walk which is Pilipin@ tradition.

Commissioner Mesler shared that he and his advanced band will have a concert on December 12<sup>th</sup> at City Hall around noon.

Possible Holiday White Elephant for YC as social bonding

### 11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm