



**San Francisco Youth Commission
Immigration, Justice & Employment Committee
Draft ~ Minutes
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
5:00~7:00 PM
City Hall, Room 421
1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
San Francisco, CA 94102**

There will be public comment on each item.

Members: Mary Claire Amable (Chair), Martin Krause (Vice Chair), Cecilia Galeano, Tsia Blacksher, Jonathan Mesler, Madeleine Matz, William Jaurez

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm. Commissioners present: Krause, Galeano, Blacksher, Mesler, Matz. Commissioners Juarez and Amable arrived at 5:10 pm. Staff present: Adele Failes-Carpenter. There was quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Mesler, moved to approve the agenda. There was no public comment. The motion was approved by acclamation.

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

- A. December 13, 2016
([Document A](#))

Commissioner Galeano, seconded by Commissioner Blacksher, moved to approve the agenda. There was no public comment. The motion was approved by acclamation.

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

There was none.

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

- A. Introduction of Project WHAT's work and policy platform on issues affecting youth with incarcerated parents

Luna Garcia, from Project WHAT gave an overview of the Project WHAT policy platform, youth participatory action research project with children of incarcerated parents, and past collaboration with the Youth Commission. Project WHAT is currently focused on training counselors in



SFUSD to implement a new policy in support of students with incarcerated parents. They are also leading trainings in the Adult Probation Dept. There was no public comment.

B. Review of past work on jail visiting policies and discussion on implementation efforts

Overview of Policy:

Luna Garcia gave an overview of the new jail visiting policy that allows 16 and 17 year olds to make unaccompanied visits to their parents. It was advocated for by Project WHAT and Youth Commissioners and put in place by former Sheriff Mirkarimi. Sheriff Hennessy is supportive and committed to implementing the policy in a meeting with PW and YC last year.

Luna pointed out some limitations in the policy stemming from it having been written and put in place without deep consultation with youth advocates. It has stringent ID requirements that not all youth can meet. It also requires that a parent or guardian accompany to the first visit. The point of the policy was to avoid this as not all parents and guardians have capacity or support the visits. Only two youth have successfully signed up for the visits so far so there is a need to follow up to see how the identity of young people making visits can be verified without it being so difficult.

Implementation Brainstorm:

Commissioner Galeano led a brainstorming exercise to answer the questions:

- 1) How do we make this new visiting policy a success?
- 2) How do we make sure youth & their caretakers hear about this opportunity?
- 3) How do we make sure youth have the support they need to enroll in the visits?
- 4) How will we know whether the policy is working for young people or if changes need to be made?

Participants from the committee and Project WHAT brainstormed the following ideas related to outreach for the new policy and updates to the policy:

Policy Updates:

- Start with patching loopholes in the policy first.



- See if the Sheriff will accept adult representation and documentation from case workers, therapists, school counselors instead of parents.
- Reduce the ID& Guardian requirements
- Not all parents are listed on birth certificates. Not all youth have birth certificates if they were born outside the country or access to them either way.
- Meet with Sheriff and Board of Education and review bill of rights for CIP
- See if schools could vet age and identities
- Ask for stats on visiting by age

Outreach Needs:

- Create a resource guide for youth on making visits
- Hold sign up workshops for youth
- Have an event related to Youth Advocacy Day
- Host information about the process online in a youth-friendly format
- Do social media and CBO outreach

Committee members identified the following priorities for next steps:

- Commissioner Galeano and Arvaughn (PW) will reach out to the Sheriff's Dept to request a meeting. A possible focus/ask is creating a mini-task force with school district and HSA to talk about changes to the policy and how to enroll youth for visits.
- Arvaughn (PW) will ask school board members for a meeting to discuss same.
- The group will work on developing a sign up workshop for when the policy is complete.
- Youth commissioners will make a draft of a resolution to get feedback from Sheriff and PW.

There was no public comment.

- C. Preparation for committee time at mid-year retreat

Staff reminded commissioners about mid-year retreat. There was no public comment.

6. Committee Report to Full Commission (Discussion and Possible Action)



Committee members discussed updating the commission about the work on the policy. There was no public comment.

7. Executive Committee Report (Discussion Only)

There was none.

8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

There was none.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.