



**San Francisco Youth Commission
Justice & Employment Committee
Draft ~ Minutes
5:00~7:00 PM
Monday November 27, 2017**

City Hall, Room 345 1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl. San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Members: Zak Franet (Chair), Johnny Mesler (Vice Chair), Mike'l Gregory, Bahlam Vigil

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:08pm. All committee members were present. Staff present: Adele Failes-Carpenter. There was quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

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

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

- A. Monday, November 13, 2017
[\(Document A\)](#)

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

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

A member of the public introduced herself as a reporter from the Examiner. There was no further public comment.

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

- A. Presentation on the San Francisco Young Adult Court
Presenter: Katherine Weinstein Miller, Chief of Alternative Programs & Initiatives, Office of San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón

Ms. Weinstein-Miller introduced herself and gave an overview of the Young Adult Court (YAC):



- YAC started in 2015 and takes mostly felony cases (minus gun crimes, those of known gang members, domestic violence, crimes involving serious bodily injury). Co-defendants are a challenge for YAC.
- In 2016, there were over 3500 felony cases in SF and 904 were TAY.
- Young Adults (YA) represent 43% of robbery cases; 22% of adult justice system cases in SF; 8% of population
- 28% of those sent to prison from SF are young adults; 43% of those sent to a combinations of jail and community service
- Currently the YAC operates one day a week (includes demands on time of case managers, judges, prosecutors and public defenders).
- The YAC is at full capacity and has shut down to new cases three times this year due to being full; They are seeing that young adults opt to stay in jail to await a space in YAC when it is not open.
- So far, YAC has taken 208 cases, 182 participated, 26 did not. 31 graduated; 68 are enrolled; 30 were terminated for a new case. The court can take up to 70 at any time.
- YAC is doubling capacity in 2018; DCYF has made increased investment (increasing case managers from \$250K to \$800K). This second day is expected to fill immediately, so it is a boost, but it is not meeting the need.
- YAC started in 2015, so it is still quite new and the impact on recidivism, etc. is not yet known.
- YAC funding comes from DCYF (230K), DA (100K), and State (BSCC)

Commissioners asked further questions of Ms. Weinstein-Miller:

- Do cellphones represent a large number of robbery cases? Ms. Weinstein-Miller confirmed that cellphones and purses make a large number of robberies, though the value of stolen cell phones is going down. Part of the intention of YAC was to address these robberies being treated as felony charges.
- What promising practices are under way re: diversion? Weekend rebooking has begun and is expected to have a big impact on demand for weekend jail space. LEAD, officer discretion to bring people to services instead of arrest them also began one month ago.
- Who else should commissioners talk to? Sheryl Davis about Black to the Future
- What else can we do to reduce reliance on incarceration for TAY? Look at needs of juvenile justice involved youth; Look at “raise the age” conversations at state level and ask question: is adult criminal justice system the best place for young adults? Do we need a third system?
- Read the Boston Globe Article: 18 year olds can barely rent cars. Are they old enough for jail?

There was no public comment.

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

A. Drafting Resolution on Alternatives to Incarceration for TAY

Commissioners discussed doing budget advocacy for Young Adult Court expansion in New Year. They also discussed drafting a resolution calling for a target/goal in reduction of TAY jail population in San Francisco and the creation of a task force to find alternatives to incarceration for TAY. Commissioner Franet plans to put the draft up for a first reading at the first December meeting. There was no public comment.



B. Prepare for Upcoming Presentations

This was tabled at the request of the chair.

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

This was tabled at the request of the chair.

8. Executive Committee Report (Discussion Only)

This was tabled at the request of the chair.

9. Staff Report & Announcements (Discussion Only)

This was tabled at the request of the chair.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.