



**San Francisco Youth Commission
Immigration, Justice & Employment Committee**

Draft ~ Minutes

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

5:00~7:00 PM

City Hall, Room 345

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Members: Cecilia Galeano, Mary Claire Amable, Tsia Blacksher, Martin Krause, Jonathan Mesler, Madeleine Matz, William Juarez

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm. Commissioners present: Galeano, Amable, Blacksher, Mesler, Matz, Juarez; Commissioners absent: Krause; Staff present: Adele Failes-Carpenter. There was quorum.

Staff distributed an absence explanation from Commissioner Krause.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

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

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

There were none.

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

Allen Lu, former YC staff, introduced himself and congratulated committee members on the beginning of the year. There was no further public comment.

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

A. Review of 2012-16 Justice, Employment & Immigration Priorities

Committee members played a bingo game to review the issues and priorities of past commission terms relating to the committee issue areas. They included:

ISSUES:



- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) fee waivers:** After President Obama issued an executive order providing undocumented young people a way to legally stay and work in the U.S., many families have trouble accessing the legal support and filing fees needed in order to apply. The City first approves funding for legal support services for DACA-eligible youth in 2013 and hosts “DACA day” helping to connect youth with those services. Youth commissioners then push for a grant to cover application fees, which Mayor Lee confirms in his 2015 budget.
- **Support for unaccompanied minors:** After a wave of violence in Central America leads a number of youth to show up in the U.S. without a parent or guardian, youth commissioners and Supervisor Campos push the City to confirm legal services for unaccompanied youth. Youth commissioners also work with the school district to expand services for UACs.
- **Employment opportunities for undocumented youth:** After identifying a need to include undocumented youth in City-funded youth workforce programs, youth commissioners and TAY SF support the creation of a pilot of providers employing undocumented youth in Summer Jobs + in summer 2013.
- **Youth Jobs+:** Youth commissioners push the City to heed president Obama’s call for a youth summer jobs program and Summer Jobs+ is launched in 2012. The Mayor then turns the program into a year round program providing thousands of jobs to youth.
- **Youth input in CBA's:** Youth commissioners call for youth inclusion and input in the community benefit agreements made between tech companies and the City in exchange for the payroll tax break. To demonstrate the feasibility of this, they hold a youth CBA townhall in partnership with tech companies in 2015.
- **Youth employment in CBA's:** Youth commissioners call for a prioritization of youth jobs and internships at tech companies in future Community Benefit Agreement negotiations.
- **Increasing private sector participation in employing youth:** After Summer Jobs+ launches, youth commissioners continue to highlight the need for private sector hiring of young people and to increase the share of youth job slots that are not publicly funded.
- **Solutions Not Suspensions:** As part of a nationwide movement, in 2014, the SFUSD Board of Education bans suspensions for “willful defiance,” a catchall category that led to disproportionate suspensions of African American and Latino students. Youth commissioners support Coleman Advocates and others in pushing for this change and highlight the need to make sure school discipline is separate from calls to police.
- **SFPD-SFUSD MOU:** After years of advocacy and a major hearing by the youth commission jointly with the police commission in 2012, the police department signs a legal agreement with the school district governing the role of police on school campuses. The MOU includes provisions like: police should pursue warrants for non-school based arrests off campuses; schools should only call police for criminal, not school discipline matters; Police should handcuff students outside of the view of their peers; Students should have the right to have a parent or teacher present during interrogations; Data for on-campus arrests should be regularly reported; School Resource Officers should have regular training; There should be a committee, including students to review complaints relating to police conduct on school campuses. Some parts of the agreement have been implemented more fully than others. Most students and teachers are still unaware of the MOU and may not know their rights.
- **DGO 7.04:** Advocates for children with incarcerated parents and youth commissioners successfully advocate for the passage of a new SFPD general order governing how police officers support children while arresting their parents in 2014. Officers are supposed to be trained in accordance with the new general order.
- **Family-friendly jail visiting policies:** Youth commissioners work with Project WHAT to change policy so that youth 16-17 years old can visit their incarcerated parent without a guardian beginning in 2016. Implementation and outreach is ongoing.
- **No New SF Jail:** Youth commissioners and youth advocates with incarcerated parents team up to oppose a proposal for a new jail in 2016. Plans for an alternative to the new jail are underway and there is a youth representative on the working group which will present findings in November.
- **Family Impact Statements:** Adult probation is working to implement a family impact statement to guide sentencing of parents.



- **Alternatives to incarceration for youth** Over the last 10 years, the population at SF juvenile hall has been cut in half due to the work to create alternatives by the Juvenile Probation department. The District Attorney's office has also created a "Make it Right" restorative justice alternative program for juvenile offenders and a TAY court alternative-sentencing program for 18-24 year olds. Both are new programs that are just beginning to take cases.
- **Don't arm juvenile probation officers:** Youth commissioners, especially those formerly incarcerated, advocate against a proposal to arm juvenile probation officers with firearms beginning in 2013. The plan is temporarily shot down but has never been taken off the table by the Chief of Juvenile Probation. In 2015, the Chief of Juvenile Probation does publicly oppose the arming of counselors inside juvenile hall with chemical mace.
- **Outdoor access @ Juvenile Hall:** Formerly incarcerated youth commissioners earn New York Times press for their advocacy to expand access to the outdoor recreation yard for youth detained at juvenile hall in 2012 and 2013. The issue has improved but is ongoing.
- **End fines & fees impacting families:** BOS form a fines & fees task force in 2016 to review how fines and fees like bail, fare citations, quality of life violations, parking tickets, court fees, etc. impact low income residents. Results are forthcoming.
- **Youth-police training:** After the 2012 public hearing, youth commissioners recommend a training on youth issues for police officers with specific criteria and recommend a premier national trainer. After years of extensive advocacy, there is still no training in place.
- **Distributing Know Your Rights pamphlets:** Youth commissioners with with SFPD and Office of Citizen complaints to create a "Know Your Rights" pamphlet on interactions with police. The pamphlet is thorough, but not widely distributed. Youth commissioners also work to get SFPD and community groups licensed to lead "Know Your Rights Juvenile Justice jeopardy" but the game is not widely used.
- **Training School Resource Officers:** Youth commissioners advocate for the establishment of a training for officers assigned to school sites as part of the 2014 MOU, but training efforts have been spotty.
- **Improving Services for CIP:** YC work with Project WHAT to have a hearing on issues affecting children with incarcerated parents in 2014. They help to pass a resolution of support at the school district in 2016 and PW outlines areas for future advocacy, such as access to phone calls, support for visits to incarcerated parents for youth in the foster care system, etc.
- **Sanctuary City Policy:** Beginning in the 1980's, SF creates an ordinance banning the use of city staff time or funds to cooperate with immigration enforcement in order to restore trust between city government and residents. Over time, the interpretation of sanctuary city has been contested again and again, when new federal mandates are released.
- **Due Process for All:** BOS passes an ordinance establishing that the sheriff not cooperate with ICE hold requests until after someone has been convicted of a crime. This policy is a subject of ongoing debate but youth commissioners have always supported a strong due process policy.
- **Police Use of Force:** After much public outcry following high-profile police shootings, the police chief resigned in 2016, and SFPD is subject to an ongoing review and reform of its use of force policies. The Department of Justice and DA's Blue Ribbon panel release findings in 2016.
- **Police Accountability:** After much public outcry in 2016, officials release differing recommendations for ways to increase police accountability. YC supported BOS legislation that would require data reporting on all "encounters" and traffic stops. An office of police accountability is put on the November 2016 ballot. The Public Defender calls for a youth seat on the police commission.
- **Chief's youth roundtable:** In 2015, youth commissioners design a plan for a youth advocate roundtable meeting with Police Chief Suhr, but the plans are not implemented due to the high profile issues affecting SFPD in 2016.
- **SFPD-CPS:** In 2015, youth commissioners highlight concerns over SFPD referrals made to Child Protective services in non-arrest situations as part of the police department's new domestic violence protocols and request ongoing oversight from the police commission.
- **Youth seat on police commission:** The Public Defender calls for a youth seat on the police commission in 2015.
- **Training youth in public service pathways:** The school district and city-contracted non-profits all struggle to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and youth workers due to the high cost



of living in San Francisco. MYEEP and Youth Works provide public service career pathway training for many high school students, but questions remain about how to support young, native San Franciscans in completing training to enter teaching and youth worker roles in San Francisco during young adulthood.

BODIES/PARTNERS:

- SFPD
- Office of Citizen Complaints
- Police Commission
- Juvenile Probation Department
- Adult Probation Department
- District Attorney's Office
- Sheriff's Department
- Public Defender's Office
- SFUSD
- OEWD
- DCYF
- OCEIA
- ICE
- Mayor's Office of Violence Prevention
- Juvenile Justice Commission
- Juvenile Probation Commission
- Sentencing Commission
- Reentry Council
- Immigrant Rights Commission
- Oversight Advisory Body
- OCOF
- HSA/FCS
- Juvenile Justice Providers Association
- VPI Programs
- Youth Employment Programs
- Legal Service Providers for Immigrant Youth

Commissioners brainstormed questions about these priorities. They included:

- What work is taking place to employ youth in the City?
- Can we create a platform addressing the issues face with SFPD?
- In what ways can we create a SFPD youth based relationship in neighborhoods that are directly affected by police?
- What advances can we make possible to confirm a youth seat on the SF Police Commission?
- Can we get and distribute Know Your Rights pamphlets?
- How do we erase the current mentality that youth have against police when it is being constantly propagated in the media?
- How do we reach out to other communities, ie, undocumented youth?
- What are the new sanctuary city laws?



- Are DACA fee waivers being fully implemented? Anything else we need to do for them?
- What's the status of "Due Process for All?"
- In what ways can we make DACA fee waivers more accessible to those that are fearful of applying?
- Sanctuary City: What can we do to earn this title?
- Is there a long term vision for undocumented youth ie, schooling, job opportunities, pathways to citizenship?
- How can we implement the jail visiting policies?
- How feasible is a youth seat on the police commission?

There was no public comment.

B. Committee priority brainstorm session

Commissioners ranked their priorities for the year so far. They were:

Commissioner Blacksher: 1) Police Accountability 2) Alternatives to Incarceration for youth 3) Youth seat on the police commission

Commissioner Amable: 1) Policing issues 2) Employment 3) Immigration 4) CIP issues

Commissioner Juarez: 1) Immigration 2) Policing Issues 3) CIP Issues 4) Employment

Commissioner Galeano: 1) Policing issues 2) CIP incarceration 3) Immigration 4) employment

Commissioner Matz: 1) Summer Jobs + and tech internships for SOMA youth 2) Police accountability to youth 3) Support for undocumented youth 4) Juvenile Probation & Juvenile Hall

Commissioner Mesler: 1) Employment 2) Policing issues 3) Incarceration

There was no public comment.

C. Committee Officer Elections

Commissioner Juarez, seconded by Commissioner Galeano, moved to nominate Commissioner Amable as chair. Commissioner Amable accepted.



Commissioner Galeano, seconded by Commissioner Juarez, moved to nominate Commissioner Galeano as chair. Commissioner Galeano accepted the nomination.

Commissioner inquired whether they could have co-chairs. Staff advised that accountability is very important with co-chair roles and to know who is preparing to facilitate. Commissioner Galeano advised to have a chair and vice chair.

Commissioners Galeano and Amable offered remarks in support of their bid for chair.

Commissioner Amable was unanimously elected to chair by roll call vote.

Commissioner Amable, seconded by Commissioner Juarez, moved to elect Commissioner Galeano vice chair. Commissioner Galeano accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Blacksher, seconded by Commissioner Juarez, moved to elect Commissioner Blacksher vice chair.

Commissioners Galeano and Blacksher gave remarks in support of their bid for vice chair.

Commissioner Galeano was elected to vice chair according to the following roll call vote: Votes for Galeano: Mesler, Juarez, Matz, Galeano, Amable; Votes for Blacksher: Blacksher.

There was no public comment.

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

Commissioners agreed to report out on their priority review and the chair and vice chair elections.

7. Executive Committee Report (Discussion Only)

There was none.

8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

Staff shared an invite to Project WHAT meeting on Friday and to a film screening about juvenile justice issues.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.