



San Francisco Youth Commission Transformative Justice Committee

***Draft* Minutes**

Monday, September 16th, 2019

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

City Hall, Room 278

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Members: Amara Santos, Arsema Asfaw, Josephine Cureton, Nora Hylton, Rome Jones

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

Interim Chair Hylton calls the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. Quorum is met. Meeting proceeds.

2) Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

There was no public comment. Commissioner Santos motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Asfaw. Motion passes by a vote of acclamation.

3) Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

A. July 8th, 2019

[Document A](#)

There was no public comment. Commissioner Asfaw motioned to approve of July 8th minutes, seconded by Commissioner Santos. Motion passes by a vote of acclamation.

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

There was no public comment.

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

A. Check In: What does Transformative Justice mean to you? (5 min)

Presented by Nora Hylton

Commissioner Asfaw asks why Transformative Justice, when previously there's restorative Justice. Commissioner Hylton acknowledges that transformative means that things are work as they are right now, but transforming it actually leads to healing solutions.

Commissioner Jones asks if all the meetings are open to the public. Commissioner Hylton confirms that yes all meetings are public.



Commissioner Asfaw: Transformative justice isn't about just improving the justice system but also following up with youth in connection with the justice system and that it grounds us into making sure that there is a web of support for youth and seeing how we can help.

Staff Truong - The personal is political and transformation acknowledges how the system has worked and should be working in people's favor.

Commissioner Jones - This committee stood out to me because of conversation of the work that has been done, looking at other systems in place to transform and equitable to serve the people and their needs. There's value in looking at systems in place and in some sense tearing it down and making sure it works for communities impacted.

Commissioner Hylton - transformative justice to me, means listening to people's stories and working against systems in place and listening to people and talking to people's experiences and want to uplift and making sure other people care about and what the system has done to people won't happen again.

Commissioner Santos - when i hear transform, it's 360 and butterflies it's ever evolving to a better place. it means that the system's we've had historically and have been extremely unjust and we need to talk about it. anybody can get caught up and more so for marginalized people, for black and brown people have targets on us.

Staff Ramos: transformative justice means working alongside communities and grassroots movements to create change.

Commissioner Cureton: Transformative justice acknowledges the complexities and is about challenging the status quo and thinking out of the box.

B. History of the Prison Industrial Complex & Current Context (20 min)
presented by Staff Truong

Staff Truong led the committee into a brief video by Angela Davis speaking on the shifting concept of the Prison industrial Complex and invited commissioners to review the Critical Resistance definition of the Prison Industrial Complex.

Discussion on the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC)

Commissioner Hylton: when they think about PIC - it involves thinking about institutions - beyond prison and labor, including media and how people are viewed and images taken from poc and immigrants and youth, all a system without a stereotyped images, the companies wouldn't have much power as much as they should.

Commissioner cureton: it is key that the PIC contributes to earning huge profits for corporations, The US have a lot more prisons than education systems and keeps a lot of resources away from healthy alternatives, mental health - physical health resources inside prisons



Commissioner Santos: when the media keeps up stereotype, i thought of influences on election, prisons are common knowledge shunned in any way, and earning political gains - crack down and even if there's no sustainability or substance behind it, reading this puts it together in how we just put it into one giant definition every system functions in one way or another, connected and dismantled one part and reconstruct another society.

Commissioner Asfaw, in the first sentence, the pic is maintained by people who get their power, everything intersects - benefit from million in other complexes we are in the gov't - when people are stereotyped, a lot of time when people see kids committing crimes it's over policing of neighborhoods - they don't get as long of a sentence caught with weed before it was legal. super important to notice the fact that there's no such thing as a delinquent child as someone who has been through not end up in complex - how we can change the environment.

Commissioner Jones: what stands out is how power is maintained and collected - mass media campaign on war on drugs when sentencing and mandates came about and how they convict at longer rate for crack than product cocaine, that plays into racial barriers and how we target some group of people - definition needs to talk about the processes people go in on probation, house arrest and different forms of custody and illusion of freedom - not a normal free person in condition of other things - lawyer get away for sentence mandates. important to note when we look at structure things are formed under.

Commissioners build on statements from the PIC concentric circles activity.

Staff Truong notes that we have to start with a grounding definition of what we are working against and what we are working for to be our north star for the year.

C. Action Planning for Committee Priorities

i) Goals (5 min)

(1) Presented by Josephine Cureton

(a) Commissioner Cureton led the committee into a goal setting exercise (Root to Fruit) with hopefully a bounty of things we can do and harvest outcomes by end of term. Problems noted were lack of know your rights training, lack of funding for marginalized communities, human rights violations, over policing of communities of color, getting rid of point system, and lack of police accountability. Goals include know your rights in schools, working with cbos, know your rights for other communities: undocumented or paroled, working with young people to break down overpolicing, and to host community events with youth in justice system and talk to us about what they feel.

ii) Local / Community / Legislative Justice System Updates (5 - 10 min)

Commissioner Jones: Police Commission resolution on youth representative on a standing agenda item 1x month to bring up issues that are affecting youth & youth outlook on those set issues, as a result we have got it - the dates where we will come will change may be the first or 2nd wed 2nd at 5:30pm.



Commissioner Santos: the general meeting SFCIPP is holding covers immigration and detention and Staff Ramos, Commissioner Santos and Jones will be attending.

Commissioner Cureton: things to note is the cash bail state wide.

iii) Creating Transformative Justice Timeline (10 – 15 min)

(1) Presented by Nora Hylton and Josephine Cureton

(a) Commissioners worked on a tentative timeline that will support their learning and goals for the year.

iv) Next Steps (5 – 10 min)

(1) Commissioners moved to cancel the Sept. 30th meeting in favor of attending SFPD's youth summit/townhall.

D. Chair and Vice Chair Elections (5 - 10 min)
presented by Staff Truong

Nominations:

Commissioner Cureton nominates for Commissioner Hylton for chair, seconded by Commissioner Jones. Commissioner Hylton accepts.

Candidate statements:

Commissioner Hylton: Chair and vice chair are facilitation titles, we are just members of the committee with more structure. I hope to just support everyone and that we get to do all the things we want as a committee.

There were no questions.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cureton: hylton

Commissioner Santos: hylton

Commissioner Asfaw: hylton

Commissioner Jones: hylton

Commissioner Hylton: hylton

Commissioner Hylton is the new chair.

Vice chair Elections:

Commissioner Asfaw nominates Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Santos.

Commissioner Jones accepts.

Commissioner Jones: I wasn't prepared for this nomination - no speech, but really excited to do whatever I can do to push the process forward, gonna let my work speak for myself.

Questions:



Commissioner Santos - how do you feel your exp, knowledge, background - help tj and individually as well?

Commissioner Jones: TJ is something directly impacts people i know personally, i think and people i know in prison. In general i know a lot of people and well connected to city & district, I think from the goals goals we have to reach out to young people and give more input and something i can push mission forward and making sure the input we bring out to others and expands in different types of people and ultimately create the most equitable and just - things we are working on.

By roll call election: all commissioners voted for Commissioner Jones.

Commissioner Jones is the new Vice Chair.

E. Appreciations (5 min)

Commissioners shared appreciations for each other and affirmed themselves.

6) Staff Report (Discussion Only)

There was nothing to report.

7) Announcements

A. Community Events

- i) Jones: we got invited to host a meeting at BMAGIC and host a meeting at Bayview YMCA, on thursday and thurs will be presenting to willie brown ms. 26th - i'm presenting to third st. youth clinic.

8) Adjournment

Commissioner Hylton adjourned the meeting at 7:07 pm.