San Francisco Youth Commission
Transformative Justice Committee
Draft Minutes
Tuesday, November 12th, 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: Nora Hylton (Chair), Rome Jones (Vice Chair), Amara Santos, Arsema Asfaw, and Josephine Cureton

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

Commissioner Jones called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. There was no public comment. Quorum was met. Commissioner Cureton motioned to excuse Commissioner Asfaw and Hylton’s absence, seconded by Commissioner Santos. The motion passed by a vote of acclamation.

2) Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

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

3) Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

A. October 28th, 2019

There was no public comment. Commissioner Cureton motioned to approve of the October 28th minutes with amendment to 5B “Commissioner Hilton to Commissioner Hylton”, seconded by Commissioner Santos. The 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. Role Assignments (2 min)
   i) Timekeeper – Commissioner Cureton
   ii) Action Item Sender – Commissioner Santos
School Resource Officers Overview (30 – 45 min)
Presented by A/Captain Yulanda Williams

School Resource Officers (SRO) Captain Yulanda Williams talked to our commissioners regarding the history, duties and responsibilities of SROS, and opportunities for feedback. Guests included Kevin Truitt and Anna Soft from SFUSD.

The SRO program began in 1995 as part of drug education officers that worked in elementary to highschool students and bringing them on field trips. On 1997 there was a focus on safety of schools which led to having a basic training program with 40 hours of training to address the needs of young people. The budget formerly was funded by the state to work in service of SFUSD with an allocated 25 – 35 SROs to address the needs. Over the years with funding restrictions and grants inaccessible to the department there is now only 13 SROs out of the agreed upon 15. Their presence at school site is to teach Know Your Rights curriculum, address cyberbully, suicides, and crises situations. However before Williams came on board, 90% of the SROs did not go through basic SRO training. Moving forward February they will engage in a 40 hour training. Last month they worked with Nadine Burke to learn about resilience. In their once a month 2 hour trainings they hope to build up their tool kit. It is YW’s goal to bring in guest speakers and perspectives to make sure SROs can adequately be in service to young people. She emphasized that SROs are not to be called to elementaries to be a disciplinarian.

The department has been updating their Youth Know Your Rights brochure for the last few months. The original content is almost nine years old and was put together by committee and DPA feedback. Recently DPA issued their own brochure which actually provides the department with new found flexibility with regard to the medium we use and the way we organize the content of our brochure. Subsequently, we are holding focus group sessions with a few youth-based organizations as well as high schools in the city. We would like to include a session with members of the Youth Commission.

Questions from Youth Commissioners:

Commissioner Cureton: Why is it that 90% of SROs were not trained?
YW: She was not privy to that as it was another department, she formerly was assigned to the Community Engagement Division. But currently a problem is that 50% are new folks with only 5 – 6months of training. They do offer conference calls 9:45am Tuesdays to brief about districts and concerns.

Commissioner Jones: What types of trainings were expected?
KT: Previously SROs were trained on Fridays but priorities and curriculum shift over the years. Previously it was all about implicit bias and cultural humility now it’s restorative justice. Consistency of trainings is not always there for SROs or teachers.
YW: Moving forward I hope to include trainings on mental health, teenage brain, and the newest addition of Miranda Rights. Within SFPD there are trainings every two years.

Commissioner Jones: How exactly can 13 SROS cover all of SFUSD?
YW; currently there are 8 districts with SROs and some require 2 SROs. But it’s basically through rounds. However we are moving away from SFUSD calling SROs directly. As there should be more of a protocol for emergencies, to now call dispatch.

Commissioner Jones: Is there any consequences for going around protocol?
YW: That will fall under SFUSD to disciplinary action.

Commissioner Santos: Given there are rounds at SROs to schools, how do students develop personal relationships with SROs?
YW: SROs also go through law related curriculum and with consent attend parent teacher conferences. For example at June Jordan, there was a breakfast with students. Occasionally SROs go to schools that require their assets more to offer wrap around services.

Commissioner Cureton: What are the SRO qualifications?
YW: There are sign ups 2x a year and it’s up online. Currently, we are hoping to have a SGNT. SRO to address cases currently under investigation.

Moving forward, YW invited the commissioners to be a part of the FEB 24th week of SRO training to observe and have discussions.

KT shared a few updates for the SFUSD-SFPD MOU. There was a lot of asks from community regarding trainings, such as child/adolescent trainings, special ed, disability, cultural humility, and restorative. These trainings encounter challenges of capacity, supplementing SROs with patrol officers who might not be as trained. There was an important note to be specific in criteria for arrests on campus and what exigent circumstances mean. A concern that came up is that not everyone who attends high school is 17 and under but people wanted high schoolers to be covered with Miranda rights protections. This would require a change to SF Code. Any additional changes can come from the chief or the superintendent.

C. Action Planning for Committee Priorities

1. Local / Community Updates (5 minutes)
   i) Commissioner Cureton shared that Chesa Boudin is our new DA. We shall see how he will approach this role and what the transition will look like.
   ii) Commissioner Jones is starting a district 10 youth council and is working with his supervisor and YCD.

2. Timeline Review (10 min)
   a. Nov. 12th SFUSD – SFPD MOU update in BOE
      i. Commissioners Santos, Jones, Cureton, and Alameri will speak in public comment. However, the item on the agenda may only pop up at 9pm so there is flexibility depending on their capacity.
   b. Nov. 25th Juvenile Hall Site Visit
      i. Commissioners will prepare questions for 12-3pm at YGC.
   c. Dec. 9th Chief Scott in conversation
      i. Commissioners will prepare questions.
   d. Tentative KYR focus group with SFPD
i. We will hear a presentation from Asja Steeves.
   e. Feb 24th week of SRO training
      i. YW spoke on this earlier.

3. Omnibus Budget Priorities (15 min)
   i) Commissioners went through their preliminary budget priorities: for education (know your rights), employment (stipends, compensation), health and justice. They don’t want to fund weapons (tasers and guns)– they want to fund resources and community care.

4. Police Commission Report Back (5 min)
   i) Commissioner Jones will report back on their feedback on SROs and how the current justice system is informing young people.

D. Appreciations (5 min)
   i) Commissioners appreciated each other’s dedication and commitment to the work and values.

6) Staff Report (Discussion Only)

Thanks for pulling through!

7) Announcements

A. Community Events
   a. Commissioner Santos shared that Jenny Lam wants an ethnic studies council that meets 4x a year and there are 2 seats open and wants our collaboration.

8) Adjournment

Commissioner Jones adjourned the meeting at 7:04 PM.