City and County of San Francisco
YOUTH COMMISSION
LGBTQ+ Task Force

MINUTES

Thursday, April 20, 2023
5:00 p.m.

IN-PERSON MEETING with REMOTE ACCESS

Members: Gabbie Listana (Chair, D6), Vanessa Pimentel (Vice Chair, D10), Ewan Barker Plummer (Member, Mayoral), Oz Rafer (Member, Non-Voting).

Present: Gabbie Listana, Vanessa Pimentel, Ewan Barker Plummer, Oz Rafer.

Absent:

Tardy:

The San Francisco Youth Commission’s LGBTQ+ Task Force met remotely in regular session through videoconferencing, and provided public comment through teleconferencing, on April 20, 2023, with Chair Listana presiding.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

   Chair Listana called the meeting to order at 5:11pm.

   On the call of the roll:

   Roll Call Attendance: 3 present.

   Vanessa Pimentel present
   Ewan Barker Plummer present
   Gabbie Listana present

   A quorum of the LGBTQ+ Task Force membership was present.

2. Communications
Joshua Rudy Ochoa, Community Engagement Specialist of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

3. **Approval of Agenda** (Action Item)

   No discussion, and no public comment.

   Commissioner Barker Plummer, seconded by Commissioner Pimentel, motioned to approve the April 20, 2023 LGBTQ+ Task Force meeting agenda. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

   Roll Call Vote: 3 ayes.

   Vanessa Pimentel  aye
   Ewan Barker Plummer  aye
   Gabbie Listana  aye

   Action: Agenda Approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes** (Action Item)
   a. January 31, 2023 (Packet Materials)

   No discussion, no public comment.

   Commissioner Pimentel, seconded by Commissioner Barker Plummer, motioned to approve the January 31, 2023 LGBTQ+ Task Force meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

   Roll Call Vote: 3 ayes.

   Vanessa Pimentel  aye
   Ewan Barker Plummer  aye
   Gabbie Listana  aye

   Action: Minutes Approved.

5. **Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda** (2 minutes per comment)

   No public comment.
6. **Presentation: Status of LGBTQ+ Youth Housing Insecurity and Homelessness**
   
a. Presenters: Alyssa Avalos, Youth Services Director & Arturo Reyes, Housing Manager (SF LGBT Center); Laura Lala-Chavez, Executive Director (LYRIC).

LYRIC could not be in attendance today, but Lindsay from Larkin Street Youth Services was able to attend. Lindsay Nathanson, Program Manager, from LSYS discussed the programs and services that they offer. Arturo Reyes, Housing Manager, from LGBT Center discussed the programs and services that they offer. Reyes gave the presentation to the Task Force.

Member Rafer asked if there was basically no way to define their identity through the current system, to which Reyes said that there is not and that youth aren’t able to respond except in very specific situations. Commissioner Adair asked if this was because there was a limited supply of housing, to which Reyes said yes and no, since the scale of the housing assessment can increase if there’s limited housing but that there are units available. Commissioner Adair asked who runs and determines the scale for the housing assessment, to which Reyes said Megan Owens and Shireen McSpadden (Department of HSH). Commissioner Barker Plummer asked what is the rationale behind HSH not changing the scale and what does the advocacy look like to change it, to which Reyes said they meet regularly with HSH and have told them that the system does not work in favor of youth and LGBTQ+ youth. Member Rafer asked what would make the adult primary assessment more accommodating to youth, to which Reyes said that every person is different but that having a separate youth assessment would be much more helpful in housing queer and trans youth who are homeless. Member Rafer asked if adding more demographic questions would be the only part of the primary assessment they would add or if there’d be more, to which Reyes went over the application to show what the problematic parts of the application are since it’s not catered towards youth. Commissioner Miller asked if they’re aware of other cities that use a better system, to which Reyes said that to those he’s reached out to, that they were surprised that youth were required to apply through the adult primary assessment. Commissioner Miller asked if there was housing specifically set aside for specific groups, to which Reyes said there’s inconsistencies in the reporting numbers and that they don’t have specific space for communities. Commissioner Barker Plummer asked what their asks or specific requests they would recommend for the Youth Commission to advocate for, to which Reyes said they hope to include demographic questions about both sexual orientation and gender identity, and the time frame questions since youth are almost always not going to qualify for those. Reyes said that the only option left for those who don’t qualify for permanent supportive housing, many trans and nonbinary youth close themselves off from that as an option because it’s an unsafe environment. Chair Listana asked if there were any other supportive services for LGBTQ+ youth besides navigation centers, to which Reyes said that there are only three navigation centers that he trusts for queer
and trans youth or adults (3rd St; She-boutique; Jazzy’s Place). Commissioner Barker Plummer asked what their thoughts are on the Shelter For All legislation that Supervisor Mandelman is proposing, to which Reyes said that he tries his best to fully understand what shelters provide in resources and services to be able to refer them to, and that these shelters need to have the proper staffing and support for LGBTQ+ youth. Member Rafer asked if the shelters are available to those under 18 years old, to which Reyes said no but there are some options available if they’re enrolled in school.

Member Rafer asked what would be the next steps if there’s a resolution that is written, to which Commissioner Barker Plummer said that they can advocate for the Board of Supervisors to change it.

7. **Task Force Business** (discussion & possible action)
   a. Next Steps for Task Force Meetings

   Members asked for the possibility of regular meetings, to which non-CEEC week, which would be Tuesday, May 9th, 5pm-6pm. The upcoming dates for the Task Force to meet will be May 9th, May 23rd, June 13th, June 27th, and July 11th. Staff will send out meeting information and calendar invites.

   b. LGBTQ-related Updates

   No updates.

8. **Staff Report** (discussion item)

   Joshua Rudy Ochoa, CPS of the YC, will be sending out meeting calendar invites. Staff will also be sending out the information that our presenters sent us via email.

9. **Announcements** (this includes Community Events)

   No announcements.

10. **Adjournment**

    There being no further business, the LGBTQ+ Task Force adjourned at 6:55pm.