



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission
222 Paul Scannell Drive • San Mateo, CA 94402

Minutes of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission

March 28, 2023 | 5:15-7:15 pm

College of San Mateo College Heights Conf. Room and Zoom

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Monroe Labouisse, Chair; Wesley Liu, Co-Vice Chair Administration; Ameya Nori, Co-Vice Chair Administration; Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Membership; Paul Bocanegra; Allen Bustos; Sathvik Nori; Johanna Rasmussen; Susan Swope; Melissa Wilson

Commissioners Absent: Appollonia “Dee” Uhila

Partners and Stakeholders Present:

Ligia Andrade Zuniga-SMUHSD Trustee; Ashley Dwarshuis – Art of Yoga Project, Liaison, SMC Commission on Disabilities; Jehan Clark-Probation; Ron Reyes (Private Defender); Melanie Stauffer-Probation; Jennifer Martinez-Juvenile and Family Services RWC; Chris Woo-Skyline College, Project Change; Shelly Johnson, SMC Office of Education; Victor Hernandez (Spanish Interpreter); Francisco Dolores (Spanish Interpreter); Aurora Pena, SMC BHRS; Michael Lim, Behavioral Health Commission

Community Members: Becca Kieler, Whitney Genevro (Prospective Commissioner), Dana Johnson, Ali Picos, Evan Rodriguez, Kris Shouse, Ariana Zavala, Mona Shah; Melissa Poling; Sophia Bollag; Padmaja Nuvuluru; Charon; Alejandro Vilchez; Rose Lavalley

I. Preliminary Business

- a. The meeting was called to order by Chair Labouisse at 5:15 pm. A quorum was established
- b. **M:** Swope // **S:** Liu to approve the minutes of January 2023 meeting. Approved unanimously as corrected.
- c. **M:** Swope // **S:** A. Nori to approve the minutes of February 2023 meeting. Approved unanimously as corrected.
- d. **M:** Swope// **S:** Liu to approve the March meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.
- e. **M:** Membership Subcommittee to recommend Whitney Genevro to be a Commissioner on the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission. Approved unanimously.

II. Oral Communications (Public Comment)

- a. Nancy Goodban expressed her thanks for the work of the commission and expressed her concern about strip searching, offered her support to stop trying kids as adults, lack of programs, hygiene, good food, vocational opportunities. She noted that there are 11 sexual abuse of minors in custody lawsuits against the County. Finally, Ms. Goodban expressed her support for the JJDPC Resolution on Youth Tried as Adults.



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- b. Becca Kieler expressed her thanks for the commission, and introduced *In Our Care*, a community group that supports the JJDC resolution against trying youth as adults. Ms. Kieler stated that strip searches should be stopped immediately.
- c. Charon expressed concern about therapeutic detention and asked about how we can ensure a truly therapeutic detention for boys in the facilities.
- d. Michael Lim, stated that the Behavioral Health Commission is recruiting for empty seats, particularly looking for justice-involved, LGBT, and unhoused communities, but all are welcome.
- e. Commissioner Swope announced that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

III. Updates from System Partners:

- a. Private Defender (Rayes): Statistics for March 1- March 28
 - i. This month, the private defenders have handled 46 cases. Nine were alleged 707 (b) offenses, and 37 were misdemeanors or general felonies
 - ii. The Miranda hotline handled 42 Miranda consultations
 - iii. There were no petitions for sealing of records.
 - b. District Attorney (Hahn) reported that there has been an uptick in firearms and juvenile crimes, but it is difficult to attribute it to one cause. Ms. Hahn did not have any statistical information to corroborate this.
 - c. BHRS (Pena) Ms. Pena said that family therapy could be court ordered, or provided if judges, probation officers, or clinicians deem it to be beneficial. Therapy can be provided to amenable families. Youth are here for different reasons and timeframes, so it is difficult to pinpoint how many youth would have family therapy at some point over detention.
1. There has been discussion amongst behavioral health professionals about alternatives to strip search. All work is done through “trauma-informed lens”.
- 1. Recruitment and hiring at BHRS has been difficult, there are multiple vacant positions.
 - 2. Youth with mental health services written into an Individualized Education Program (IEP), and youth on psychiatric medication are required to enter therapy, but others may decline.
 - 3. BHRS collaborates with probation to discuss what services might look like.
- h. Probation (Clark)
 - 13. As of March 28, 2023, there were 35 youth at the Youth Services Center: 4 female, 31 male. There were 4 girls at Camp Kemp (2 from San Mateo County, 2 from Sonoma County). There were 23 youth on EMP.



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14. February 2023 Diversion and Intake:

- 345 total cases
- 217 diverted in court
- 8 for assessment contract
- 8 for victim awareness program, mediation, and petty theft
- 31 referrals to DA
- 128 supervision
 - 44 new cases
 - 8 youth with gang orders
 - 0 youth at placement
 - 2 receiving AB 12 services
- 4 youth on Family Preservation Program (FPP)

19. Top 5 offenses: First Degree Robbery, First Degree Residential Burglary, Lewd and Lascivious Acts with a minor, Sexual Assault, and Vehicle Theft

Charon (Community member) stated that Zoom visits were available up to twice a week for ten minutes, in place of in-person visits (that are an hour). Asked if the ten-minute Zoom visit time frame is therapeutic.

20.

IV. Consideration of motion by Commissioner Wilson to request Chief Keene's attendance via a letter as attached in the March 2023 agenda packet.

22.

23. **M:** Wilson // **S:** Swope to request Chief John Keene attend JJDP meetings. **9** Ayes, 1 No. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Rose Lavalley (Community Member) emphasized the importance of the Chief participating and engaging in conversations with families and communities.

Becca Kieler (Community Member) spoke in support of sending the letter to Chief Keene.

Padmaja Nuvuluru (Community Member) suggested that a few commissioners meet with Chief Keene first to attempt to restore the delicate relationship.

Charon (Community Member) emphasized the importance of Chief Keene listening to the voices of the community, especially justice-involved families, and called for the Commission to send the letter.



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V. Current Commission Projects

a. **Sexual Abuse Prevention**—Commissioner Rasmussen reported that a letter has been sent to Chief Keene requesting certain documents. Chief Keene has acknowledged the request and will forward the requested documents to the Ad Hoc Committee shortly.

b. **Food and Lodging in Detention** (Labouisse) The JJDP’s presentation to the Board of Supervisors is confirmed for April 25th. Findings from 2022 Inspection Reports and an overview of food and lodging at the Hall will be presented.

24. Sheriff Corpus will be forwarding the Memorandum of Understanding to the Ad Hoc Committee regarding food services shortly.

Public Records request has been processed for the Hall and Camp Kemp budget

f. **2023 Inspections**—Commissioner Rasmussen provided a timeline for the 2023 inspections.

1. Teams will be assembled from March through April
2. Documents and scheduling visits will occur May through June
3. Inspections will be performed around August
4. Reports will be drafted, circulated, and approved from September to November
5. Letters to stakeholders will be issued.
- 26.

g. **d. Understanding Transitioning of Detained Youth** (Wilson) CASA and justice-involved families are the primary groups of people to interview. The committee needs to clarify protocols for reviewing of case files and transition plans.

27.e. **Educational Skills Attainment in Detention**—The project’s goal is to obtain data on skills attainment of students in English and Math while in detention. Requests to Chief Keene and Superintendent McGee for data have been acknowledged.

28.

VI. New Project Proposal

a. **Firearms Proposal**—Commissioner A. Nori) proposed a project to explore how school administration and law enforcement handle incidents of students with firearms on campus.

31. **M:** Rasmussen // **S:** A. Nori to approve Firearms Project Proposal as listed in agenda. Approved unanimously.

32.

VII. Updates/Announcements



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- a. Commissioners Swope and Wilson presented on the role of the JJDP and the Juvenile Justice System to the League of Women Voters of North and Central San Mateo County.
- b. Commissioner Rasmussen stated that the Commission's Resolution on Youth Tried as Adults has garnered tremendous community support including from the North Peninsula ACLU, and San Mateo County Democratic Party.
- c. Commissioner Bustos stated that the Jumpstart grant from Today's Future Sound will likely provide (what services?) services in the Hall.
- d. Public Comment (on Item VII):

Michael Lim (Community Member) drew attention to a recent lawsuit from the National Center for Youth Law about physical mail being restricted by the Sheriff's Department and inquired as to whether this practice is taking place at the Youth Services Center.
- e. Commissioner Liu announced that the California Association of Youth Courts will be hosting a Teen Dating Violence Virtual Roundtable on Friday, April 14th, from 3:30-4:45, on Zoom.

Adjourned at 7:22 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 25th 2023