



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

February 22, 2022 | 5:15-7:15 pm

Remote Meeting

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Monroe Labouisse, Chair; Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Administration; Rocsana Enriquez, Vice Chair Membership; Steven Duddy; Rebecca Flores; Armaan Khare-Arora; Sathvik Nori; Johanna Rasmussen; Susan Swope; Melissa Wilson

Commissioners Absent: Paul Bocanegra, Austin Willis

Additional Attendees:

Judge Susan Etezadi – Juvenile Court
Jehan Clark – Probation
Melanie Stauffer – Probation
Alex Parikh-Briggs – Liaison, Youth Commission
Sasha Newton – Commission Volunteer
Wesley Liu – Commission Volunteer
Jennifer Martinez – Juvenile & Family Specialist, Redwood City PD
Mary Lynn Fitton – The Art of Yoga Project
Stewart Hyland – Community Member
Leah Worthington – Community Member

Ron Rayes – Private Defender Program
John Fong – HAS, Children and Family Services
Aurora Pena – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Jeneé Littrell – SMC Office of Education
Ligia Andrade Zúñiga – SMUHSD Board of Trustees, Liaison- SMC Commission on Disabilities
Chelsea Bonini – Liaison- SMC Commission on Disabilities
Chris Woo – Project Change, Skyline College
Tania Sole – Community Member
Charles Reilly – Community Member
Clara Jaeckel – Community Member

I. Administrative Business

- a. **Call to Order:** Chair Labouisse called meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. **Roll Call and Establish Quorum:** A quorum was established at 5:16 p.m.
- c. **Motion to Adopt Resolution:** Meeting Location Change for Brown Act Compliance (AB361).

MOTION by Commissioner Swope to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Enriquez. The motion carried by voice vote, with no objections and no abstentions.

- d. **Approval of November 2021 and January 2022 Minutes:** Chair Labouisse entertained a motion to adopt both the November and January minutes with the corrections noted.

MOTION by Commissioner Swope to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Huber-Levy. The motion carried by voice vote, with no objections and no abstentions.

- e. **Welcome remarks** (Labouisse). Chair Labouisse welcomed everyone, especially members of the public and county agencies working with youth in the juvenile justice system. He noted that a large part of the agenda has been allocated to reports from Commission project committees. The Commission will also resume hosting guest speakers from our community; Ms Littrell from the County Office of Education will speak to the Commission regarding the Gateway School in March or April.



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- f. **Agenda Review & Approval:** The current agenda was adopted as written with one correction (adding Commissioner Swope to agenda item 5) by unanimous consent, with no objections or abstentions.
- g. **Updates and Announcements:** (Labouisse):
- All Commissioners are encouraged to attend the San Mateo County Boards and Commissions training on March 3.
 - The JJDP 2021 Annual Report has been completed, with corrections noted at the January meeting, and sent to the Board of Supervisors and posted on the website.
 - Parent Guidebook – The Peninsula Library System has requested 300 additional English and Spanish copies of the “Parent Guidebook: how to help your child after arrest”, written and published by the JJDP as a resource for parents of children entering juvenile justice system. The Guidebook also serves as a useful reference for anyone seeking to understand the juvenile justice system.
 - Commissioner Telleria has submitted her resignation from the Commission – Commissioner Labouisse read from her letter, highlighting the accomplishments of the Commission and her confidence in the leadership going forward.

II. Oral Communications: No written or oral public comments were provided for items not on the agenda.

III. System Updates and Trends:

- a. **Juvenile Court** (Judge Etezadi)
Although the mask mandated has been lifted in our County, the court is still requiring masks in court and in clerks’ offices (not in hallways). As a result of the Omicron surge, contested hearings (witnesses called to testify) have pivoted back to remote hearings via Zoom. However, the court continues to respect minors’ constitutional right to appear in person, as they have right to confront their witnesses in courtroom. The overall objective is for people to feel comfortable and so court tries to stay flexible. Judge Etezadi especially thanked the HSA and other justice partners who supported the courts in gaining access to appropriate technology early on during the pandemic.
- b. **Private Defender Program (Rayes)**
More attorneys are now appearing in person in court; attorneys are encouraged to meet in person when possible. Mr. Rayes hopes to be able to provide more substantial updates on legislative activity soon; will meet with Commissioners Bocanegra and Huber-Levy on a regular monthly basis to coordinate support. One update: unfortunately, did not have sufficient support (2/3 majority) to bring AB1127 (Juvenile Three Strike Reform) forward this legislative cycle, so this bill will not proceed.
- c. **District Attorney’s Office** (Cho - absent)
No report given this month.
- d. **Probation** (Stauffer, Clark)
Due to more positive COVID situation, probation officers are now able to go back out in field to meet with youth and families, in schools and homes. This has been very positively received.



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Status of Youth engaged with Probation (Stauffer)

- Placement: 0
- Intake (Assessment/Investigations): 128
- Supervised Probation: 115
 - Informal Contract (Diversion): 3
 - With Gang Conditions: 8
- EMP: 20 (on probation or pending hearing)
- Non-Minor Dependent Status: 6
- DJJ: 4 (one youth scheduled for parole this month, will return to YSC)
- 67% youth of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish speaking descent served (highest percentage)

Youth Services Center/Camp Kemp (Clark)

YSC: 20 (male youth)

Camp Kemp: 1 (female youth)

Have currently suspended in person services due to recent COVID outbreak; in accord with County protocol have moved to 2 week watch list. School is mostly virtual with use of packets at this time.

Thank you to Commissioners Rasmussen and Nori for providing tablets for youth at YSC. Plan to have person with lived experience speak to youth has been postponed until in person visit is possible as that will be more impactful. Commissioner Swope noted that Nick Jasso, former YSC youth and JJDPCC Commissioner, has agreed to speak to youth at YSC once in person visits are possible.

Total SMC youth in formal juvenile justice system: 274

e. Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (Pena - absent)

No report given this month.

f. County Office of Education (Littrell)

Had WASC (accreditation) visit for court and community schools program (Gateway, Camp Kemp, Hillcrest and Canyon Oaks), which required in depth analysis of data and programs in advance of visit and resulted in powerful and positive conversations. All staff contributed to writing the report; will keep us informed of recommendations on accreditation.

Excited about progress with Gateway, working with districts to move away from exclusionary programming and towards better serving a broader spectrum of students within districts. Working with all relevant services across the County to look at protocols (suicide prevention, threat assessment, sexual assault) on coordinating efforts across systems; launching new trainings and refreshers to ensure systems can best support youth in need. Looking forward to a more normal spring with the end of impact of Omicron variant.

Re County schools: 16 youth enrolled in Hillcrest; 4 students enrolled in GEP at Camp Kemp; 12 students at Canyon Oaks (full, with waitlist); 19-21 students at Gateway Community School (serving districts who refer students on expulsion/disciplinary pathway).



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Ms Littrell will provide a longer update in February regarding re-envisioning a therapeutic model for county and court schools, and also regarding MAP testing to track students' progress while at school and the use of Pathways software to assist this.

g. **HSA, Children and Family Services (Fong)**

A written update on data was provided to this meeting (attached to minutes). Very proud of the services provided: as an essential service, HSA have been providing core functions in person since March 2020. Due to Omicron, have resumed in-office hybrid model.

- Calls to hotline have returned to pre-COVID 500-600 calls range: this is good as it means they have 'eyes on the kids'; make field calls for approximately 40-50% of these.
- Coordination between system and community partners and agencies is very important to being able to serve community.
- Children in care, overall, has continued to decline over past two years – fewer petitions filed through juvenile court and less court involvement with families –anticipate this increasing given hotline numbers have risen.
- State-mandated 5 year system improvement plan expires March 2023: will be completing self-assessment with focus and stakeholder groups to gain feedback to prioritize efforts over the next five years.

Chair Labouisse provided opportunity for any members of public who wish to speak or make comments on agenda items to do so – none at this time.

IV. Committees – Actions and Updates:

- Inspections** (Labouisse, Rasmussen): Chair Labouisse appointed Commissioner Rasmussen to chair the Committee for Inspections in 2022. Chair Labouisse noted that Commissioner Rasmussen did an outstanding job leading the YSC Inspection team in 2021.
- Social Media & Marketing** (Rasmussen): Commissioner Rasmussen reviewed the current social media contact data, and reported that the Commissioner Spotlight series is going well. She asked new commissioners to submit their biographies as soon as possible so that they may be added to the website.
- Membership** (Enriquez): Commissioner Enriquez is working on Commission goals for recruitment and requested support from additional Commissioners; currently committee includes Commissioners Duddy and Labouisse. Commissioners Rasmussen, Flores, and Huber-Levy offered to assist.
- Dashboard** (Labouisse, Khare-Arora): Dashboard numbers (link provided on website) will be updated and some improvements made, with the goal that data be actively used during JJDC meetings, as well as available to the general public from the website.

V. Ad Hoc Committees / Projects for 2022

- Mission, Aspirations, Operating Policies (Labouisse, Bocanegra, Enriquez, Huber-Levy, Swope):**
 - **Mission Statement:** The mission statement has been slightly revised; Judge Etezadi recommended that as Commission is governed by statute, may wish to consider having County Counsel review it as well. Commissioner Huber-Levy suggested, and Chair Labouisse agreed, to consult Ms Holiber, Deputy County Counsel and bring Mission Statement back to Commission for further discussion and approval next month.
 - **Aspirations:** Chair Labouisse provided a preview of the revised set of aspirations which will be brought back to the Commission for discussion and approval next month.



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- b. **Reimagine Juvenile Hall** (Labouisse, Bocanegra): Commissioners Labouisse and Bocanegra serve on the subcommittee of the SMC Board of Supervisors. So far, only one meeting has been convened due to COVID-Omicron issues; reconvening in March.
- c. **JJCC and SB823 (DJJ Realignment) Subcommittee** (Labouisse): The Committee and Subcommittee met last week: JJCC oversees funds of about \$4M/year, which will remain at this level for the upcoming year.
 - i. Subcommittee on Realignment: at the end of 2021, the state created the OYCR (Office of Youth and Community Restoration) and appointed as director Katherine Lucero, retired Santa Clara County judge, who is committed to supporting the youth coming out of DJJ. The OYCR is beginning by reviewing the plans of all 823 subcommittees from across state for Alignment block grants. SMC Probation submitted its plan in December 2021: funds have been allocated; one youth may return to SMC soon, at which time a multidisciplinary team will be convened within 30 days to develop a plan for that youth.
- d. **Outreach to Elected Officials** (Labouisse, Bocanegra): have not held any new meetings since last JJDC meeting; currently seeking a successor for Commissioner Labouisse on this committee.
- e. **Peer Diversion Program** (Wilson, Willis, Huber-Levy, Duddy): Commissioner Wilson outlined the current status of this project and its progress to launch: have a new name (Peer Point), and San Francisco Study Center is the planned fiscal sponsor; focus will be on serving communities currently without distinct diversion programs. Youth volunteers, Wesley Liu and Alex Parikh-Briggs, introduced themselves and their work with this project. Sasha Newton, current Commission volunteer, is supporting this project while gaining experience supporting students at Menlo-Atherton High School with restorative practices through Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center. The soft launch of this project is planned for Menlo-Atherton High School in April 2022.
- f. **Diversion Programs** (Swope, Telleria, Willis): All PDs in County and Sheriff's department have been contacted; in so doing, they also reviewed how School Resource Officer activities operate: 10 of 30 cities in County provide SRO services to school districts in their cities, providing a significant range of services. Initially identified 4 distinct diversion programs in SMC; also confirming details of two other possible diversion programs (SSF, San Bruno). While not many youth are being served in the current diversion programs, need for diversion is rising, and the programs indicate a high level of success. Intention is to complete the report over next few days then circulate to stakeholders to confirm accuracy of the data.
- g. **School Attendance** (Swope): This project team has not met since December, but hope to resume meeting this month. Have completed a survey of school districts, and initiated writing a summary. Further updates will be provided at the next meeting.
- h. **Advocating for After School Programs** (Huber-Levy): Commissioner Huber-Levy presented an update on the work accomplished to date and the current ongoing efforts to advocate for additional programs in underserved areas of our County. Commissioner Huber-Levy noted that former Commissioner Toni Barrack, whose leadership and contributions have been invaluable to this project, is continuing to support this project as a volunteer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 29, 2022