



*Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services*

City of San José Youth Commission

District 1 – Sachin Peddada
District 3 – Stephanie Tran
District 5 – Daryl Cristobal
District 7 – Asim Wali Hasan
District 9 – Izza Khan
Citywide – Tara Pichumani

Thuy Phuong – District 2
Melissa Ly – District 4
Brendon Yu – District 6
Angela Nguyen – District 8
Mason Kimmel – District 10

Meeting Minutes Jan.27, 2014

The San José Youth Commission convened their monthly meeting on January 27, 2014 at 6:32pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Present: Commissioner Peddada, Phuong, Tran, Ly, Cristobal, Yu, Nguyen, Khan, and Pichumani

Absent: Commissioner: Hasan

Late: Commissioner Kimmel

II. Consent Calendar

a. Approve the December 16, 2013 meeting minutes

M/S Commissioner Peddada and Commissioner Phuong approved the December, 16, 2013 meeting minutes.

III. Open Forum

None

IV. Ceremonial Items

a. Commissioners Tran nominated Fadumo Osman for the Community Involvement Peer to Peer award for her active role in her community and for her role in the Mike Honda's office. Ms. Osman also supported local efforts and organization such as the aid relief for the homeless and special efforts for the typhoon victims in the Philippines.

M/S Commissioner Tran motioned to accept the nomination, Commissioner Peddada seconded. Motion Pass

V. Reports

a. **Council Liaison report** - Mr. Huges reported on behalf of Vanessa Compean. On January 28th council will be reviewing staff recommendation to modify the Living Wage recommendation.

On Jan 4th council reviewed the bond funded softball facility report. There is a recommendation to accept the report and pursue negotiations with the owners of Arcadia to construct 4 adult softball fields in the council district 8. Discussions with the county for additional 8 softball fields to be built on county fairgrounds will continue. January 8th support of the employee paid parental leave did not have sufficient support in the Rules Committee. However, several council members requested that this item be placed in the council agenda for further discussion.

Jan. 15th the Rules committee will be reviewing the body worn cameras for police Officers item. Jan 29th Council member Liccardo will present the Lend the Police a Hand – crowd sorting video evidence. Recommendation was directed to the City Mangers and the Public Safety and Finance committee to evaluate whether the City can maintain a data base where residence can register their surveillance cameras and videos to use for crime solving purposes. This issue has many controversies around it. Council is also finalizing the rules and regulations for the Medical Marijuana recommendation. Mr. Huges reminded the commissioners for the upcoming Crime and Gang Prevention Summit and reported that on Jan 31st. The City Council will release the mid year budget review.

Commissioners Khan asked if the Living Wage issue was limited to downtown only. Mr. Huges said it was a city wide issue.

Commission Pichumani asked how best the youth commission may support the council as they go into budget sessions. Mr. Huges suggested that they attend the district wide budget meetings and present the youth commission budget recommendation before May.

b. San Jose Public Library report – Mr. Erik Burman reported for Angie Miraflor. He appreciated commissioner Kimmel for attending the Library Commission Meetings. He announced that Angie Miraflor has been promoted to Library Division Managers and he will continue to attend the youth commission meetings until there is a replacement. Mr. Burman continue to report that there will be an Art program for the summer reading celebration. Local teens will have the opportunity to create art for the buttons that are given out to the youth participating in the summer reading program. Winners will receive an art pack along with having their art displayed on the buttons. The library has collaborated with San Pedro Square Market to have their story time at the Square every Tuesday afternoon. Silicon Valley Reads program theme this year is on Books and Technology, friend of foe. They will have speakers on this topic through January.

Commissioner Ly asked if the Library would be affected by this year fiscal budget. Mr. Bruman did not know or have any updates on this at the time.

Commissioner Yu asked how the library goes about reorganizing. Mr. Bruman explained how the Division Mangers take on difference Library responsibilities and

programs. He also explained that the reorganization was done to better coordinate their services

c. Senior Citizens Commission report - Mr. Richard McCoy not present to report

d. PRNS Department Deputy Directors report - Suzanne Wolf reported that the Crime and Gang Prevention summit is scheduled for the Feb. 8th and encouraged the commissioners to attend. The summit will have four different areas of focus. She also reported on the 2nd part of the budget process starts during the Mayor's State of the City Address. She continue to encourage the commissioners to continue their discussions on the budget as it is very important to hear from them. With that, she asked the commissioner what their experience was when participating in this years budget games.

Commissioner Pichumani responded by stating that it was a great experience discussing budget topics with others outside of her age group. Hearing their from others perspectives was very interesting.

Commissioner Yu found that it was encouraging to hear that even though there were different perspectives at the table, they all seem to have a common goal.

The question was asked what their collective top budget item was during the games.

Commissioners Nguyen said that the Gang Prevention programs were very important at her table.

Commissioners Kimmel stated that his table's top item was funding Community Centers.

Collectively, Commissioner Pichumani stated that the top items for the Commission was based on Safety, Community Centers and funding police officers.

Deputy Directors Suzanne Wolf thanked them for the leadership and encouraged Them to continue to attend budget meetings and hear the perceptive of others and Continue to voice their perceptive as well. She reiterated how important their voice is to the city. She also informed the commissioners that Andrew Freeman was selected to oversee the community centers and prevention programs for the department.

Commissioner Peddada asked if the new budget will affect the summer safe school Initiative. She responded by explaining the budget process. Their participation at the budget games provided feedback on their priorities. From that point on, each city department create their budget proposals for consideration. City manager office will then gather all proposals and present a final proposals. At which time, the commission may review it to ensure if their priorities were affected or not.

Commissioner Ly asked if there are any plans to outsource youth programs and or have community centers put on the reuse list. Deputy Director Suzanne Wolf explained the different layers of funding for afterschool programs; ROCKS and

Aces and 21Century funding programs. She explained how the department collaborates with school districts to provide afterschool services and programs. She also informed the commissioners that a reuse update report will be given to them at their next months meeting. Out of 52 city community centers, 42 are on the reuse list. Some have been successful and yet others have not. They will launch a two year an in-depth report to look at the reuse sites.

VI. Executive Board Report

- a. **Workplan status update report** – Commission Peddada reported
- i. Goal 1. a. Appointed commissioners to the Library, Parks and Recreation and Environmental commissions.
 - ii. Goal 1. b. Ad hoc teams have been created in the areas of Education, Environment, Health and Safety and City Budget
 - iii. Goal 1 e. Commission has participated in the citywide budget process through the budget games
 - iv. Goal 2.a. Commissioners have stirred their YAC members to participate in the Ad Hoc working teams
 - v. Goal 2. b. YAC groups have 75% of High School representations in their respective groups.
 - vi. Goal 2. c. All commissioners have created their district specific work plans
 - vii. Goal 2. d. YAC training day was accomplished
 - viii. Goal 3. a. Youth Commissioners and YAC members continue to attend Neighborhood and community meetings
 - ix. Goal 3. d. YAC members have created and developed a peer to peer tutoring program.
 - x. Goal 4. a Commission is on track on planning the citywide youth conference
 - xi. Goal 5. a. Commissioners have continued to recognize their peers through the peer to peer awards at each commission meeting.
- b. **2015/16 Budget Priority Session Report** – Commissioner Pichumani thanked the commissioners who participated in the budget games and reminded them to continue the discuss the budget at their YAC meetings and encourage YAC members to attend the budget meetings set for their respective districts. Commissioner Pichumani related the message that the goal is to have a budget recommendation to present at the February commission meeting.
- c. **Medical Marijuana report** – Commission Kimmel report the latest update that came out on the 16th of January stated that the collectives must maintain a distance of 1000 feet from schools, day cares, community centers, parks, churches and 500 ft from rehabilitation centers and 150 ft from residential. Commissioner Pichumani reminded the commission that there is a motion on the table to have a final recommendation of this issue.
M/S Commissioner Kimmel and Commissioner Peddada moved to have a final recommendation at the next commission meeting.

VII. Informational Items:

- a. **Integrated Pest Management Pilot Program** – Parks Division Manager Mike Will informed the commission of the effort to control pest without the use of chemicals. The Integrated Pest Management program is a system that looks into

how properties are being maintained specifically park land. It uses alternated non-chemical methods to deal with pest. In the past, chemicals were the prefer way to deal with pest because it required less staff, however, due to the Clean Water Act, the City has been looking into different ways to deal with pest. PRNS is venturing into Finding ways and strategically develop a way to control the pest without the use of Chemicals. The goal is to manage pest and use less chemicals. The Parks division will conduct a pilot program in city districts 1, 6, 7, and 9. Process will begin by outreaching to the community to explain the purpose and goals of eliminating chemicals use in the parks. They will be working closely with the landscaping vendors to ensure that they understand not to use chemicals. The plan is to begin the work in April 2014 in district 3 and expand it to the rest of the city by 2015. The process will include retraining and retooling staff, outreach to the community, and civic partners such as the libraries, fire stations, neighborhood associations, business organizations and council offices. The process also will include recruitment of volunteers to assist in removing weeds from the parks. The process will have a threshold where they will use to identify which method to use to

eliminate a pest. Some examples of IPM is to use ladybugs and mechanical gofer traps. The key is to continue to evaluate the success of the program while reducing the risk of public exposure and creating a healthier eco system while complying with the federal clean water act. The Parks Division anticipates community support in this effort and they would appreciate any comments the commissioners hear regarding this pilot program.

Commissioner Kimmel asked why now. Mr. Will responded by explaining that the City must comply with the Federal Water Act. And obtain a discharge permit to allow water to enter the bay which requires that waters entering the bay to be relatively clean before entrance.

Commissioner Phuong asked what the age limited for volunteers would be and how the evaluation plan will be done. Mr. Will responded by stating that they will use the Adopt a Parks for volunteers. As for the evaluation tool, they are still in the discussion and development stage for that. There has been some discussion to use a QR code card system. There has also been a discussion on monitoring yelp to see the parks rating.

Commissioner Cristobal asked what the rational was in selecting District 1, 6, 7, and 9 for this pilot program. Mr. Will responded by stating that it came down to park familiarity and season staff.

Commissioner Ly asked what type of mechanical devises would be used particularly for gofers. Mr. Will explained that plants and animals that have detrimental effects on parks such as gofers must be eliminated. He showed the difference of two parks River Oak Park and Penitencia Park. One park is green and robust while the other is covered with gofer holes and resembling a walk in the moon. Therefore gofer traps are used to eliminate these animals. Another method they use is installing owl boxes to encourage owls to live in and prey on critters.

Commissioner Nguyen asked what the process of using IPM will be. Mr. Will stated that staff will have to go through tree levels of clearance before requesting the use of chemicals to be used in a particular situation.

M/S - Commissioner Peddada motion to have Mr. Will return to give a full report on the programs results to the commission at a later time. Seconded by Commissioner Khan.

- b. [Suicide Prevention Program Presentation](#) – Ms. Evelyn Castillo presented a power point presentation. In her presentation, Ms. Castillo covered the statistics of teen suicides, the difference between prevention and intervention and why it is so important to take action. It is the 3rd leading cause for teens and 2nd leading of college students. She went on to say that when Suicide prevention is emphasized we emphasized community awareness on this issue. Reminder that it is important to keep mental health is on top of the list of priority during budget session.

M/S Commissioner Kimmel motioned to pursue having a suicide training for teens Seconded by Peddada.

- c. [Lynbrook High School FBLA Club project with Tesla Motors](#) - Lynbrook High School students Susmitha Bhat, Tara Pichumani, and Iris Zhao presented a power point presentation on their project with Tesla motors and shared their Policy recommendation regarding Electric Vehicles and how to better the environment. They gave an overall review of their project. They gave their timeline of their projects and test findings from the research they have gathered. The final phase is to apply what was learned by presenting the policy recommendation through the youth commission. They went on to state how their recommendation aligns with the City's Green Vision Goal by switching the alternative fuel cars to electric vehicles. They feel that the city will have a positive image among the community if they see how the city is making an effort in switching their city vehicles to electric cars. Another recommendation will be to expand the 43 public plug in stations to the rest of the city focusing on suburban areas. Another recommendation is to impose an additional gas tax and use the funds to create cleaner tech jobs. They presented how they will evaluate their recommendations and presented their marketing of their project. They are using social media to create awareness and instagram and twitter campaign to create more awareness to create more involvements.

Commissioner Kimmel commented on their work and commended them for their efforts.

M/S – Commissioner Kimmel motioned to support their recommendations, Commissioner Peddada seconded the motion.

- d. **Alcohol awareness project** – Gabrielle Antolovich from Voices United offered to assist the commission with their annual conference by providing funding if they would have an Alcohol awareness form at their conference. Ms. Antolovich proposed that they present the creation of the Social Host ordinance using the documentary she has of it. The documentary shows how the Social Host ordinance

came to be and how it was unanimously adopted by city council. The documentary shows the importance of the youth voice in making policy recommendations. Furthermore, Ms. Antolovich offered to assist with school outreach by promoting the conference to different high schools. She also informed the commission that Lincoln High School students would like to be able to distribute a teen survey regarding underage drinking. If this survey was distributed during the conference, the results may be used by the commissioner for further policy recommendations on underage drinking.

Commissioner Kimmel commented on Ms. Antolovich enthusiasm and commended her on her efforts to address underage drinking.

Commissioner Pichumani mentioned to have Ms. Antolovich attend a conference planning meeting with the commission to discuss this further and in detail.

VIII. New Business - (Deferred to February meeting)

- a. Ad Hoc recommendations and presentations
- b. District 8 YAC project Proposal

Due to time, motion to table New Business to February commission meeting
M/S Motioned by Commissioner Kimmel, Seconded by Commissioner Peddada

IX. Commission Reports – (Deferred to February meeting)

Due to time, motion to table New Business to February commission meeting
M/S Motioned by Commissioner Kimmel, Seconded by Commissioner Peddada

X. Staff Reports

- a. Mid Year reports – Commission staff reminded commissioners to complete their mid year reports.
- b. Conference dates updates – (Deferred to February meeting)

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:31p.m.

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On occasion the Commission may consider agenda items out of order.

The Youth Commission meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:30p.m. and unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions, please direct them to the Commission staff. Thank you for taking the time to attend today's meeting. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

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Please direct correspondence and questions to:

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