



## SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 3, 2019, \*4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

City Hall Community Room

2929 Tapo Canyon Road

2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, California 93063-2199 • (805) 522-4473

### AGENDA

\*Special Meeting Time

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome/Introduction of Youth Council Members
3. Agenda Review  
This is the time to reorder and/or remove items from the agenda by consensus of the Youth Council. Any individual member who will be abstaining from a discussion item should announce his/her intentions at this time.
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Public Statements/Comments  
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Council. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
7. Continued Business
  - a. Discussion of Suicide Prevention Campaign, including Rock Painting Night: Messages of Hope Event in Collaboration with the Simi Valley Public Library on Thursday, September 26, 2019
  - b. Discussion of Bullying Prevention Campaign, including A Multi-Cultural Festival Event in Collaboration with the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation on Saturday, October 5, 2019
  - c. Discussion of Youth Council Participation in Upcoming City of Simi Valley's 50 Years of Service Events on September 5, September 21, and October 12, 2019
8. New Business
  - a. Officer Duties and Election of Youth Council Officers
  - b. Selection of the 2020 Youth Summit Committee
  - c. Discussion of Youth Council Participation as a Historic Home Sponsor at the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District's 3rd Annual Heritage Halloween and Movie in the Park on Saturday, October 19, 2019



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

- d. Selection of Youth Council Representative to the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board
  - e. Discussion of Youth Council Polo Shirts
9. Representative Reports
- Youth Council Reports and Comments
- This is the time for Youth Council members' statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Council or to request a future agenda item. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.
10. Coordinator's Report
11. Adjournment: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, **\*\*4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**, City Hall Community Room. **\*\*Please note special meeting time.**

  
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Anna M. Medina  
Deputy Community Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Youth Council Coordinator at (805) 583-6766. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Youth Council Chair Paige Barrella called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m., and Acting Secretary Om Patel took attendance verifying that a quorum was present.

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
V	Vacant-AHS	E	Joshua Chandran	P	Tashya Vakil
P	Riya Manimaran-RHS	P	Xiaoze "Leo" Hou	Alternates	
P	Anna Sorensen-RHS	E	Abigail Jiwanmall	P	Ashley Kilmnick
P	Paige Barrella-SSHS	P	Daniella Jones	P	Ella McCrossan
P	Om Patel-SSHS	P	Parsa Karamat	P	Ze "Daniel" Situ
P	Ashlyn Ro-SVHS	P	Rahul Naveen	Youth Council Cohort	
P	Sneha Sundaram-SVHS	P	Chandler Nelson	E	Grace Fausett
P	Abishek AJ Jagannathan-HMS	P	Ian Nelson	E	Nikhita Sundarapandian
P	Meghna Behera- SMS	P	Frances Salvanera	P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant	
V	Vacant-VVMS	P	Vivek Tarapara		
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Youth Council Coordinator.

Guests: Council Member Ruth Luevanos; Gloria Bowman, Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation Board Member; Allan and Ben Simpson, Kyler Demel, and Kalyssa Ro.

2. Welcome/Introduction of Youth Council Members

Acting Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran welcomed the 2019-20 Youth Council. All members participated in a brief icebreaker activity.

3. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

Acting Youth Council Chair Sneha Sundaram asked members if they had reviewed the minutes from June 3, 2019 then asked for a motion to approve.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the June 3, 2019, minutes as revised to include date change in Agenda Item 7b to the 2018-19 Youth Council Recap and correction of Xiaoze Hou's nickname from Lou to Leo was made by Frances Salvanera and seconded by Ashlyn Ro.

**Youth Council vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

5. Correspondence

Acting Youth Council Chair Anna Sorensen asked staff and members if they had received any correspondence for Youth Council.

Youth Council Coordinator Ms. Tignac stated that she received correspondence on August 7, 2019, from Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District, Recreation Coordinator Jeannie Liss, requesting Youth Council participation as a sponsor of one of the historical homes for the District's third annual Heritage Halloween and Movie in the Park on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

6. Public Statements/Comments

Acting Youth Council Chair Chandler Nelson explained that time was allotted for public statements and comments. He also stated that public statements and comments were limited to five minutes per speaker.

City Council Member Ruth Luevanos introduced herself to the 2019-20 Youth Council. She reported that Simi Valley has the highest rate of suicide for youth under the age of 24 in Ventura County. To help promote positive messages to those in need and destigmatize mental illness, the NAMI representative offered to share resources and curriculum, as well as to speak with youth in Simi Valley. Council Member Luevanos also stated she was willing to speak with students at local schools.

7. Informational Presentations

a. Youth Council Purpose, Goals, By-laws, Organization and Meetings

Ms. Tignac provided an overview of the Youth Council Purpose, Goals, By-Laws and Organization of the Youth Council and highlighted some of the Youth Council accomplishments to date.

Ms. Tignac also discussed the importance of the Youth Council's Work Plan in order to accomplish the Youth Council goals that members would set during upcoming Youth Council meetings.

b. Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected Officials and Members of Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees

Ms. Tignac gave a brief overview of the City's Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected Officials and Members of Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees, including its purpose, who it applies to and the ethical principles in the code.

8. New Business

a. Discussion of Suicide Prevention Campaign, including Rock Painting Night: Messages of Hope Event in Collaboration with the Simi Valley Public Library on Thursday, September 26, 2019

Ms. Tignac gave a brief history and overview of the Youth Council's previous Suicide Prevention campaigns. She announced that the Youth Council again had an opportunity to collaborate with the Simi Valley Public

Library for a suicide prevention awareness event on Thursday, September 26, 2019. She stated that library staff was interested in holding a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Rock Painting Night; Spreading Messages of Hope.

Youth Council members also discussed additional measures to build awareness of suicide prevention resources during Suicide Prevention Month.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve making a request of City Council to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month during the September 9, 2019 City Council Meeting was made by Chandler Nelson and seconded by Riya Manimaran.

**Youth Council vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

Youth Council member Paige Barrella suggested incorporating a non-strenuous hike as a teambuilding activity where members work together to hide painted rocks on a local hiking trail.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the Youth Council's Suicide Prevention campaign, including co-hosting a Rock Painting event from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, September 26, 2019; the Youth Council's participation at the September 9 City Council Meeting for the proclamation of September as Suicide Prevention Month, social media posts to Youth Council Instagram page, school announcements at all Simi Valley Unified School District middle and high schools to build awareness of teen crisis resource numbers on student identification cards and other positive messages via hidden painted rocks on local hiking trails, and at parks and school campuses, was made by Anna Sorensen and seconded by Vivek Tarapara.

**Youth Council vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

**Action Items:** Selection District representatives from each school to reach out to the leadership advisors or school administration for authorization to hide rocks on campus the week of September 30, 2019.

- b. Discussion of Bullying Prevention Campaign, including A Multicultural Festival Event in Collaboration with the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation on Saturday, October 5, 2019

Ms. Tignac stated that the 2018-19 Youth Council had prioritized organizing and hosting a "positivity or acceptance week" as recommended by both the bullying and social injustice topic groups during the 2019 Youth Summit. The awareness week would combine the ideas of Santa Susana High School's International Week and Royal High School's Kindness Week into one, preferably during the month of October 2019 to coincide with national Stop Bullying Month. The focus would be to provide exposure on the positives of different countries and cultures to help with

cross-cultural learning and understanding. This week long event could also showcase dance, art, music and cuisine from various cultures. Subsequently, during the June 3 Youth Council meeting, members discussed co-hosting a Multicultural event with the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Foundation on Saturday, October 5, 2019.

Multicultural Festival Event Committee Chair Chandler Nelson stated that committee had met twice during the summer to brainstorm ideas for the Multicultural Day event and an "Inclusivity Week".

Cultural Art Center Foundation Board member Gloria Bowman reported that food vendors with cultural fare would be asked to participate by offering food tastings for attendees. Food tasting tickets would be available for purchase of \$1.00 per ticket. The Foundation members would coordinate and use this part of the event as a fundraiser, along with a possible opportunity drawing. Members brainstormed ideas for cultural performances and logistics at the facility.

- c. Discussion of Youth Council Participation in Upcoming City of Simi Valley's 50 Years of Service Events on September 5, September 21, and October 12, 2019

Ms. Tignac stated that the Youth Council had the opportunity to help at a few upcoming events in celebration of the City of Simi Valley's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation, including a free country western dance lesson night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 99.1 The Ranch radio station and a Barn Dance from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at the Strathearn Historical Park and Museum.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the Youth Council's participation as greeters from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the September 5, 2019 free country western dance lesson night was made by Riya Manimaran and seconded by Paige Barrella.

**Youth Council vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the Youth Council's participation at the City's Barn Dance and Dinner from 5:30 pm. to 9:00 p.m., on Saturday, September 21, 2019 was made by Ashley Kilmnick and seconded by Sneha Sundaram.

**Youth Council vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

9. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Teen Crisis Resource Number Review Committee Chair Ashley Kilmnick reported that the committee had met on June 23, 2019 and reviewed all of the



2018-19 teen crisis resource numbers. She stated that the Committee made a few recommended revisions, including the removal of the Action Family Counseling number since they no longer provide services in Simi Valley and replacing it with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s National Helpline.

Ella McCrossan requested that a discussion item be added to the September 3 Youth Council agenda regarding the Youth Council's participation in the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Heritage Halloween and Movie in the Park Night.

10. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Council to turn in their paperwork if they had yet to do so. She also congratulated them on a very successful first meeting.

11. Adjournment: Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., City Hall Community Room. Please note the special meeting time.

By consensus, the Youth Council meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.