



## SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

City Hall Community Room

2929 Tapo Canyon Road

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

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome
2. 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.
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. 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.
6. Continued Business
  - a. Discussion of the 2020 Youth Town Hall
  - b. Discussion of the 2019-20 Youth Council Work Plan
7. New Business
  - a. Discussion and Selection of the Top Three Preferred 2020 Youth Summit Motivational Speakers
8. 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.
9. Coordinator's Report
10. Adjournment: Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna M. Medina".

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.



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Youth Council Chair Paige Barrella called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., and Secretary Riya Manimaran took attendance verifying that a quorum was present.

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

Staff: Anna Medina, Deputy Community Services Manager; David Yoshitomi, Community Services Manager; and Kristin Tignac, Youth Council Coordinator.

Guests: Whitney Pagan, Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute Education Team Representative; Students Taylyn Lyn Hirsch, Ariella Hirsch, and Elijah Lee.

2. Agenda Review

There being no objections, Youth Council Chair Paige Barrella moved agenda item 7a to follow agenda item 5 Public Statements to accommodate the guest speaker's schedule.

3. Approval of Minutes

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the September 17, 2019, minutes as written was made by Ella McCrossan and seconded by Abhishek AJ Jagannathan.

**Youth Council vote: 18 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

4. Correspondence

Ms. Tignac stated that she had received the following email correspondence; request from Royal High School teacher Brian Dennert to schedule a date for the Youth Council members from Royal High School to lead one of the school's Brown Bag Lunch Speaker series; request from Debbie Thomas for volunteers to coordinate the display of flyers to help locate a kidney donor for local resident Jill Abele; and general message from Royal High School regarding a new peer

counseling group led by Aspire Counseling Services for students at Royal High School.

5. Public Statements/Comments

David Yoshitomi, Community Services Manager, congratulated the Youth Council on the successful Rock Painting Night. He shared that at the end of the event he was approached by someone who had been impacted by teen suicide, and that she shared that this event was helpful in her healing process. He thanked the Youth Council for their hard work and stated that their efforts were having a real impact in the community.

Taylyn Hirsch introduced herself to the Youth Council and stated that she would like to be a future Youth Council member.

Elijah Lee introduced himself to the Youth Council and stated that he was observing the meeting as part of a Boy Scout merit badge.

6. Continued Business

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

The following Youth Council members provided status updates on their respective schools' Inclusivity Weeks progress:

- Meghna Behera stated that Sinaloa Middle School's Leadership would be coordinating Inclusivity Week.
- Abhishek AJ Jagannathan stated that Hillside Middle School would be switching the theme days for Tuesday and Friday, now would be Tasty Tuesday and Tie Dye Friday.
- Ashley Kilmnick stated that Simi Valley High School's Associated Student Body requested a formal letter with the purpose and details for each day to share with the student body.

The following Youth Council members volunteered to distribute the painted rocks along the Corriganville Park Loop Trail on Sunday, October 6, 2019: Paige Barrella, Joshua Chandran, Ashley Kilmnick, Abigail Jiwanmall, Riya Manimaran, Anna Sorensen with Meghna Behera, Chandler Nelson, Ella McCrossan, Frances Salvanera, and Vivek Tarapara marked as tentative.

7. New Business

a. Discussion of the 2020 Youth Town Hall

Whitney Pagan Event Planner/Education Team Representative with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute gave a brief overview of the Youth Town Hall event and format. Ms. Pagan stated that the education team would like Youth Council to gather input from local students regarding needs and concerns to determine top three proposed topics for the Youth Town Hall panel discussion.

ACTION ITEMS:

- For Youth Town Hall outreach, all Youth Council members to request to present to their classes and clubs at their respective schools in order to brainstorm Youth Town Hall discussion topic ideas with students. The recommended discussion topics should be sent to Ms. Tignac by Friday, October 18, 2019.
- Ian Chandler volunteered to create a Google form to assist the brainstorming process with peers.
- Youth Council Members Xiaoze Leo Hou, Abigail Jiwanmall, Riya Manimaran, Anna Sorensen, Ze Daniel Situ to present during the Monday, October 28, 2019 Brown Bag Speaker series in Royal High School's Citizen Scholar Institute room to gather student input on discussion topics.
- Ms. Tignac to confirm Monday, October 28, 2019 as the date for the Brown Bag Lunch Speaker Series date for Youth Council with Mr. Dennert.

b. Discussion of the 2019-20 Youth Council Work Plan

Youth Council members discussed issues and problems that Simi Valley youth are faced with that Youth Council can tackle. Anna Sorensen and Tashya Vakil led members in a divergent method brainstorm activity. Members then completed a dot vote, highlighting the top problems thought most important.

The results of the dot vote were as follows, with the top five issues viewed as the most prominent for the 2019-20 Youth Council to consider including in their work plan:

1. Vaping
2. Mental Health Issues (such as anxiety, stress, and depression)
3. Teen Pregnancy
4. Wi-Fi Accessibility on School Campuses
5. College Grant and Scholarship Awareness

Other issues that did not receive as many votes, but are still notable are as follows: discrimination; drug abuse; traffic; human trafficking; exclusion and bullying; teen recreation activities; teen employment and job skills; homelessness; lack of academic drive; drunk and/or reckless driving; poverty; underage use of electric scooters; domestic violence; child abduction and attempted abduction; accessibility for the disabled; litter/trash on roads; pollution; energy conservation; climate change; academic dishonesty/cheating; and school dress code.

8. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Youth Summit Chair Anna Sorensen reported that the committee had met and was in the process of developing a list of potential Youth Summit motivational speakers.

Om Patel reminded members that the Santa Susana High School Vex Robotics Club would hold a fundraiser at Chipotle Mexican Grill on Wednesday, October 9, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Ella McCrossan announced that Sinaloa Middle School's Mock Trial team was hosting a donut fundraiser beginning at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 on their school campus. Boxes would be available for \$12.00 each.

Tashya Vakil announced that Santa Susana High School's National Honor Society would host a back to school donation drive for school supplies for students at Township Elementary School.

Parsa Karamat announced that Santa Susana High School's National Honor Society would host a Habit Burger fundraiser on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Paige Barrella announced that Youth Council Vice Chair Om Patel would shave half of his mustache off if Santa Susana High School's Future Business Leaders of America club was able to raise \$200 for members to attend a Leadership Development Institute conference in the near future.

9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Council members to meet her at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 6, 2019 to hide painted rocks for their Suicide Prevention campaign.

Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Summit committee members that the next meeting would be held at 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 in the City Hall Community Room.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

By consensus, the Youth Council meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.