



## SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 5, 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 of the Location for the 2020 Youth Summit
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 19, 2019, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

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

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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.



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Youth Council Vice Chair Om Patel called the meeting to order at 5:02 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	
E	Anna Sorensen-RHS	P	Abigail Jiwanmall	P	Ashley Kilmnick
E	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	
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	E	Frances Salvanera	P = Present	
P	Kalyssa Ro-VVMS	P	Vivek Tarapara	E = Excused	
A = Absent					
V = Vacant					
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Youth Council Coordinator.

Guests: City Council Member Ruth Luevanos, Liaison to the Youth Council; Dave DeMaio, Recreation Coordinator, Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District; Nikki Collier, Recreation Program Specialist, Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District; Bryan Sanchez-Cuevas, City of Simi Valley Intern and California Lutheran University student; Scouts Connor Coty, Andy Fuchs, Alex Fuchs; Laura Coty and Jonathan Fuchs.

2. Agenda Review

There being no objections, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the October 1, 2019, minutes as written was made by Abigail Jiwanmall and seconded by Meghna Behera.

**Youth Council vote: 19 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

4. Correspondence

Ms. Tignac stated that she had spoken with Royal High School teacher Brian Dennert who stated that they needed to reschedule the date for the Youth Council members from Royal High School to lead one of the school's Brown Bag Lunch Speaker series.



Ms. Tignac reported that she had received a phone call from Alex Walker, member of the Simi Valley Historical Society requesting volunteers for the Dia de los Muertos event on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at Strathearn Historical Park.

5. Public Statements/Comments

Dave DeMaio, Recreation Coordinator with Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District, announced that their annual Simi Valley Snowfest would be held on Sunday, November 3, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Rancho Madera Community Park. He stated that volunteers were needed for this event beginning at 9:00 a.m. for set-up.

Nikki Collier, Recreation Specialist with Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District, announced that their 58th Annual Halloween Carnival would be held on Thursday, October 31, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Rancho Santa Susana Community Center located at 5005 C Los Angeles Avenue. Ms. Collier stated that many volunteers were needed for this event and food would be provided for volunteers by the Kiwanis Club of Simi Valley.

Bryan Sanchez-Cuevas, City of Simi Valley intern, announced that the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center would like to know what types of programming youth would like to be offered at the center. Mr. Sanchez-Cuevas stated that he would create a Google form for students to share with peers to help gather information.

Scott Lowery, Scout Troop Leader, announced that some of his Bear and Webelos Scouts were present to observe a Youth Council meeting.

Council Member Luevanos and Liaison to the Youth Council welcomed the Scouts and Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District staff to the Youth Council meeting. Council Member Luevanos recommended that the Youth Council connect with the Community Coalition United for resources related to mental health issues and vaping. She also stated that Holocaust Survivor Frances Elson from Poland had offered to speak to students at an upcoming meeting.

Additionally, Council Member Luevanos announced that the United States Census Bureau would be coordinating the next census in early 2020. She stated the importance of participating in the census and recommended that students be trained in completing the census forms to help their parents, if needed.

6. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the 2020 Youth Town Hall

Youth Council members provided updates on the top topics gathered during brainstorming discussions at their respective schools:

Sinaloa Middle School:

- Homework overload
- Gun violence/public safety
- Suicide in teens
- Littering
- Vaping
- Bullying/hurtful rumors

- Animal Abuse
- Anxiety

Hillside Middle School:

- Vaping
- Substance Abuse
- Bullying
- School Safety
- Stress and anxiety

Grace Brethren Junior/Senior High School:

- Vaping
- Wi-Fi on campus

Royal High School (Abigail Jiwanmall):

- Drugs
- Lack of effort and enthusiasm in school
- Bad effects of social media
- Vaping
- LGBTQ representation

Royal High School (Riya Manimaran):

- Teen drug use (especially vaping)
- Mental health
- Climate change
- Public safety on school campuses

Royal High School (Leo Hou):

- Vaping
- Human trafficking

Santa Susana High School (Parsa Karamat):

- Climate Change/Environment
- Human Trafficking
- School Safety

Santa Susana High School (Vivek Tarapara):

- Public Safety
- Substance Abuse

Oak Park High School:

- Substance Abuse
- Environmental Issues
- Stress Management

Simi Valley High School (Ashlyn Ro):

- School Wi-Fi
- Proper drainage after it rains
- Dirty bathrooms
- Vaping
- More school funding for extracurricular activities

Simi Valley High School (Ashley Kilmnick):

- Vaping
- Mental Health
- Environment/plastic waste

**ACTION ITEM:** Youth Council members that had not provided an update were asked to send top Youth Town Hall discussion topic ideas from students at their schools to Ms. Tignac by Friday, October 18, 2019.

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

Youth Council members formed work group teams, discussed issues and developed ideas for solutions.

There being no objections, Vice Chair Om Patel continued the discussion to the November 5, 2019 Youth Council meeting due to time constraints.

7. New Business

a. Discussion and Selection of the Top Three Preferred 2020 Youth Summit Motivational Speakers

Om Patel reported that the Youth Summit committee had met and created a list of potential 2020 Youth Summit motivational speakers. Mr. Patel gave a brief overview of each speaker and stated that the Youth Council needed to select a minimum of its top three.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve Frances Elson, Michelle Kuei, Juan Bendana, and Brian Bushway as the top four ranked choices for the 2020 Youth Summit Motivational Speaker was made by Abhishek Jagannathan and seconded by Daniella Jones.

**Youth Council vote: 19 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

8. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Ian Nelson reported that Grace Brethren High School's Robotics team attended Santa Susana High School's Vex Robotics Club fundraiser on October 9, 2019, at Chipotle Mexican Grill. Om Patel stated that the fundraiser was very successful with over \$300 raised.

Meghna Behera reported that Inclusivity Week had begun at Sinaloa Middle School on October 14, 2019.

Ashley Kilmnick announced that Simi Valley High School would hold a Choir Concert at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, October 17, 2019.

Tashya Vakil announced that Santa Susana High School's Mock Trial team had competed and did well in the Empire World Championship the weekend of October 12, 2019.

9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac announced that the City of Simi Valley, California Lutheran University's HUB101, Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Youth Employment Service would host an Inspire Entrepreneurship event for teens and adults on Tuesday, November 5, beginning at 6:45 p.m. Those interested were encouraged to register for free at [www.startupsimi.com](http://www.startupsimi.com).



Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Summit members that had volunteered to help at the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District's Heritage Halloween event on Saturday, October 19, 2019 to arrive before 5:00 p.m. at the Strathearn Historical Park

Ms. Tignac reminded Youth Summit committee members that the next meeting would be held at 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 in the City Hall Community Room.

Ms. Tignac congratulated both Ian Nelson and Rahul Naveen on their information presentations made to the City Council on September 23, 2019 and October 14, 2019, respectively.

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

By consensus, the Youth Council meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.