



2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, California 93063-2199 • (805) 583-6766

## SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Zoom Online Meeting**

<https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848>

Or by Telephone: Dial US: +1 669 900 9128 Webinar ID: 930 7665 2848

### AGENDA

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE STAY AT HOME ORDER AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER DECLARED LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND LOCAL ORDER RESULTING FROM THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, THE CITY IS NOT CONDUCTING IN-PERSON MEETINGS. TO FIND OUT HOW YOU MAY ELECTRONICALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING AND PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA ITEM 5.**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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 from April 6, 2021

4. Correspondence

5. Public Statements/Comments

Time allotted for public statements on all items on the agenda, as well as matters not on the agenda but within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Youth Council. The following information is provided to help you understand, follow, and participate in the Youth Council meeting:

#### **NEW COMMENT PROCEDURE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Youth Council in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items.

The following options allow for public participation:

a. Watch the Youth Council Meeting live online at Zoom:

<https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848>

Or listen by telephone: +1 669 900 9128 Webinar ID: 930 7665 2848

b. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please sign-on via this Zoom Link <https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848> and use the raise hand function when this agenda item is called. If you wish to make a



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public comment, you must be signed into the meeting and available at the time this agenda item is called.

- c. Or, if you are unable to sign-on to Zoom and wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Youth Council meeting to [youthcouncil@simivalley.org](mailto:youthcouncil@simivalley.org) and include the Agenda Item topic and/or your comments. These emails will be provided to the Youth Council prior to the meeting and made a part of the record.
6. Continued Business
    - a. Discussion of the Multicultural Festival Events Planned on April 10, April 17, April 24 and May 21, 2021
    - b. Discussion of the Dangers of Vaping Event on Friday, April 30, 2021
  7. New Business
    - a. Discussion of a Possible Group Finale Act for the May 28, 2021 Simi Valley Talent Show
    - b. Discussion of an Opportunity for the Youth Council to Host a Meeting with all East Ventura County Youth Council/Commission to Discuss Ideas and Promote Future Events
  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, May 4, 2021, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Online Zoom Meeting.



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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

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

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
P	Mohnish Maini - AHS	P	Sumaiya Akbar	P	Peter Wang
P	Riya Manimaran-RHS	P	Matheus Brocchi		
A	Anna Sorensen-RHS	P	Ella McCrossan	Alternates	
P	Abhishek/AJ Jagannathan-SSHS	P	Rahul Naveen	P	Jasmine Esmail
P	Vivek Tarapara-SSHS	P	Monishka Tanwani	P	Thaen-Mozhi Anand
P	Ashley Kilmnick-SVHS	P	Zainab Neemuchwala	V	Vacant
P	Ashlyn Ro-SVHS	P	Ian Nelson	P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant	
P	Priyaank Srinivasan- HMS	P	Alden Ta		
P	Madelyn Herzer – SMS	P	Maya Tauber		
P	Sanchita Karthik - VVMS	P	Rikka Tignac		
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

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

Guests: City Council Members Ruth Luevanos and Elaine Litster; Emma Mikita, Undergraduate at the University of La Verne; and students Beatriz Acosta, Meghna Behera, Srivallabha Chintallapati, Mingxin Deng, Rita Gerges, Emily Maher, Gaurav Pandher, Rohith Saju, Ze Situ, Hannah Wang.

2. Agenda Review

There being no objections, Chair Riya Manimaran moved agenda item 7a to follow agenda item 5 Public Statements.

3. Approval of Minutes from March 16, 2021

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the March 16, 2021, minutes as written was made by Abhishek Jagannathan and seconded by Vivek Tarapara.

**Youth Council Vote: 21 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**

**The motion passed.**

4. Correspondence

Youth Council Coordinator, Kristin Tignac, shared that the Street Outreach Program’s Youth Council posted on Instagram that they enjoyed one of the Youth

Council's event ideas, and mentioned they would like to collaborate on a future event.

The City of Moorpark's Teen Council coordinator contacted Ms. Tignac regarding the Youth Council social media policies and programs we are working on. Ms. Tignac shared that a potential agenda item could be discussing hosting a joint meeting for all East Ventura County Youth Council and Commissions to discuss program ideas and announce events.

5. Public Statements/Comments

Chair Riya Manimaran reviewed the public statement and comment procedure required due to the Zoom meeting format.

City Council Member Luevanos mentioned that the COVID-19 vaccines were available and that anyone over sixteen years old would be eligible to be vaccinated. She also mentioned that she was fighting for a mental health initiative.

City Council Member Lister said the City Council meeting recently had a discussion of having bee hives in backyards.

Srivallabha Chintallapathi said that he attended the Youth Summit and found the mental health topic to be very touching, and is looking forward to applying to be a member of the council.

Beatriz Acosta said this is her first time attending the meeting, she is interested in the community service aspect, and likes the focus on mental wellness.

Emily Maher said she is interested in joining the Youth Council.

Gaurav Pandher said he is a freshman at SSHS and is inspired by the Youth Council.

Meghna Behera said she is a freshman at SSHS and is interested in participating in upcoming events.

Rita Gerges said she is interested in joining the Youth Council.

6. Continued Business

- a. Discussion of the Multicultural Festival Events Planned on April 10, April 17, April 24 and May 21, 2021

Ms. Tignac said that the first event is on Saturday with a total of eight videos. The committee still needs more submissions for the fashion show event. Council Member Litster offered to submit photos.

Ms. Tignac reported that for the Origin Stories event, the committee has a few submissions from teachers at Simi Valley High School and Santa Susana High School, as well as Native American story telling.



b. Discussion of the Dangers of Vaping Event

Vaping Research and Policy Recommendation Committee Chair Rahul Naveen reported that the committee had met with Katherine Kasmir, BRITE's coordinator, to organize the virtual event. The free treasure hunt theme in a 3D pirate world event would be open to the public. Mr. Naveen also stated that Abhishek (AJ) Jagannathan had developed the graphics idea for the incentive items. Rahul announced that the event would begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 2021.

7. New Business

a. Discussion of a Series of Educational Webinars for Teens led by Emma Mikita, Undergraduate at the University of La Verne

Emma Mikita briefly introduced herself as a Simi Valley native who graduated from Royal High School and is a first-generation college student. Ms. Mikita asked for Youth Council's input on potential topic ideas for a series of live webinars. Topics suggested included:

- Time Management Skills
- Starting a Club on a School Campus
- Volunteering in Simi Valley
- Applying to College/Writing Essays
- Studying Abroad

After hearing the topics, the Youth Council had an open discussion. Chair Riya Manimaran, Madelyn Herzer, and Ella McCrossan found the Study Abroad topic most interesting. Zainab Neemuchwala said she found the College Writing topic most valuable. Monishka Tanwani suggested expanding the Time Management topic to include time management in education and adding information about host families and safety to the Study Abroad Topic. Vivek Tarapara suggested a topic about helping students pay for college. Matheus Brocchi suggested a topic about how to select which college classes once accepted. Sumaiya Akbar suggested a topic about choosing majors in college.

b. Discussion of Mental Health Awareness Campaign in May 2021

Mental Health Committee Chair Zainab Neemuchwala reported that May is Mental Health Awareness month, and the committee had planned a wellness week.

- May 3, 2021 would be Multicultural Monday; Ashlyn Ro will create posts for inclusivity and celebration of diversity;
- May 4, 2021 Tools and Tips Tuesday; Zainab Neemuchwala will create Mental Health tools and tips content to give to the Social Media Committee by April 13<sup>th</sup>;
- May 5, 2021 Wisdom Wednesday; a pre-recorded guided meditation led by Matheus Brocchi;

- May 6, 2021 Therapy Animal Thursday; Chair Riya Manimaran will research mental health and therapy and/or emotional support animals. Ask followers to tag @simivalleyyouthcouncil on Instagram with photos of family pets; and
- May 7, 2021 Fight for Awareness Friday; wear light green and tag @simivalleyyouthcouncil on Instagram; Zainab Neemuchwala will create content/graphics for the post.

## 8. Representative Reports

### Youth Council Reports and Comments

Social Media Committee Chair Ella McCrossan reported that the committee had been following its normal schedule and would be working with other committees to promote events. She reminded Youth Council members to follow the Youth Council on Instagram.

Online Activities Committee Chair Abhishek (AJ) Jagannathan reported that the committee would coordinate a time to make a video recap to post for new Youth Council YouTube channel.

Youth Summit Town Hall Chair Ashley Kilmnick reported that sixteen responses had been received from the topics survey. She asked Youth Council members to continue promoting the survey at <https://tinyurl.com/svtopics> scheduled to close on Friday, April 9, 2021.

Talent Show Committee Chair Rikka Tignac reported that the Youth Council had received permission to film Talent Show acts on the main stage, which may help entice performers to register to perform. She also mentioned that the Youth Council had an opportunity to do a group finale for the end of the Talent Show. She asked that members continue to promote to friends and family in order to get more acts to perform. The registration link is at [www.simivalley.org/talentshow](http://www.simivalley.org/talentshow).

## 9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac reminded members to continue promoting upcoming Youth Council events and surveys; including the Youth Summit Town Hall Topics survey, Multicultural Festival, and Talent Show. Ms. Tignac also reminded the Youth Council of upcoming committee meetings' dates and times.

## 10. Adjournment: Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Online Zoom Meeting.

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.