



**SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, \*August 17, 2021, 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) 583-6766

**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. Informational Presentations
  - a. Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected Officials and Members of Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees
  - b. Youth Council Purpose, Goals, By-laws, Organization and Meetings
8. New Business
  - a. Introduction of Members of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute Education Team and Discussion of the January 21, 2022 Youth Town Hall
  - b. Introduction of City Council Liaisons to the Youth Council
  - c. Discussion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Reads Program with Simi Valley Public Library Director Kelly Behle
  - d. Discussion of Canceling or Rescheduling the Tuesday, September 7, 2021 Youth Council Meeting to Tuesday, August 31, 2021 or Tuesday September 14, 2021
  - e. Discussion of Suicide Prevention Campaign for September 2021
  - f. Teambuilding Activity



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 7, 2021, \*\*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

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m., and Youth Council Coordinator Kristin Tignac took attendance, verifying that a quorum was present.

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
A	Mohnish Maini - AHS	E	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	A	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 - VMMS	P	Rikka Tignac		
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

**Staff:** Anna Medina, Deputy Community Services Director; and Kristin Tignac, Community Services Coordinator.

**Guests:** City Council Members Ruth Luevanos and Elaine Litster; Kelly Behle, Simi Valley Public Library Director; Paige Barrella, Youth Council alumni and City Manager’s Office Intern; and students Hayden Kelly, Katherine Kicorian, Mingxin Li, Kalyssa and Saydee Ro, Ze Situ, and Hannah Wang.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes from May 4, 2021

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the May 4, 2021 minutes as written was made by Ella McCrossan and seconded by Alden Ta.

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

**The motion passed.**

4. Correspondence

Ms. Kristin Tignac shared a Madam Bombs' Instagram video post of their reaction to winning both the Band and People's Choice categories awards during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Simi Valley Talent Show.

5. Public Statements/Comments

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

City Council Member, Ruth Luevanos, thanked the Youth Council for an outstanding year of service and congratulated graduating seniors. She stated that Youth Council members could contact her for letters of recommendation. Council Member Luevanos announced that it was the first day of Pride Month and that she proudly displays the LGBTQ+ flag in her office. Additionally, she shared that vaccine appointment walk-ins are available within the city and to pray for the families of firefighters lost in the Agua Dulce shooting.

City Council Member Elaine Litster commended the Youth Council for an epic Talent Show. As a panelist for returning Youth Council Member interviews, she also stated that it was an honor to help and extremely difficult to select the returning members as all were outstanding Youth Council members. Council Member Litster also stated that she rode the Metrolink to downtown Los Angeles with Council Member Luevanos for a new transportation option. She mentioned that every Saturday tickets would be \$10.00 for adults, and youths 17 and under ride free. Council Member Litster congratulated the graduating class of 2021 and the Youth Council on persevering throughout the past year.

Deputy Community Services Director Anna Medina reiterated the sentiments of Council Members Luevanos and Litster. She stated that the Youth Council has had so many accomplishments despite COVID. She also stated that the 2021 Talent Show was amazing.

Paige Barrella, Youth Council Alumna and City Manager's Office intern, introduced herself and stated that she was very proud of the Youth Council's accomplishments this year.

Hannah Wang introduced herself as a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student from Royal High School who is interested in learning more about the Youth Council.

Hayden Kelly stated she was interested in seeing what the Youth Council does.

Ze Situ introduced himself as a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student from Royal High School.

Kalyssa Ro introduced herself as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Valley View Middle School.

Saydee Ro introduced herself as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student from Valley View Middle School who was interested in participating in Youth Council activities.

6. Continued Business

No continued business was discussed.

## 7. New Business

## a. Discussion of the Second Community Reads Initiative

Kelly Behle, Director of the Simi Valley Public Library, stated that the next Community Reads Initiative would feature the book, *Rising Strong* by Dr. Brené Brown. Dr. Brown, a social scientist and researcher at the University of Houston, focused the book on vulnerability and a willingness to be seen. Mrs. Behle also stated that Dr. Brown hosts two Spotify podcasts, *Unlocking Us* and *Dare to Lead*.

Ms. Behle asked if the Youth Council would be willing to help with this event to be held in November. Ideas discussed included: organizing discussion groups for teens, selecting guests speakers from a speakers' bureau list, organizing an art campaign with book theme, and/or interviewing mental health professionals.

## b. Debrief of the Multicultural Festival

Multicultural Festival Committee Chair Ashlyn Ro stated that the event culminated on May 21<sup>st</sup>, and that she was very proud of their accomplishments and ability to spread cultural awareness in the city. She thanked everyone from the committee, Youth Council and the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center for all of their hard work.

## c. 2020-2021 Youth Council Recap

Ella McCrossan stated that she enjoyed chairing the Social Media Committee and being a part of the Online Activities Committee. She also commended the Talent Show Committee for their work organizing a great show.

Ian Nelson stated that his favorite Youth Council events were online activities, such as the Escape Rooms and Bingo Nights. He also enjoyed being part of the Social Media Committee.

Abhishek (A.J.) Jagannathan expressed his belief that the members of the Youth Council have a lot of potential and he is grateful for the opportunity to have chaired the Online Activities Committee.

Rikka Tignac was impressed with how much the Youth Council had accomplished and how much they had grown throughout this year's activities. Their favorite part of the 2020-2021 Youth Council term was chairing the Talent Show Committee.

Maya Tauber stated that her favorite part of this term was being part of the Online Activities Committee and helping with interviewing Seedfolks' Author Paul Fleischman.

Riya Manimaran and Vivek Tarapara agreed that their favorite activity was volunteering for the City's Day of the Dead event at the Simi Valley Town Center.

Rahul Naveen noted how talented each of the individuals on the 2020-2021 Youth Council are and it was hard to see so many graduating seniors leave.

Ashlyn Ro agreed with Rahul's sentiments and noted that the graduating seniors on the Youth Council are some of her role models.

d. Discussion of Youth Council Social Media Posts for Summer 2021

AJ Jagannathan, Ian Nelson, Ella McCrossan, Matheus Brocchi, Alden Ta, Rahul Naveen, Peter Wang, Ashlyn Ro, and Rikka Tignac volunteered to serve on the Social Media Committee and agreed to meet over the summer to discuss and develop social media content to post throughout the summer.

8. Team Building Activity

Ian Nelson, AJ Jagannathan, Ella McCrossan, and Rikka Tignac collectively organized and led a Kahoot based on Youth Council trivia and events. Winners of the Kahoot were Monishka Tanwani, Ashley Kilmnick, Zainab Neemuchwala, Rahul Naveen, and Ashlyn Ro. These individuals would receive gift cards as their prizes.

9. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran stated how important Youth Council had been to her and how grateful she was to have met so many amazing individuals throughout her time on the Youth Council. Riya also congratulated graduating seniors on their accomplishments and hoped that Youth Council members would keep in touch.

Ella McCrossan encouraged all Youth Council members and guests to follow the Youth Council on all social media platforms @simivalleyyouthcouncil.

AJ Jagannathan promoted Alfred Smith's, student and Boy Scout, fundraiser for his Eagle Scout project at Rock and Roll Café.

10. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac shared that David Yoshitomi and his wife welcomed their first baby on May 31, 2021.

She congratulated all members on a historic Youth Council term and wished everyone a great summer!

11. Adjournment: Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Meeting Location to be Determined.

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.