SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL

youth council

Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 4:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Simi Valley Senior Center 3900 Avenida Simi

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

AGENDA Special Location and Time

- 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Welcome/Introductions 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 from June 6, 2023
- 5. Correspondence
- 6. 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. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.

- 7. Informational Presentations
 - a. Introduction of City Council Liaisons to the Youth Council; Mayor Fred Thomas and City Council Member Elaine Litster
 - b. Youth Council Accomplishments and Annual Events
- Continued Business
- 9. New Business
 - a. Discussion of the Youth Council's 2023 Suicide Prevention Campaign
 - b. Selection of the Youth Council Informational Report Presenter to the City Council on Monday, August 28, 2023
 - c. Discussion and Selection of the Youth Council Representative to the YES Advisory Board
 - d. Discussion and Selection of the Youth Council Outreach Item
 - e. Team Building Activity



10. 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.

- 11. Coordinator's Report
- 12. Adjournment: Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., City Hall Community Room.

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

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Youth Council Vice Chair Abhishek Jagannathan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and Youth Council Secretary Ella McCrossan took attendance, verifying that a quorum was present.

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
Α	Victoria Schumacher-AHS	P*	Serena Jetely	Р	Rikka Tignac
Р	Ella McCrossan-RHS	E	Jasleen Khangura		
Α	Yihan Wang-RHS	Е	Amanda Kilmnick	Alternates	
Р	Abhishek Jagannathan-SSHS	E	Krish Kothiya	E	Chloe Drury
Α	Isaac Tieu-SSHS	Р	Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi	Ε	Maya Maizland
Α	Rashi Khandare-SVHS	Р	Advaith Nair	Р	Rylan Downey
Е	Ashlyn Ro-SVHS	Р	Anika Nedunuri	P = Present	
Р	Christopher Kricorian-HMS	Р	lan Nelson	E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant	
Р	Jetta Rose-SMS	Р	Jacob Salvanera		
Р	Abigale Potter-VVMS	Α	Zehong Situ		
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

Staff:

Kristin Tignac, Community Services Coordinator.

Guests:

Jennifer Wigdor, Counselor, Simi Valley Unified School District; Ethan Bhat, Saanvi Daga, Abhishek Humbe, Kalyssa Ro, and

Saydee Ro.

Agenda Review

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

3. Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2023

ACTION: A motion to approve the May 16, 2023 minutes as written was made by Anika Nedunuri and seconded by Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi.

Youth Council Vote: 12 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

5. Public Statements/Comments

The students in attendance introduced themselves, along with their grade levels and schools they attend.

6. Continued Business

No continued business was discussed.

7. New Business

a. Debrief of the Teen Wellness Night on Friday, May 19, 2023

Substance Use Prevention and Teen Wellness Night Committee Chair Anika Nedunuri reported that the Teen Wellness Night event was a success and an article covering the event had been published in the *Simi Valley Acorn* newspaper. Based on participant feedback, the booths and activities scheduled during the event were well received and engaging.

Members discussed ways to improve attendance, such as directing more effort towards promotion and making changes logistically to decrease the space between booths. Another idea was to pair this and other Youth Council events with restaurant fundraisers. For event promotion, members should ask to speak to each of their classes at each school and to focus on the activity versus promoting giveaways or prizes.

b. Discussion of the Youth Council Escape Room on Friday, June 30, 2023

Fundraising Committee Chair Jacob Salvanera reviewed the available Escape Room timeslots and asked all Youth Council members to promote the event by sharing the event flyer. Mr. Salvanera announced that tickets for the event were priced at \$15 per person.

<u>Action Item:</u> Puzzles for the Escape Room to be finished by the Fundraising Committee members before the Saturday, June 10, 2023 committee meeting.

c. 2022-23 Youth Council Recap and Recommendations for the 2023-24 Youth Council Term

Ian Nelson recommended changing the Youth Council bylaws to expand the designated Apollo High School representative position to include all alternative education middle and high schools in Simi Valley, as well as a review of the current excused absence policy.

Rikka Tignac encouraged returning Youth Council members to push for the Youth Summit to be scheduled during the 2023-2024 term. They also recommended that the Youth Council focus on a broader range of issues.

Ella McCrossan stated that she would like members to have more behind-thescenes practice for running the 2024 Annual Talent Show.

Christopher Kricorian requested more frequent and direct channels of communication. He also asked for less Zoom committee meetings preferring all meetings be held in-person.

Serena Jetely recommended changing the regular Youth Council meeting start time from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Jetta Rose stressed the need for better outreach when promoting events.

Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi expressed the need for more Youth Council members to be present at events.

Anika Nedunuri encouraged more verbal participation amongst Youth Council members during meetings. She also expressed an interest in hosting an inperson Multicultural Fair.

Jacob Salvanera requested that there be more maturity shown by the Youth Council members during meetings and to have more team building activities.

Advaith Nair recommended having returning seniors do a presentation on the previous term's accomplishments to show more context for new members at the beginning of the term. Abigale Potter and Rylan Downey also supported this idea. Ian Nelson suggested there be a slide show for new members similar to the presentation given to the Neighborhood Councils this past spring on the Youth Council program and having early team building activities to remedy this.

Abhishek Jagannathan suggested having event improvement discussions early on in the planning process for future events and utilizing the Vice Chair position to organize a document where all meetings and locations be listed. He also encouraged more fundraising for the larger community events and mass promotion of Youth Council events to youth in the community.

8. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Rikka Tignac encouraged everyone to follow Youth Council on social media @simivalleyyouthcouncil.

Teen Crisis Resource Number Review Committee Chair Ian Nelson reported that the committee had met and the crisis and resource numbers would primarily be remaining the same for the upcoming school year.

9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac thanked all Youth Council members for an amazing year.

Ms. Tignac promoted the upcoming Youth Employment Service (YES) 4-part Summer Workshop series, kicking off on June 14th with an Entering the Workforce Workshop with an emphasis on entrepreneurship. Information may be found at www.simivalley.org/yes.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., Simi Valley Senior Center, Room 106/107.

Acting Youth Council Chair Abhishek Jagannathan adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.