



SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Simi Valley Senior Center, Room 106/107
3900 Avenida Simi
2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, California 93063-2199 • (805) 583-6766

AGENDA

Special Meeting Location

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 October 3, 2023

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. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.

6. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the Youth Town Hall on Thursday, January 18, 2024

b. Discussion of the 2023-24 Youth Council Work Plan

7. New Business

a. Discussion of the Youth Council's Participation at the Annual Volunteer Fair on Wednesday, November 8, 2023

b. Discussion of the Youth Council's Participation in the Simi Valley Festival of Trees Fundraiser

c. Discussion of Rescheduling the November 21, 2023 Youth Council Meeting

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 7, 2023, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 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

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
V	Apollo High School Rep	P	Ethan Bhat	P	Jacob Peter Salvanera
P	Ella McCrossan-RHS	P	Pranav Bijith		
P*	Jasleen Khangura-RHS	P	Simran Dhillon	Alternates	
P	Abhishek Jagannathan-SSHS	P	Abhishek Humbe	P	Saydee Ro
P	Advaith Nair-SSHS	E	Tanvi Ijju	P	Junxi Chen
E	Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi - SVHS	P	Sanchita Karthik	E	Sunchana Sridharan
P	Anika Nedunuri-SVHS	P	Claire Menges	P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant	
P	Jiya Bhatt-HMS	P	Ian Nelson		
P	Rylan Downey-SMS	P	Divya Nunna		
P	Sanjeev Akundi-VVMS	P	Kalyssa Ro		
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Community Services Coordinator.

2. Agenda Review

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

3. Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2023

ACTION: A motion to approve the September 19, 2023, minutes with a revision under 9. Representative Reports to include that Claire Menges stated they would send notes from meeting organization representatives during the resource fair portion of the Preventing Suicide Forum with Anika Nedunuri for preparing social media content was made by Abhishek Humbe and seconded by Advaith Nair.

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

The motion passed.

4. Correspondence

Ms. Tignac stated that she had received correspondence from a member of Soroptimist International Simi Valley regarding their Live Your Dream; Education & Training Awards for Women program. Applications for 2024 will be accepted at www.soroptimistsv.org/lyda until November 15, 2023. Ms. Tignac encouraged Youth Council members to share the information with eligible candidates.

Ms. Tignac also reported that she had received notice that the Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation was hosting an Essential Goods Drive during the month of October. Donated items may be dropped off in the collection bin located in the main lobby of the Simi Valley Police Department, located at 3901

Alamo Street. For more information about the Family Justice Center, visit www.vcfjc.org.

5. Public Statements/Comments

No public statements or comments were received.

6. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the Youth Town Hall on Thursday, January 18, 2024

Youth Council members gave updates on their data gathering efforts from discussions with peers regarding top issues of concern.

Chair Abhishek Jagannathan shared the results of the survey created to identify top issues of concern completed by 186 middle and high school students. Based on all the information compiled, members narrowed down the discussion topic of school-related stress for the 2024 Youth Town Hall.

Claire Menges mentioned having individual booths for students to ask questions. Ms. Tignac and Chair Abhishek Jagannathan stated that this format may be more conducive for the Youth Summit.

ACTION: A motion to approve the Social and Academic Challenges Faced by Students as the discussion topic for the 2024 Youth Town Hall was made by Abhishek Humbe and seconded by Ian Nelson.

Youth Council Vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

b. Discussion of the 2023-24 Youth Council Work Plan

Chair Abhishek Jagannathan recapped the top five issues brainstormed during the September 19 Youth Council meeting that included violence/fights, mental health, cultural awareness, substance abuse, and negative teacher/student interactions that impact classroom environments.

Chair Abhishek Jagannathan divided members into work groups to brainstorm solutions to their assigned issues. The following ideas were developed:

- To address fights and other forms of violence, advocate for anger management classes and modify Teen Wellness Night to also highlight anger management skills.
- To address mental health, revamp Teen Wellness Night to focus more on mental health.
- To decrease discrimination, host a Multicultural Fair.
- To address Substance Abuse, research creating a series of awareness videos and request that a school assembly is offered that includes speakers with personal stories overcoming substance abuse.

Members also discussed adding a Youth Council hosted Youth Summit, which had been one of the Youth Council's flagship events pre-COVID.

ACTION: A motion to approve the 2023-24 Youth Council Work Plan to address multicultural inclusivity, along with teen wellness and substance abuse prevention activities was made by Jacob Salvanera and seconded by Junxi Chen.

Youth Council Vote: 20 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

c. Discussion of the Youth Council's 2023 Bullying Prevention Campaign

Members discussed wearing orange on Unity Day scheduled on October 18, 2023. Chair Abhishek Jagannathan, on behalf of the Social Media Committee, asked all Youth Council members to wear orange to the next Youth Council meeting on October 17, 2023 as a group photo would be used for social media content.

As a part of the bullying prevention campaign, Ms. Tignac thanked Sanjeev Akundi, Ethan Bhat, Pranav Bijith, Abhishek Humbe, Jasleen Khangura, Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi, Aadi Nair, Kalyssa Ro, Saydee Ro, and Sunchana Sridharan for representing the Youth Council and accepting the October as Bullying Prevention Month Proclamation at the September 25 City Council Meeting.

7. New Business

a. Debrief of the Youth Council's 2023 Suicide Prevention Rock Painting Night on Friday, September 22, 2023

Fundraising Chair Jacob Salvanera announced that the Yogurtland Fundraiser held on September 22, 2023, had raised \$252.58. The Youth Council had also received an additional \$27 in cash donations during the Rock Painting Night event. The Fundraising Committee will decide how the funds will be donated during the next committee meeting.

b. Discussion and Selection of Ad Hoc Committees to Address the 2023-24 Youth Council Work Plan

Youth Council Chair Abhishek Jagannathan asked Youth Council members to write down their top three committee preferences. Members would be contacted regarding their availability to attend specific committee meetings on Zoom.

8. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Social Media Chair Ella McCrossan reported that the committee had created and posted content on mental health resources. She also mentioned that Abhishek Jagannathan and Ian Nelson would be filming a video after the meeting regarding the teen crisis resource numbers on the back of all Simi Valley Unified School District middle and high school student identification cards. Ms. McCrossan also reminded everyone to follow Youth Council @simivalleyyouthcouncil on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Fundraising Chair Jacob Salvanera stated that the committee was going to revamp the fundraising system this year, including encouraging annual sponsorships. He also stated that all Youth Council would need to be involved in fundraising activities. He asked Youth Council members to brainstorm businesses the committee should contact for donations.

Jiya Bhatt asked when the Youth Council would be distributing the rocks from rock painting night. Ms. Tignac would share a Google form to check for availability and preferred locations.

9. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac congratulated Ethan Bhat for his Youth Council Informational Report presented to the City Council on August 28, 2023.

Ms. Tignac reminded the Royal High School Youth Council representatives that the Brown Bag Lunch was scheduled on Thursday, October 5, 2023. Members would receive talking points in advance and were asked to meet in the Citizen Scholar Institute Room when lunch starts.

Ms. Tignac reminded members of upcoming virtual committee meetings, including Social Media at 6:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 14, 2023 and the Fundraising Committee at 10:00 a.m., on Sunday, October 15, 2023.

Ms. Tignac reminded members of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District's Heritage Halloween on Saturday, October 21, 2023, and the City Expo and Simi Valley Street Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 28, 2023.

Members also were asked to sign up for specific shifts to run the Youth Council booth at the City Expo.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Simi Valley Senior Center, Room 106/107.

Youth Council Chair Abhishek Jagannathan adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.