



SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL
Friday, November 8, 2024, 5:00 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 Date and Time

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 15, 2024

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. Informational Presentation

a. Public Works, Traffic Engineering Division - Bicycle Master Plan

7. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the 2024-25 Youth Council Work Plan

b. Discussion of the Youth Town Hall on Friday, January 24, 2025

8. New Business

a. Friday Night Live Youth Summit Report

b. Discussion of Service Projects for the Volunteer Fair on Thursday, November 14, 2024

c. Discussion of Holding a Youth Council Holiday Gift Exchange

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, November 19, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Simi Valley Senior Center, Room 106/107

/s/ _____
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/Welcome

Youth Council Chair Advait Nair called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m., and Youth Council Acting Secretary James LeQuang took attendance, verifying that a quorum was present.

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large			
P	Jasleen Khangura - RHS	P	Ethan Bhat	P	Saydee Ro
E	Rylan Downey - RHS	P	Prithika Bijith	P	Karthik Vishnubhotla
P	Advait Nair - SSSHS	E	Saanvi Daga	Alternates	
E	Nicole Kim - SSSHS	A	Chloé Drury	P*	Nishta Kubsad
E	Nandhiha Krishnamoorthi - sv	P	Abhishek Humbe	P	Natalie Nguyen
P	Kalyssa Ro -SVHS	P	Kirtan Ijju	P	Michelle Sebastian
P	Aman Sreejith - HMS	E	Tanvi Ijju	P = Present	
P	Hannah Khalil – SMS	P	Lakshmi Julakanti	E = Excused	
P	Arjun Prabhuram - VVMS	P	James LeQuang	A = Absent	
		P	Rithmika Naveen	V = Vacant	
*Arrived after approval of the minutes					

Staff: Ryan Fowler, Youth Council Coordinator

Guests: Elaine Litster, City Council Member; Megan Gately, Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute (RRPFI); Gavin Roe, RRPFI; Sahana Jetely, student; Khushi Patel, student; Saanvi Srinivasan, student; Eireena Parnami, student; Eileen Parnami, student

2. Agenda Review

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

3. Approval of Minutes from October 1, 2024

ACTION: A motion to approve the October 1, 2024, minutes as written was made by Karthik Vishnubhotla and seconded by Kirtan Ijju.

Youth Council Vote: 17 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

4. Correspondence

Vice Chair Jasleen Khangura shared a flyer for the California Association of Student Councils Region 7 Conference being held on October 25, 2024. She explained the event and stated that registration would close on October 22. Ryan Fowler, Youth Council Coordinator, played a video of a news report that had aired on ABC 7 News on October 9, 2024, about the Youth Council's recent Rock Painting Night event.

5. Public Statements/Comments

Megan Gately and Gavin Roe, from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Institute & Foundation introduced themselves. Students in attendance introduced themselves, the school they attended, and their grade level.

6. Informational Presentations

a. City Council Liaison to the Youth Council Councilmember Elaine Litster

Councilmember Elaine Litster introduced herself, explained that she has been the City Council liaison to the Youth Council for several years, and expressed that she was grateful to be able to work with the Youth Council. Councilmember Lister stated that she represents District 3, and explained how the city is divided up into districts, each represented by a City Council member. She said she was currently running for re-election, however unopposed. Councilmember Litster shared information on the amphitheater project as well as conceptual artwork. Youth Council Coordinator Ryan Fowler asked how the Youth Council could get involved if they were interested, and Council Member Litster shared the City Council would be discussing the next steps of this project at the City Council meeting on October 21, and that Youth Council members could attend the meeting and voice their support of the project during public statements, as members of the public. Council Member Litster answered several questions from Youth Council members. She thanked the Youth Council for their time and for inviting her, thanked them for the work they do, and stated she looked forward to working with them this term.

7. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the Youth Town Hall

Megan Gately and Gavin Roe from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) introduced themselves. Youth Council Chair Advait Nair gave a brief description of the Youth Town Hall event and asked if a date had been selected. Youth Council Coordinator Ryan Fowler stated the options were Friday, January 24 or Friday, January 31. The Youth Council members expressed their preference for January 24. Mrs. Gately reviewed some of the challenges of the previous Youth Town Hall in getting school classes to attend, including competing with the RRPFI's Medal of Honor event held just a few weeks later and a lack of recruiting and marketing on the Youth Council's part. She asked what the Youth Council thought of these issues and the Youth Council members felt they could increase attendance if the Youth Council does more outreach. Mrs. Gately and Mr. Roe agreed and stressed the importance of outreach to making the event successful. Mr. Nair explained that the feedback the Youth Council had received showed that the topics and speakers were great, but that the audience was sitting too long and not engaged enough. He asked if there were any suggestions for improving engagement and interaction, and Hannah Khalil stated there should be more middle school participation on stage. Arjun Prabhuram suggested having ice breakers. Lakshmi Julakanti

stated there should be an intermission, and Kalyssa Ro suggested that the panelists have a time limit for answers to avoid rambling. Mr. Nair shared his idea of having the moderators only ask one question, with most of the questions coming from the audience. Mr. Fowler stated this was a great start to the planning of the Youth Town Hall and that the Youth Council looked forward to working with RRPFI to revamp and refresh the event. He invited RRPFI to continue the discussion and planning at our November 5 meeting.

b. Discussion of the 2024-25 Youth Council Work Plan

Youth Council Chair Advait Nair asked that in the interest of time, if there were any objections to continuing the discussion of the 2024-25 Youth Council Work Plan to the November 5 Youth Council Meeting. There being none, the discussion was continued to the November 5 meeting.

8. New Business

a. Debrief of Youth Summit held on October 11, 2024

Youth Council Chair Advait Nair stated that the Youth Summit event had been very successful and thanked everyone for their hard work and participation. He asked for members to share highlights and improvements for next year, and the following was stated: Natalie Nguyen said we should have signs to help direct people, Lakshmi Julakanti stated there was too much time spent brainstorming problems and not ideas, Karthik Vishnubhotla said the breakout group sessions were too long and that Connections and Soul Friend went well, Saydee Ro suggested doing Cross The Line first, and Nishta Kubsad stated that we should start at 9:30 a.m. to match the school's late start on Fridays. Other ideas included inviting the dignitaries to stay for Breakout Session 3 and continue the lunch discussions, shorter breakout sessions overall, have each group rotate through each topic, assign all seats at lunch, limit to five breakout groups, the speaker system in Activity Room 3 was not great, lunch and networking was the best part of the event, and that Breakout Session 3 was the best.

b. Discussion of the Youth Council's Participation at the Annual Volunteer Fair on Thursday, November 14, 2024

Youth Council Chair Advait Nair and Youth Council Coordinator Ryan Fowler explained that the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board was hosting its annual Volunteer Fair on November 14, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Simi Valley Public Library and that the Youth Council had participated in past. Mr. Fowler asked if the Youth Council wanted to participate again this year by hosting an informational table and service projects.

ACTION: A motion to participate in the Volunteer Fair on November 14, 2024, was made by Karthik Vishnubhotla and seconded by Rithmika Naveen.

Youth Council Vote: 18 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

9. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Chair Advait Nair asked for any updates from the Outreach Committee. Outreach Committee chair Jasleen Khangura shared that the Youth Council TikTok account was now at 50 followers and encouraged everyone to keep sharing and help them meet their goal of 100 followers by summer. Ms. Khangura stated that the compliment campaign for Stop Bullying month would be going live soon, and asked Youth Council members to help participate and share once they saw it. Mr. Nair asked for updates from the Fundraising Committee, and Chair Ethan Bhat stated that the committee was researching options for a contactless payment system. He shared that the next Fundraising Committee meeting would be October 23. Mr. Nair asked if the Teen Wellness Committee had a report and Vice Chair Rithmika Naveen said they did not, as they had not met since the last Youth Council meeting. Mr. Nair stated that the Youth Summit Committee did not need to report as the Youth Summit had just concluded and complimented them on a good job.

10. Coordinator's Report

Youth Council Coordinator Ryan Fowler reminded the Youth Council members that the Heritage Halloween event was Saturday, October 19 at Strathearn Historical Park, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. He stated that he would not be there due to attending a leadership conference, but that Ms. Anna Medina would be there instead. He reminder Youth Council members to come in costume. Mr. Fowler reminded the Youth Council members that the Simi Valley Street Fair was Saturday, October 26 and that signups for shifts looked good, but needed people for the 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. shift, as that shift did not have enough people.

11. Adjournment Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., City Hall Community Room

Youth Council Chair Advait Nair adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.