

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2023
Via Zoom**

Commissioners Present: Stephen Betts, Chair
Dev Ghoshal, Vice Chair
Marcie Bellicitti, Secretary
Victoria BurtonBurke
Nora Manchester
Penny Blake
Vaishali “Shali” Sirkay
Jean Pennypacker
Heather Angove
Neha Parthasarathi
Darius Parakh
Rayan Sengupta
Karen Guldan

Commissioners Absent: Diana Traub
Diana Sanchez Bentz

Also Present: Honorable L Michael Clark, Superior Court
Honorable Jose Franco, Superior Court
Kara Garasky, Superior Court
Michelle Hauck, BHSD
Vanessa Cornejo, BHSD
Veronica Robles, BHSD
Violeta Garcia, BHSD
Dustin Eng, Probation Department
Ignacio Carriles, Probation Department
Vone Kegarice, Probation Department
Trina Gauthier, Probation Department
Qing Deng, Probation Department
Gladys Tran, Probation Department
Alex Villa, Probation Department
Elisa Carias, Probation Department
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Department
Victoria Contreras-Wolfe, Probation Department
Dolores Morales, Probation Department
Damon Silver, PDO
Nisreen Baroudi, PDO
Stacey Capps, DAO
David Epps, ADO
Lana Kreidie, IDO
Lissa Thiele, SCCOE
Mark Camilleri, SCCOE
Dane Caldwell-Holden, SCCOE

Amanda Kennedy, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Marie Mauboussin, DFCS
Preeti Mishra, DAC
Ruth Maurice, OMOS
Matt Cammann, Seneca
Lanphuong Le, Medical Services
Josh Selo, Bill Wilson Center
Patrick Tondreau, citizen
Karen Michael, citizen
Samuel Armendariz, citizen
Ray Blockie, citizen

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Betts called the meeting to order at 12:15pm.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved by all Commissioners present.

Swearing In: Honorable L. Michael Clark administered the oath of office to Nora Manchester as Juvenile Justice Commissioner in the County of Santa Clara, for a term ending in 2027.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Approval of Minutes: November 7, 2023 Minutes approved by all Commissioners present.

REPORTS

PRESENTATION: BILL WILSON CENTER (Josh Selo)

- BWC supports and strengthens the community by serving youth and families through counseling, housing, education, and advocacy.
- BWC is working to prevent poverty in the next generation by connecting youth and families to education, employment, housing, and positive relationships that will end youth and family homelessness.
- BWC values: belonging, collaboration, compassion, impact, integrity, learning, perseverance.
- Founded in 1973 (celebrating 50 years of service in 2023!)
- \$35 million operating budget, 203 full-time staff
- Program focus: housing, foster care services, counseling & behavioral health, supportive & prevention services, advocacy.
- Key Accomplishments 2022-2023
 - 4,723 clients served
 - 900+ beds of housing made available each night
 - 19,213 counseling sessions provided
 - 1,492 young adults received housing services
- Safety Net Shelter
 - For youth aged 12-17
 - 20 beds; average stay 2-4 weeks
 - Array of services provided: counseling, medical, education
 - 89% reunification with family and/or stable placement
 - Largest referral sources: parents/guardian, law enforcement, self-referral
 - Served 162 clients in 2022-2023
- Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP)
 - For youth aged 16-18 involved in dependency

- o Serves up to 13 youth at one time; housing for 2 years
- o Wraparound services, including case management, life skills coaching, medical and mental health care, educational planning, career development, and personal finance.
- o Served 23 youth in 2022-2023 (17% had some involvement with juvenile justice)
- Transitional Housing Placement – Non Minor Dependents (THP-NMD)
 - o For youth aged 18-21 in extended dependency
 - o Serves up to 25 young adults at a time, housing for up to 36 months
 - o Wraparound services, including case management, crisis intervention, life skills coaching, medical and mental health care, educational planning, career development, substance use education/treatment, parenting skills, and personal finance.
 - o Served 42 youth in 2022-2023 (21% had some involvement with juvenile justice)
- Nisreen Baroudi asked: If law enforcement brings a youth to BWC, does the parent have to consent to them being there?
 - o Josh: No
- Nisreen asked: For the 16-18 year olds, dependents don't need parental consent to be placed at the BWC, but do juvenile justice youth need parental consent?
 - o Josh: I'm not sure, I'll have to check on the answer.
- Commissioner Bellicitti asked: What's the difference between homeless citizens and unhoused citizens?
 - o Josh responded: Homeless vs housing insecurity. Homeless definition means you're sleeping outside. Young people often won't be classified as literally homeless if they're couch surfing, because they technically have a roof over their head.
- Commissioner Ghoshal asked: Is capacity an issue for THP?
 - o Josh responded: The issue lately has been staffing; we don't have enough staff to operate the program.
 - o Dev asked: If staffing is a constraint to satisfy the demand, do you keep track of all the requests you can't fulfill?
 - o Josh: Yes, we keep track.

Chair's Report: Chair Betts reported on the following:

- Just completed LEA report.
- Currently working on inspections of: The Ranch, and Welcoming Center.
- A few commissioners visited the Secure Youth Treatment Facility at the Ranch.

Presiding Judge: Honorable L. Michael Clark reported on the following:

- As of Dec 1st-- 1,052 youth with active cases in Juvenile Probation.
- As of Dec 1st-- 71 boys, 5 girls in Juvenile Hall
- As of Dec 1st – 34 youth at the Ranch
- 2 days in Nov with only 1 girl in Juvenile Hall
- Superior Court has started recruitment for the Civil Grand Jury
- What are your plans for 2024?—Turn over the role of Juvenile Presiding Judge to Judge Franco.

Judge Franco reported on the following:

- Planning to take over Juvenile Presiding Judge in 2024.

Dependency Court: No one present to report.

Alternate Defender's Office: David Epps reported on the following:

- Sajid Khan returning to juvenile unit.
- What are your plans for 2024? – ADO will be navigating budget cuts, but hopefully will not impact juvenile services.

Independent Defender's Office: Lana Kreidie reported on the following:

- What are your plans for 2024? – IDO will also be impacted by the County budget cuts.

Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY): Amanda Kennedy reported on the following:

- Andrew Cain will be leaving the Law Foundation; currently hiring to fill his position.

Dependency Advocacy Center (DAC): Preeti Mishra reported on the following:

- What are your plans for 2024? – Transitioning new CEO in the new year.

The Office of Mediation and Ombuds Services: Ruth Maurice reported on the following:

- Office moved to 70 W Heading, 3rd floor.

Alternative Schools Department: Dane Caldwell-Holden reported on the following:

- A few youth at Juvenile Hall have completed Associate's degrees.

Eugene Santillan reported on the following:

- New program for youth to learn how to repair bicycles.

Mark Camilleri reported on the following:

- What are your plans for 2024? – Hoping to provide more opportunities for students to earn their Meat Handler's license.
- Continue to provide students with Fork Lift Certification program.
- Explore if there are any other certification programs they can provide youth.
- Continue to provide students with the opportunity to take college courses.

Department of Family and Children's Service (DFCS): Marie Maubossin reported on the following:

- January is Human Trafficking Awareness month
- Having a presenter come to speak with boys about male trafficking.
- Training coming up about interviewing males for disclosures.

Damion Wright reported on the following:

- Conversation surrounding DFCS Strategic Framework has been sent to JJC and CAPC.
- Awaiting to hear if DFCS will be impacted by the budget cut.

Probation Department: Dustin Eng reported on the following:

- Offering new program: Healthy Sexual Behavior
- Highlight: a Probation Officer was able to supply a youth's mother with naran, and she used it the same day to save the youth's life.
- Educational Services unit participated in Late Night Gym Night and Dia de los Muertos event.
- Officers participated in career day at Apollo High School.

Trina Gauthier reported on the following for Juvenile Hall:

- 4 youth from SYTF program visited SJSU to give presentation on topics including perception in the workplace, anxiety, code switching, and love languages.
- Juvenile Hall will hold annual holiday decorating contest on 12/21.
- Youth in SYTF volunteered to be interviewed for a video for the Library.

Alex Villa reported on the following for institutions:

- Probation Department was awarded with a Distinguished Public Agency Partner award by COE.
- Had several youth test positive for youth over the past few months.

- o Strongly recommend wearing a mask.
- Had an inspection by the State Board of Corrections.
- Some youth from the Ranch participated in Thanksgiving Turkey Trot, as well as an author signing.

Vone Kegarice reported on the following:

- What are your plans for 2024? – Probation will be navigating a budget cut in 2024.

Dolores Morales reported on the following:

- Probation would like to share their holiday wish list with various networks for donations.

Behavioral Health: Veronica Robles reported on the following:

- New program manager for SYFT.
- Erin Morgan is Juvenile Justice Clinical Supervisor.
- Onboarding new staff.
- What are your plans for 2024? – Continue to support team within Juvenile Justice clinics.

Medical Services: Lanphuong Le reported on the following:

- One youth is Covid positive at the Ranch.
- Strongly recommend wearing masks within the facilities.
- What are your plans for 2024? – Continue to provide optimal services for justice involved youth, and continue to work with the system to plan for the transition of youth when released from custody.

Law Enforcement Agencies: No one present to report.

District Attorney's Office: Stacey Capps reported on the following:

- DAO is also navigating budget cuts in the new year.
- Working with partners on a Juvenile Restitution Fund pilot project.
- Continue with Fentanyl work group.

Public Defender's Office: Nisreen Baroudi reported on the following:

- Amanda Simpson returning to Juvenile.
- Jonathon Mosby will be taking over Nisreen's position in early January.
- Onboarding new staff.
- PDO will be doing Christmas pizza delivery again this year.
- Jan 17th – New Laws Training
- Jan 10th – Nisreen's farewell party
- What are your plans for 2024? – PDO will also be navigating budget cuts.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Betts adjourned to Executive Session at 1:20p.m. The next meeting will take place on January 2, 2023 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Garasky