

City of Fresno Youth Commission – Minutes - Final

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Location: Fresno City Hall – Room 2665A

1. **5:47 P.M. Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Chair Nina Narahari* (CD 2), 2nd Vice Chair Jovan Mendez* (CD 3), Secretary Alyssa Villegas* (CD 4), Commissioner Antonio Jauregui* (Mayor's Office), Commissioner Jaylin White (CD 3), Commissioner Citlali Palma* (CD 6), and Commissioner Miranda Lara* (CD 7)

Absent: 6 - Commissioner Marco Sanchez (Mayor's Office), Commissioner Chance Lau* (CD 1), Commissioner Chandler Baladjanian (CD 2), and Commissioner Adriana Reyes* (CD 5)

Note: Sergeant of Arms Gabriel Murillo (CD 7) resigned effective 2/27/18. This created a new vacancy for a seat with voting rights, which was immediately filled by alternate Miranda Lara (CD 7) until such a time as the vacancy is filled and the responsible Councilmember appoints permanent voting rights.

Vacancies: 5 - Seats for CD 1, CD 4, CD 5, CD 6, and CD 7.

3. **Review & Approve Agenda**

On motion of Commissioner Lara, seconded by Commissioner Jauregui, that the agenda for 2/27/18 be approved. Passed 6-0.

Ayes - 6: Jauregui, Lara, Mendez, Narahari, Palma, Villegas

Noes - 0: None

Absent - 2: Lau, Reyes

4. **Ice Breaker**

Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Coordinator Jose Espinoza asked the commissioners to give an update on how they were doing in school.

Commissioner Palma got accepted and will attend CSU Fresno. Secretary Villegas is in her second semester at Fresno City College. Coordinator Espinoza shared that YLI is opening an office in Merced and invited all commissioners to attend. He also got his dream 1999 red Corvette. Commissioner White got accepted to CSU Fresno, Arizona State and San Francisco State, and she's leaning toward Arizona. Commissioner Jauregui is finishing his last semester at Fresno City College and will be earning his Associate's Degree and will be exploring undergrad and graduate options. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez got accepted to Cal State Monterey Bay and Fresno State University and will attend Fresno State University. Chairperson Narahari got accepted to University of Southern California and to U.C. Berkeley, and is awaiting responses from other colleges. Commissioner Lara got accepted to CSU San Bernardino, CSU Fresno, San Francisco and Suffolk University, and I waiting to hear back from U.C.'s.

5. **Commissioners' Reports and Comments**

No comments were made.

6. **Review & Approve Minutes**

On motion of Commissioner Lara, seconded by Commissioner Palma, that the minutes of 2/13/18 be approved. Passed 6-0.

Ayes - 6: Jauregui, Lara, Mendez, Narahari, Palma, Villegas

Noes - 0: None

Absent - 2: Lau, Reyes

7. **Presentations**

No presentations scheduled.

8. **Workshops and Action Items**

Youth Jobs Taskforce Resolution

Coordinator Espinoza distributed the latest version of the resolution. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez and Commissioner White gave an update. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez said they met with the interns and compiled a list of questions that councilmembers could ask and prepared responses. Commissioner White reported that she and Coordinator Espinoza met with Councilmember Baines and that he supported the resolution, and that he didn't expect any opposition from other Councilmembers.

Coordinator Espinoza said the presentation to Council would be on Thursday, March 29th. The head speaker would be Commissioner White, along with one of the interns. He also presented the newest resolution and explained that Councilmember Soria had stripped some of the language that the Youth Commission had included in order to make the resolution simpler and assure its passage. He said that the Youth Commission would get the opportunity to present the recommendations from its resolution after the passage of the Council resolution. Commissioners Jauregui read the resolution. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez asked why the duration language was not kept. Coordinator Espinoza said that leaving out that language made the resolution simpler. He also spoke about the memo for the item that was provided by Councilmember Soria. The memo was read out loud during the meeting by Commissioners White 2nd Vice Chair Mendez.

Commissioner Jauregui asked if the commission will still be getting letters of support. Coordinator Espinoza said Councilmember Soria would reach out to the organizations and that she would get the Youth Commission's assistance if needed. Cynthia Sapien, Program Manager at YLI spoke about the presenters' readiness to answer questions about organizations' support for the youth jobs' initiative. Coordinator Espinoza listed some of the organizations that are supportive of youth jobs' initiative.

There were no other comments from the Youth Commission.

Youth Commission Celebration – Planning

Coordinator Espinoza spoke about scheduling a Youth Commission meeting to celebrate the achievements of the Youth Commission and also of the members that are ending their terms (Narahari, Lau, Mendez, and Lara).

On general consensus, April 27, 2018 at 5:30 P.M. was selected as the meeting date. The commissioners also discussed the types of food to be served at the event, with pizookis receiving extra consideration. Coordinator Espinoza kept a list of the foods.

It was also decided to invite commissioners that have resigned as well as the parents and family of the youth commissioners.

Clovis Unified Issues

Coordinator Espinoza said there had been an incident at Clovis East High School in which a student had refused to stand up for the pledge of allegiance and the teacher told the student to go back to her country. He said that there were City of Fresno youth who attend Clovis schools. Commissioner Jauregui said that he read the statement issued by the school and that the response was “very transparent.” He stated that he would like to see more accountability from the school. Chair Narahari said it was a 1st Amendment issue but questioned if there would be restrictions on that type of speech in schools. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez asked about any disciplinary actions. Coordinator Espinoza said that suggestions arising from the meeting (sponsored by City of Fresno Mayor’s Office) that three youth commissioners (Jauregui, Sanchez and White) had with Clovis Unified in November, such as updating the student handbook, had been minimally implemented.

Chair Narahari said that the only reason Clovis changed the dress code was because students were persistent and that in this case the community would need to go consistently to meetings. Coordinator Espinoza said that he was waiting to hear back from Clovis Unified public relations in regards to scheduling a meeting. He then read the response from the teacher in regards to the incident. The youth commissioners then continued to discuss the incident. Coordinator Espinoza spoke about attending a Clovis Unified Board meeting in which he heard a teacher say that she has students sign a contract of respect. He also mentioned the concept of “culture of humility,” which means being in place with different cultures and being respectful even if you don’t completely understand the culture.

Coordinator Martinez said that if the Youth Commission planned to meet with Clovis Unified, then that it should proceed in the same manner as they did the previous time (City of Fresno arranged the meeting). He mentioned that as youth commissioners, they are representatives of the City and that whatever they say could be taken as an official statement from the City. He said the City Clerk’s office could help facilitate that meeting if they wanted. 2nd Vice Chair Mendez asked if a policy could be created to require community input. Coordinator Espinoza said the commission can’t create a policy, but that it could propose suggestions.

T-Shirt Design

The T-Shirt Committee presented ideas and designs for the t-shirt, which was opened for discussion. Chair Narahari suggested a quote. Commissioner Jauregui suggested a silhouette of the Fresno skyline.

Commissioner Palma spoke about the colors and possibly putting a silhouette of the “City of Fresno” sign. They continued to discuss the design including logo, font style, and skyline placement.

On motion of Commissioner Lara, seconded by Commissioner Jauregui, that the t-shirt design be approved. Passed 6-0.

Ayes - 6: Jauregui, Lara, Mendez, Narahari, Palma, Villegas

Noes - 0: None

Absent - 2: Lau, Reyes

9. Committee Report

1. Civic Engagement Task Force: No Updates
2. Social Media Committee: No Updates
3. T-Shirt Committee: See T-Shirt Design item above
4. Other Committee Reports: Commissioner Lara of the Vote 16 Committee asked for volunteers to take her place on the committee and that she could help secure her successor’s place on the National Youth Board. No commissioner volunteered. Coordinator Espinoza said that there would be eleven new commissioners joining for the new term he would mention the position to them.

10. Calendar Items

Coordinator Espinoza reminded the commission about the date and approximate time of the Youth Commission’s presentation before City Council.

11. Public Comments

Sher Moua with the Fresno Boys and Men of Color spoke about the Fresno FAX bus system and the inadequacies of the system in terms of providing adequate service, especially to youth. He mentioned that sometimes buses would be so full, that they could not stop to pick-up passengers. He asked for the opportunity to present before the Youth Commission.

On motion of Commissioner Jauregui, seconded by 2nd Vice Chair Mendez, that the a presentation by the Fresno Boys and Men of Color regarding the Fresno bus system be added to the next agenda meeting date. Passed 6-0.

Ayes - 6: Jauregui, Lara, Mendez, Narahari, Palma, Villegas

Noes - 0: None

Absent - 2: Lau, Reyes

12. Adjournment

On motion of Commissioner Lara, seconded by Commissioner Palma that the meeting of 2/27/18 be adjourned. Passed 6-0.

Ayes - 6: Jauregui, Lara, Mendez, Narahari, Palma, Villegas

Noes - 0: None

Absent - 2: Lau, Reyes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.