



COMMISSIONER Lark Thomas, Chair
COMMISSIONER Danny Smith
COMMISSIONER Michael Stewart
COMMISSIONER Carol Salvagione
COMMISSIONER Walter Turner
COMMISSIONER Cheryl Sena
COMMISSIONER Paul Briley
COMMISSIONER Jennifer Giles
COMMISSIONER Alicia Gray
COMMISSIONER Jeanne Osbay-Bell

San Francisco Juvenile Justice Commission
Approved minutes of General Meeting
November 16, 2021
Via BlueJeans

CALLED TO ORDER

Commissioner Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comm. Smith - absent
Comm. Stewart - present
Comm. Salvagione – present
Comm. Sena – excused
Comm. Thomas - present
Comm. Turner – present
Comm. Briley - present
Comm. Giles – present
Comm. Gray - present
Comm. Osbay-Bell – present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The October 19, 2021 minutes were approved.

GUEST SPEAKERS

- Denise Coleman, who oversees the CARC program, and Hilary Buren, the program director for Huckleberry House were present.
- The CARC program has been in place since 1998. They see 30% of arrestees. They have a goal of no re-arrest. The recidivism rate is only about 15-20%
- Police are supposed to call CARC first and speak with the on duty probation officer who decides if the youth should go to CARC or be detained.

- CARC has a holistic/therapeutic assessment process. They are open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Their goal is to get the youth home with a parent or guardian as soon as possible. They assess all risks/barriers such as whether the youth is struggling academically, whether there are safety concerns, etc. They get information from the parent/guardian. As a team they come up with agreements for youth with misdemeanors. All felony arrestees must see the DA. CARC is still involved but that is a different process.
- If a parent/guardian is not available to pick up their child from CARC before closure, the youth can be taken to Huckleberry house and they will contact the parent/guardian. If the arrest is after 10:00 p.m. the youth can also go to Huckleberry. Huckleberry House only takes youth over 12. Huckleberry house is a 24 hour shelter where youth can stay up to 21 days. The intake number for Huckleberry is 415-437-2500.
- Within 3 days after initial intake CARC follows up with case management. They develop trust and a relationship with the youth to better support them. Cases stay with CARC for a minimum of 4 months and could be as long as 1-2 years. There is no limit on support. There are 6 case managers onsite.
- There is an imbedded therapist on site for mental health counseling. They are available immediately. Other services including translators, CYC (community Youth Center), and IFR (Instituto de Familiar la Raza) which is for monolingual Spanish speakers.
- Reset is the restorative justice component to repair harm. This is a collaborative process where youth and the victim/victim representative talk about what happened, why, how it made the victim feel, etc. If there is agreement by both parties, a plan is formulated and if the youth complies and there is no further incident, it is dropped. A parent/guardian is involved in the restorative justice program. A community member is present. If the person harmed cannot attend, a surrogate person is involved.
- Starting in January there will be a pre-arrest diversion program for things such as petty theft, simple battery, trespassing, and the single charge of resisting arrest. For deferred cases, if youth follow through with the plan, the charges are dropped.
- Coleman and Buren responded to multiple questions from the commissioners. All appreciated their time and commitment.

UNIFIED FAMILY COURT

- Judge Daniel Flores reported for the court.
- Hearings will take place in December regarding the Juvenile Hall closure. They will be remote public hearings. Juvenile Hall will not be closed on January 1, 2022 because there is still no replacement option. State and federal laws need to be complied with. A secure facility is also required.
- All 707(b) offenses require detention.

COURT SCHOOLS

- No representative present

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

- No representative present

JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

- Director Uppal was present.
- Census: 18; 14 male, 4 female. 11 under age 17; 7 age 18 or over.
- Merit Center is opened. It will be renamed. There is a contest for the youth to come up with a new name. It is a place where the youth can go to play video games, Ping-Pong, foosball, etc. They can cook with the staff. They can watch TV and movies. There is also a hair studio. Access to the center will be based on incentives.
- They are working with the school to enhance the educational opportunities. They want to start some vocational/practical programming. They are looking to expand the garden and culinary program. They used to grow more fruit and vegetables and make dishes to eat in cooking class. They want to start this up again and teach the youth how to cook basic meals.
- Due to the ongoing pandemic, visiting hours during the week are still virtual. On the weekend they stagger visits throughout the day. All visitors must take a rapid COVID test in the lobby on site prior to entry.

CHAIR REPORT

- The commissioners' holiday dinner will be at Old Skool Café.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

ADJOURNMENT

6:49 p.m.