

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

March 10, 2021

Microsoft Teams Teleconference

12:00pm – 1:53pm

Commissioners Present:

Palagummi, Vamsey (Chair)	Hooper, Spencer	Metz, Elana	Norris, Zachary
Anderson, Louise	Hooper-Arana, Erica	Mchombo, Pamela	
Galvis, George	Larios, Xochtil	Nair, Kamal	

Collaborative Partners Present:

Amaya Bonilla, Ericson, <i>67 Sueños</i>	Monfared, Cameron, <i>AC Human Relations Commissioner</i>
Berman, Erin, <i>Alameda County Library</i>	Pappas, Carissa, <i>Probation Department</i>
Buckner-Preston, Mia, <i>Social Services</i>	Renato, Hayden, <i>CURYJ</i>
Chambers, Adrienne, <i>Deputy Chief Probation Officer</i>	Riley, Walter, <i>Attorney</i>
Ford, Brian, <i>Assistant Chief Probation Officer</i>	Rivers, James, <i>Probation Department Superintendent</i>
Fort, Jessica, <i>Probation Department Superintendent</i>	Ross, Javay, <i>Public Health Medical Director</i>
Jones Dickson, Ursula, <i>Judge, Superior Court</i>	Running, Lynn, <i>Volunteer at JH</i>
Joseph, Jamela, <i>FLY</i>	Sirois, Catherine, <i>Student</i>
Kim, Emil, <i>Probation Department</i>	Spencer, Michael, <i>Public Health</i>
Lee, Sherron, <i>Probation Department</i>	Taizan, Juan, <i>Behavioral Health Director</i>
Long, Ian, <i>Deputy Chief Probation Officer</i>	Thomas, Shane, <i>Probation Department</i>
Mance, Alphonso, <i>Public Defender</i>	Vaughan, Monica, <i>ACOE Chief of Schools</i>
McAndrew, Eileen, <i>DA</i>	Williams, Brooklyn, <i>New Door Ventures</i>
McGuire, Tammy, <i>Probation Project Coordinator</i>	Wilson, Melissa, <i>San Mateo County JJDPC</i>
Middleton, Natasha, <i>Probation Specialist</i>	Zambrana, Andrea, <i>Conflicts Program</i>
Mitchell, Alicia, <i>Probation Department Director</i>	Kane, Anna, <i>Probation Department (Recorder)</i>
Moffatt, Sean, <i>ACOE</i>	

Approval of minutes On a motion made by *Commissioner Xochtil Larios* and seconded by *Commissioner Louise Anderson*:

“To approve the February 10, 2021 JJDPC meeting minutes.”

MOTION CARRIED

ACOE Update:

- Schools are starting to re-open; no uniformed approach to re-opening; elementary schools re-opening, higher schools using hybrid approach
- Educators are being vaccinated
- No date for ACOE; should have a date and agreement as early as end of week in regards to court schools
- Two upcoming graduations on March 26 and March 31
- Expecting declines in test scores due to distance learning
- Technology was provided to make the best of distance learning

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

Will commissioners be allowed to celebrate with the two graduates? Is a card or an acknowledgement allowed?

Yes, this is allowed. Please work out the details with DCPO Long

ACOE to provide a Zoom link to the graduations to the Commission.

Social Services Update:

- 54 youth entered Assessment Center in February; lower numbers than usual due to COVID
- Of the 54, 60% were teens. Average length of stay is increasing, however, still within 72 hours limits
- Has reduced “overstays”
- Caregivers are not comfortable accepting youth
- Hopeful that with vaccinations, caregivers will accept more placements and resume visits with youth’s families
- Entries after hours and weekend holding steady
- Looking into what type of services can be offered on weekends and after hours
- Majority of youth placed outside of alameda county
- Most are going to FFAs because they can accommodate sibling groups
- Advocacy programs are resuming in-person programs at the Assessment Center

Commission to reach out to Ian Long.

Erin Berman offered books as graduation gifts.

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

What happens when a placement cannot be found in 72 hours?

The person remains at the Assessment Center until a placement is found.

Does the Assessment Center have a library? The AC Library can assist.

Please connect to discuss further.

Erin Berman to connect with Mia Buckner-Preston.

Are there disparities in placement by ethnic background and gender?

Yes, there are disparities with Black/Brown youth and teenagers.

Mia Buckner-Preston to provide statistics at next month’s meeting.

Court Update:

- Working with SB 823 planning; weekly meetings
- Not many in-person hearings

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

Have there been any changes recently?

Children have the right to appear in person; Courts outfitted with plexiglass for safety; most youth have waived that right; Courthouse is still closed to public.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

What is the role of Impact Justice?

Probation has contracted with them as a program manager. Their role is facilitating meetings, drafting a plan, etc.; meetings are open to the public; information can be found on the ACPD website.

What is the biggest challenge of SB 823 implementation?

The biggest challenge for the Court is getting the finalization around the secure track language; need more information.

Is there an effort to make sure youth are not overcharged and sent to adult system?

This has not been seen in Alameda County recently; Probation stressed that they also don't want to see youth charged as adults.

Will the state allocate enough funding for the returning youth considering that the funding formula takes into account the number of youth previously sent to DJJ?

Yes, the court is concerned about the level of funding; Probation is committed to investing additional funds for programs; Larger Plan will articulate how Probation plans to keep youth in the juvenile system.

Any planning around how to build up capacity to keep youth in the juvenile system? Is Camp Sweeney being considered?

We were awarded \$35M to rebuild Camp Sweeney; Waiting for GSA assessment; Camp sits on earthquake fault; the facility needs updating; RFP for \$3M to prevent youth from coming in to the juvenile justice system.

The money for the first round of funding will be received from the Board. Has there been any progress in changing the state's allocation formula?

We don't have the status on the effort to revamp that formula. The formula is based on the number of youth sent to DJJ, number of youth for who have sustained petitions for 707(b) offenses, and how many youth reside in the county.

District Attorney
Update:

- Seeing an uptick of serious and violent cases
- SB 823 legislation is designed to keep youth out of the adult system
- Youth need treatment and behavioral therapy in a secure setting before returning to the community

Public Defender Update:

- A robust program to create community safety must be created; youth sent to DJJ on 707(b) offences cannot have their records sealed

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

- Recent rise in violent crime is due to youth not attending school, increase in abuse; most reporters of abuse are teachers
- It's hard to come up with best plan given the time constraints

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

Comment: The timeline of July is for the short-term plan. There will be more time to build a long-term plan.

Clarification: Youth are not coming back in July; youth in JJC that have disposition after July 1 will stay with us; In July we may have a population of zero; there will be time to plan programs.

Is there a possibility that a youth will be brought back from DJJ?

There is a process that can bring youth back; court has no plans for that. Starting July 2023, DJJ will close and youth will be returned to the county.

We won't know how many youth will enter the program end of 2021, beginning 2022

Probation Update:

- Chief Still will speak to the Board on 3/11/21 regarding eliminating phone call fees for all youth at both JJC and Camp
- Chief Still will present the CPOC Secure track PowerPoint on 3/11/21; some information still pending
- Discussions ongoing regarding vaccines for youth
- 48 youth in custody; including two female, one 12 year old, one 13 year old, and two 14 year old
- BSCC Pre-inspection will take place March 30
- In-person inspection is planned for May 10-14
- BSCC also planning impromptu inspections
- JH/Camp cameras switching over from analog to digital; audio not enabled yet; signs being posted; making sure there are private areas for medical and public defenders
- Working to bring the Google-tech program online
- Reviewing internet security to keep youth safe
- Looking for additional short term programming at JH

Will audio be in the library?

Yes, cameras in the library will have audio.

Attorney client conversation – Will there be audio in interview rooms and intake will be recorded?

White noise machines are being tested to provide privacy. Areas without audio include: interview rooms in units, intake interview rooms, non-contact, visiting, and court staging interview room.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Does staff have an option to turn the audio on and off?

No, staff does not have that option. Audio will not be monitored. Any review will be event driven.

Will there be signs indicating which areas are safe for private conversations?

Yes, there will be clear signage.

When will the new cameras be up and running?

In approximately three weeks.

Who will have access to audio recordings? How long will the recordings be retained?

There will be different levels of access; JIO will have limited access – no zoom or audio; Supervisors will have access to video and audio, but it will be event driven. Central Control will have access to one camera with zoom, but no audio.

Erin Berman to speak with James further regarding privacy laws in the library.

James to check with County Counsel regarding library privacy laws.

Check with County Counsel regarding library privacy.

Transition Center:

- Ten Transition Plans completed last week
- We Rise program had higher participation over last month
- Incentive program for youth in home supervision was successful - increased participation
- Eight new Home Supervision Contracts
- Decrease in Concrete Services
- Follow up transition plans for youth released after-hours

Are there any services after hours so that a hotel voucher can be provided to a youth over 18 years of age?

An Intake DPO can assist after hours.

Adrienne Chambers /Brian Ford to connect with Jane Brown to provide a point of contact.

Camp Sweeney:

- 7 youth at Camp; 3 on wait list; 1 youth going to court for completion of Camp; DPOs have 23 cases
- Sound engineering, MC3, Google Tech are in session
- Planning to increase Workforce Development w/ACOE and Laney College (dual enrollment culinary program)
- Intersession programming – History and culture of hip hop music program
- Today is last day of quarantine; youth had increased virtual visiting and access to phone calls during the quarantine period. Camp also had golfing, access to batting cages, and took youth on a drive to the coast. The weight room was available and there was special food.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Who is teaching the hip hop program?

Hip Hop for Change.

Medical/Behavioral
Health Update:

- 36 admissions/ 30 history and physicals; over 700 encounters between dental, nurses, and physicians
- Continue COVID testing; found one positive youth at Camp
- Planning the vaccine roll-out

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

Are most youth open to vaccination?

About 50/50; working to address hesitancy and answer any questions.

Library Update:

- Screening of Feminists in cellblock Y at JH and Camp
- Programming for April was announced
- County-wide youth poet laureate
- Black literacy collective
- The literacy department will be restructured; MOUs will be rewritten
- Planning to provide a more robust literacy program at JH and Camp

Elana Metz to schedule a meeting with Erin Berman.

Behavioral Health
Update:

- Planning stages of vaccine roll-out with Children's hospital
- Urgent and crisis referral are low in the Guidance Clinic
- Units fully staffed; Hired 2 new clinicians
- Building more reentry support services
- Shifted units at Behavior health to Forensic Diversion and Reentry Services; Juan Taizan accepted position as Director; transitioning to position in two weeks

Public Comment:

- Melissa Wilson will be liaison to San Mateo County JJPC
- Concerns expressed regarding video and audio monitoring at JH
- Probation to advise with County Counsel to make sure rights are not being violated
- An announcement will be made in April regarding recruitment of new commissioners

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Location:

Microsoft Teams Teleconference