



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes Youth Commission

10/14/2025

6:00 PM

Youth & Teen Center
2446 Cabrillo Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95051

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

This meeting was called to order by Recreation Supervisor, Gayle Ichiho at 6:08 p.m.

Present 11 - Commissioner Mateo Espinal, Commissioner Seoyun Chong, Commissioner Namita Gaidhani, Commissioner Julianna Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Neha Israni, Commissioner Drew Madriaga, Commissioner Rebecca Kunze, Commissioner Malia Martin, Commissioner Brian Rong, Commissioner Samarth Suresh, and Commissioner Niharika Uppalapati

Absent 4 - Commissioner Allysa Domensino, Commissioner Srikha Gopiseti, Commissioner Samaira Mehta, and Commissioner Aneesha Vemu

A motion was made by Commissioner Gaidhani, seconded by Commissioner Martin to excuse Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, and Commissioner Vemu from the October 14th meeting. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

CONSENT CALENDAR

[25-1114](#)

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the FY 2025/26 Youth Commission Term

A motion was made by Commissioner Espinal, seconded by Commission Arias Hernandez, to elect Commissioner Martin for the Chair position, Commissioner Gaidhani for Vice Chair position. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

[25-1100](#) Action to Approve Youth Commission Minutes of September 16, 2025 Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Chong seconded by Commissioner Espinal to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

[25-1115](#) Adopt Youth Commission Calendar of Meetings for 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Madriaga seconded by Commissioner Arias Hernandez that this item be recommended for approval. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

[25-1118](#) Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals

Commissioners prioritized three themes for the FY2025/26 Work Plan: Youth Empowerment, Community Building, and Civic Engagement. The

first committee meetings took place on October 14th after our monthly meeting at the Youth & Teen Center. Each committee will discuss specific goals and activities to promote their respective theme.

A motion was made by Commissioner Upplapati seconded by Commissioner Rong that this item be recommended for approval.

The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopisetti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

STAFF REPORT

Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor , announced that the Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting a Children's Halloween Party on Saturday, October 25th at Central Park from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.. This free event is designed for children ages 10 and under and their families. The party will feature food trucks, carnival games, Trick or Treat Row, inflatable attractions, a petting zoo, pumpkin walk, and live entertainment. We are currently recruiting high school volunteers to assist with event operations and activity stations. Volunteers are essential to successfully executing this community event.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Israni attended the State of the City event and talked about the opportunities to volunteer for the Superbowl and FIFA World Cup events coming to Santa Clara in 2026. **Commissioner Gaidhani** attended an education town hall meeting at Cupertino High School for Congressman Ro Khanna. Learned about how local representatives act and address local public concerns in Congress and heard about current Congressional projects. **Commissioner Madriaga** recognized a fellow student from Wilcox High School, Isaiah Mendoza, passed away on September 20, 2025. Wilcox High school hosted a candlelight vigil on campus for him and his family.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Kunze and seconded by Commissioner Arias Hernandez to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

**The next scheduled meeting of the Youth Commission on Tuesday,
November 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, Commissioner Suresh, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu

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If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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