



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes Youth Commission

04/07/2026

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 Namita Gaidhani at 6:04 p.m.

- Present** 11 - Commissioner Allysa Domensino, Commissioner Seoyun Chong, Commissioner Namita Gaidhani, Commissioner Srikha Gopiseti, Commissioner Julianna Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Drew Madriaga, Commissioner Rebecca Kunze, Commissioner Malia Martin, Commissioner Aneesha Vemu, Commissioner Brian Rong, and Commissioner Niharika Uppalapati
- Absent** 4 - Commissioner Mateo Espinal, Commissioner Neha Israni, Commissioner Samaira Mehta, and Commissioner Samarth Suresh

A motion was made by Commissioner Vemu, seconded by Commissioner Domensino to excuse Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Suresh, Commissioner Israni from the April 7, 2026 meeting. The motion was carried by the following votes:

- Aye:** 11 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati
- Absent:** 4 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Suresh

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1 [26-348](#) Action to Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the March 10, 2026 Meeting

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

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Suresh

2 [26-350](#) Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals

Civic Engagement Committee

The committee is planning to host a Narcan demonstration in collaboration with the City of Santa Clara Library. They are continuing their work on finalizing the welcome package.

Community Building Committee

The committee hosted a SC Hackathon on March 21, 2026 at the Youth and Teen Center. There were three teams who competed to create a solution that would help youth health and well-being.

Youth Empowerment Committee

The committee has completed their "what can you do with a library card" video and has sent it to the City of Santa Clara Library for their review and approval.

The motion was made by Commissioner Chong and seconded by Commissioner Gopiseti that this item be recommended for approval. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Suresh

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

STAFF REPORT

Mimi Nguyen, Teen Librarian, reported the official Teen Library Card design has been chosen and the library has moved forward with 2 designs for the limited-edition card. A celebration will be held in May to present a gallery of all the design submissions and award the 3 winners. All teens are encouraged to get the limited-edition design and to attend the celebration. April 19 is the day of STEM Zone and we are looking for teen volunteers for two shifts: 9am-1pm or 1pm-5pm. Teens who are interested can reach out to Mimi or library staff to get connected. We are planning on showing the Youth Commission and Teen Library Leaders' library videos at STEM Zone. The library will be hosting upcoming study sessions in the Teen area on May 6 and 13 from 4-6:30pm. Snacks and drinks will be allowed during this time.

Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor, announced the upcoming Youth Commission meeting schedule. The final meeting of the 2025-26 term will be held on Tuesday, May 12, at the Youth & Teen Center. On May 19, the City Council will recognize both the Outgoing Youth Commissioners of the 2025-26 term and the Incoming Youth Commissioners of the 2026-27 term at the regular City Council meeting at City Hall.

Rich Casem, Recreation Coordinator, reported on the 2020- 2027 Youth Commission interviews. The interviews were conducted on March 14, 2026, at the Youth and Teen Center. There were 23 interviews.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Madriaga and **Commissioner Gopisetti** reported on Santa Clara Unified School District Battle of the Schools. It is the first time between three schools, Wilcox, Santa Clara and MacDonald high schools. The event is April 10, 2026 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Santa Clara high school gym. It is a competition between schools and compete in dance competition and recreational games.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Uppalapati that this meeting be adjourned at 6:24 p.m. until the next regular meeting on May 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Youth and Teen Center. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 11 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Suresh

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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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