



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes Youth Commission

03/10/2026

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 Chair Martin at 6:04 p.m.

- Present** 10 - Commissioner Allysa Domensino, Commissioner Mateo Espinal, Commissioner Seoyun Chong, Commissioner Namita Gaidhani, Commissioner Julianna Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Neha Israni, Commissioner Drew Madriaga, Commissioner Malia Martin, Commissioner Brian Rong, and Commissioner Niharika Uppalapati
- Absent** 5 - Commissioner Srikha Gopiseti, Commissioner Rebecca Kunze, Commissioner Samaira Mehta, Commissioner Aneesha Vemu, and Commissioner Samarth Suresh

A motion was made by Commissioner Gaidhani, seconded by Commissioner Israni to excuse Commissioner Suresh, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Mehta, and Commissioner Vemu from the March 10, 2026 meeting. The motion was carried by the following votes:

- Aye:** 10 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati
- Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, and Commissioner Suresh

CONSENT CALENDAR

- [26-213](#) Action to Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the February 10, 2026 Meeting

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

Aye: 10 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 5 - Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, and Commissioner Suresh

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [26-214](#) Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals

Community Building Committee

The Community Building Committee continues preparations for the SC Hacks hackathon event, scheduled for Saturday, March 21. The Committee has confirmed six registered teams and is currently in the process of recruiting judges, confirming volunteer assignments, and soliciting sponsorships.

Civic Engagement Committee

The Civic Engagement Committee is working to host a Narcan demonstration in partnership with the Santa Clara City Library. The Committee also continues its efforts to promote the Welcome Package initiative by developing a flyer targeted at new Santa Clara residents.

Youth Empowerment Committee

The Youth Empowerment Committee continues to discuss logistics for its video project, "What Can You Do with a Library Card?" and has begun editing footage gathered during filming.

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

Aye: 10 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 5 - Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, and Commissioner Suresh

STAFF REPORT

Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor reported a total of 24 applications were received for the upcoming Youth Commission term. Candidate interviews are scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2026.

Mimi Nguyen, Teen Librarian, reported that the Santa Clara City Library will host its STEM Zone event on Sunday, April 19, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Santa Clara Convention Center. The Teen Library Card Design Contest has concluded, and judging is complete. The top eight finalists will be available for public voting from March 11 through March 20. Teens are encouraged to cast their votes in-person at the Teen Zone or online via the Library's social media channels and website. Additionally, Teen Library Leaders are currently producing a series of 'What Can You Do with a Library Card?' videos, with plans to distribute them to schools throughout the city. Staff will coordinate outreach efforts with the Youth Empowerment committee to maximize impact.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Martin represented the Youth Commission at the Parent Information Night, where she engaged parents in a discussion about the Commission's role and community impact. The conversation highlighted leadership opportunities available to youth and encouraged students to get involved in advocating for their peers at the local level.

Alternate Rayees volunteered at the City of Santa Clara's inaugural Celebrate Santa Clara event at Levi's Stadium on Saturday, February 28th. The experience included facilitating activities for residents while offering the memorable opportunity to explore the stadium and walk on the field.

Commissioner Israni attended Supervisor Susan Ellenberg's State of the District event at Willow Glen High School on February 18. The event provided an overview of District 4's initiatives and accomplishments over the past year. At the event, the **Commissioner Israni** engaged with several county programs and organizations, including Santa Clara County Parks (which shared information on internship and volunteer opportunities), the TRUST (Trusted Response Urgent Support Team), and the County Division of Equity and Social Justice (which provided resources on immigration, HR1 funding cuts, wage theft, and youth services). Also she had the opportunity to connect with **Council Members Karen Hardy and Albert Gonzales**. Both expressed support for the Youth Commission's proposed naloxone administration demonstration. They also recommended that the Youth Commission arrange a tour of the Valley

Water Purified Water facility.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Uppalapati and seconded by Commissioner Espinal to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. until the next regular meeting on April 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Youth & Teen Center.

Aye: 10 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 5 - Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, 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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