



SIMI VALLEY YOUTH COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 6, 2020, **5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**
Zoom Online Meeting
<https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848>

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Or by Telephone: Dial US: +1 669 900 9128 Webinar ID: 930 7665 2848

AGENDA

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE STAY AT HOME ORDER AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER DECLARED LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND LOCAL ORDER RESULTING FROM THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, THE CITY IS NOT CONDUCTING IN-PERSON MEETINGS. TO FIND OUT HOW YOU MAY ELECTRONICALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING AND PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA ITEM 5.

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

2. Agenda Review

This is the time to reorder and/or remove items from the agenda by consensus of the Youth Council. Any individual member who will be abstaining from a discussion item should announce his/her intentions at this time.

3. Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2020

4. Correspondence

5. Public Statements/Comments

Time allotted for public statements on all items on the agenda, as well as matters not on the agenda but within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Youth Council. The following information is provided to help you understand, follow, and participate in the Youth Council meeting:

NEW COMMENT PROCEDURE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Youth Council in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items.

The following options allow for public participation:

a. Watch the Youth Council Meeting live online at Zoom:

<https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848>

Or listen by telephone: +1 669 900 9128 Webinar ID: 930 7665 2848

b. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please sign-on via this Zoom Link <https://simivalley.zoom.us/j/93076652848> and use the raise hand function when this agenda item is called. If you wish to make a



public comment, you must be signed into the meeting and available at the time this agenda item is called.

- c. Or, if you are unable to sign-on to Zoom and wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Youth Council meeting to youthcouncil@simivalley.org and include the Agenda Item topic and/or your comments. These emails will be provided to the Youth Council prior to the meeting and made a part of the record.

6. Informational Presentation

- a. Volunteer Opportunities and Upcoming Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Events and Programs by Nikki Collier

7. Continued Business

- a. Discussion of the 2020 Stop Bullying Campaign
- b. Discussion of the 2020-21 Youth Council Work Plan and Selection of Work Plan Committees

8. New Business

- a. Selection of the 2021 Youth Summit Committee

9. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

This is the time for Youth Council members' statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Council or to request a future agenda item. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.

10. Coordinator's Report

- 11. Adjournment: Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Online Zoom Meeting.



Anna M. Medina

Deputy Community Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Youth Council Coordinator at (805) 583-6766. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m., and Youth Council Secretary Sumaiya Akbar took attendance, verifying that a quorum was present.

Selection Districts		Members-At-Large		
V	Vacant-AHS	P	Sumaiya Akbar	P Peter Wang
P	Riya Manimaran-RHS	P	Mattheus Brocchi	
P	Anna Sorensen-RHS	E	Synthia Mahmud	Alternates
P	Abhishek AJ Jagannathan-SSHS	P	Ella McCrossan	P Monishka Tanwani
P	Vivek Tarapara-SSHS	P	Rahul Naveen	P Jasmine Esmail
P	Ashley Kilmnick-SVHS	P	Zainab Neemuchwala	P Thaen-Mozhi Anand
P	Ashlyn Ro-SVHS	P	Ian Nelson	P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant
P	Priyaank Srinivasan-HMS	P	Alden Ta	
V	Vacant – SMS	P	Maya Tauber	
P	Sanchita Karthik - VVMS	P	Rikka Tignac	
*Arrived after approval of the minutes				

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Community Services Coordinator.

Guests: Mayor Pro Tem Mike Judge; City Council Member Ruth Luevanos; student Kalyssa Ro.

2. Welcome/Introduction of Youth Council Members

Youth Council members participated in an icebreaker activity.

3. Agenda Review

Chair Riya Manimaran asked if members had any requested changes for the agenda. There being no objections, the agenda was approved as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes from September 1, 2020

ACTION: A motion to approve the September 1, 2020, minutes as written was made by Rahul Naveen and seconded by Maya Tauber.

Youth Council Vote: 21 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

5. Correspondence

Ms. Tignac reported that she had received four copies of the Simi Valley Community Reads book, *Seedfolks*, from the Simi Valley Public Library available for any Youth Council members that would like to borrow it.

6. Public Statements/Comments

Chair Riya Manimaran reviewed the public statement and comment procedure required due to the Zoom meeting format.

Mayor Pro Tem Judge introduced himself, stated he was looking forward to seeing what the Youth Council would accomplish this term, and shared that he was available to answer any questions.

City Council Member Luevanos announced that the Ventura County Transportation Commission is seeking feedback for its 101 Communities Connected project by Friday, September 18, 2020. To submit comments after the deadline, Youth Council members may email 101communities@goventura.org or call Caitlyn Brooks at CBrooks@goventura.org.

City Council Member Luevanos also reported that she had made a request during the September 14 City Council Meeting that the Youth Council discuss and provide input on new policy for beekeeping in residential areas.

Kalyssa Ro, a student at Valley View Middle School, joined the session and stated that she wanted to listen to the Youth Council discussion.

7. Continued Business

a. Discussion of the 2020 Suicide Prevention Campaign

Social Media Committee Chair Ella McCrossan gave a brief update on the progress the Social Media Committee has made. She stated that for the Suicide Prevention Month Campaign, the Social Media Committee decided that the art campaign name is "Worth Living For." The committee will continue to create posts for the Youth Council Instagram account.

Ms. Tignac reported that the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center would host the virtual exhibit for artwork submitted for the Worth Living For suicide prevention art campaign.

8. New Business

a. Discussion of the Youth Council's Participation in the Simi Valley Public Library's Community Reads Program.

Chair Riya Manimaran asked AJ Jagannathan to give a synopsis of the book, *Seedfolks*. Ms. Tignac also shared a Goodreads synopsis of the book.

Chair Riya Manimaran selected the following Youth Council members to prepare questions for the Simi Valley Public Library's Author Talk to be recorded via Zoom with *Seedfolks* author Paul Fleischman on Thursday, September 17, 2020; Zainab Neemuchwala, Ashley Kilmnick, Monishka Tanwani, Rahul Naveen, Ashlyn Ro, Peter Wang, Sanchita Karthik, Riya Manimaran, Maya Tauber, and AJ Jagannathan.

The following Youth Council members requested to borrow a copy of *Seedfolks*: Sanchita Karthik, Peter Wang, Ashley Kilmnick, and Priyaank Srinivasan. Ms. Tignac stated that she would deliver the book that evening and asked them to return to the Library when finished reading.

ACTION: A motion to approve the Youth Council's Participation in the Simi Valley Community Reads Program was made by Synthia Mahmud and seconded by Ashlyn Ro.

Youth Council Vote: 21 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

b. Discussion of the 2020 Stop Bullying Campaign

Ms. Tignac shared a brief history of past Youth Council Stop Bullying Campaigns, including last year's Inclusivity Week and Stop Bully Pledges coordinated citywide at each middle and high school campus.

Council Member Luevanos suggested watching the anti-bullying film called *Bullied by Teaching Tolerance*, and then having a discussion via Zoom. Ella McCrossan inquired if there might be copyright issues with screening the movie.

Ms. Tignac stated that she would research screening options, including a Netflix Party. Youth Council members discussed viewing options for those without streaming service accounts and technical issues like latency and internet speed.

Council Member Luevanos also suggested the movie "Cyberbully" and gave a synopsis of the movie.

Youth Council members discussed potential dates for the virtual film screening.

ACTION: A motion to approve the Youth Council's Stop Bullying Campaign consisting of a virtual film screening of an anti-bullying movie followed by a community discussion on Friday, October 16, 2020, was made by Ashley Kilmnick and seconded by Jasmine Esmail.

Youth Council Vote: 21 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

Action Item: The Online Social Distancing Committee to coordinate the "Cyberbully" screening and community discussion.

c. Discussion of the YES Near-Term COVID-19 Action Plan Survey for Job Seekers

Ms. Tignac stated that the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board would be conducting surveys of local employers, job seekers, as well as those that are currently employed.

Youth Council members discussed promoting the survey to peers.

ACTION: A motion to approve the Youth Council's Participation and Assistance with the YES Near-Term COVID-19 Action Plan Survey for Job Seekers was made by Vivek Tarapara and seconded by Ian Nelson.

Youth Council Vote: 21 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstentions

The motion passed.

Action Items:

- Ms. Tignac to email Youth Council members the link to the survey once approved for members to promote to friends via word of mouth and social media.
- The Social Media Committee to create posts for the Youth Council's Instagram account. Ella McCrossan volunteered to create the flyer.

d. Discussion of the 2020-21 Youth Council Work Plan

Ms. Tignac reviewed the ground rules for the brainstorm activity and Maya Tauber and AJ Jagannathan volunteered to be scribes.

Chair Riya Manimaran led the brainstorm activity by asking the Youth Council what issues in the community were the most significant to them.

Issues shared included: peer pressure in middle and high school; college preparatory resources for low-income students; mental health of students during quarantine; substance abuse; public safety; discrimination; difficulties with online learning; sexual harassment in middle and high school; effectiveness of online school/difficulties with online learning; pollution; working closer with the City Council; homelessness; bullying; youth unemployment; and, distance learning for students with disabilities.

Chair Riya Manimaran asked members how many votes each member should have for prioritizing activity. AJ Jagannathan shared the link for the shared Google doc for members to vote on their top issues of concern.

The following five issues of concern were selected:

- Discrimination;
- Student Mental Health;
- Effectiveness of online school/Difficulties with online learning;
- Working Closer with City Council to provide input and a youth voice; and,
- Homelessness.

The following subcommittees were formed to discuss the issue further and develop solutions to present during the October 6 Youth Council meeting;

- Discrimination Committee: Sumaiya Akbar, Ashley Kilmnick, Synthia Mahmud, Zainab Neemuchwala, and Peter Wang.
- Student Mental Health Committee: Mattheus Brocchi, Jasmine Esmail, Ella McCrossan, Ashlyn Ro, and Alden Ta.

- Online Learning Committee: Rahul Naveen, Monishka Tanwani, Vivek Tarapara, Maya Tauber, and Rikka Tignac.
- Homelessness Committee: Thaen-Mozhi Anand, AJ Jagannathan, Sanchita Karthik, Ian Nelson, and Priyaank Srinivasan.

Action Item: Ms. Tignac to contact committee members by email to coordinate work groups.

9. Representative Reports

Youth Council Reports and Comments

Online Social Distancing Activity Committee Chair AJ Jagannathan reported that the Committee had met and was preparing for the Jeopardy-style Game Night on Friday, September 25, 2020. AJ stated that the committee needed all Youth Council members to promote the events. He also reported that the committee was working with Dave Rosenberg, the Simi Valley Public Library's Young Adult Librarian, on both the Jeopardy event, as well as the Halloween-themed Virtual Escape Room scheduled on Friday, October 30, 2020.

Chair Riya Manimaran invited members who attended Royal High School to join the debate club.

AJ Jagannathan stated that the flyer for the Escape Room event was not completed yet, but would be shared once finished.

10. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac reminded members to promote the Jeopardy-style Game Night event for the Youth Council's Jeopardy Game Night at 7:30 P.M. on Friday, September 25, 2020. Contestants must register in advance at <https://bit.ly/svycjeopardy>.

Ms. Tignac also reminded the following committees of upcoming committee meetings:

- Vaping Research and Policy Recommendation Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.
- Social Media Committee meeting at 4:00 p.m., on September 24, 2020.

Ms. Tignac stated that the next Youth Council meeting is in three weeks due to the five Tuesdays during the month of September.

11. Adjournment Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Online Zoom Meeting.

Youth Council Chair Riya Manimaran adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.