

**City of Gilroy
Youth Commission
Minutes
Monday, March 9, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Nguyen at 6:01 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Present	Biruh Abaneh, Commissioner Alazander Cruz Bermudez, Commissioner Ashleen Bhandal, Commissioner Diana Diakova, Commissioner (late 6:05pm) Sophia Gutiérrez Guterrez , Commissioner Anna Nguyen, Commissioner Jacob Ortega-, Commissioner Benedict Pham, Commissioner Maya Sanchez, Commissioner Logan Gill, Commissioner
Absent	Thanmay Sarath, Commissioner

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The meeting packet was posted on March 6, 2026.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Abaneh made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Bermudez seconded. Motion passed 9-0-0.

1. Approval of the Minutes from February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Youth Commission

6. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Greg Felios introduced himself. He's a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and would like to see the Youth Commission get involved more in parks and traditional recreational activities as well as collaborate with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan

Chair Nguyen provided an update on the Commission's work plan. On the legislative issue, the committee has paused due to the recent focus on YAC Attack and OpportuniTEEN Fair. They will resume where they left off shortly after this meeting.

For the OpportuniTEEN Fair, Henig reviewed the vendors who confirmed they would be in attendance. He was unable to get ahold of about a dozen of them. He's asking commissioners, who have been in contact with them, to either send him their email address or they themselves send a confirmation. The Marketing Committee discussed ways to get the word out about the event that included passing out flyers, making announcements, and spreading the word online and offline. The Logistics Committee will meet with Adam later this week to discuss what is needed for the lead-up of the event.

10. STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioners who attended the Youth Advisor Council Conference on Saturday, March 7 shared their thoughts on how the conference went and their presentation. Henig congratulated the presenters on a job well done.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

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Absent	Logan Gill, Commissioner

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The meeting packet was posted on February 6, 2026.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the Minutes from the January 12, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Youth Commission

Commissioner Ortega requested that a correction be made to an unnecessary underscore that appears on top of page 2 in the minutes (between the words "program" and "that." Staff advisor Henig will amend the current minutes. Motion with the amendment to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Sarath. Commissioner Pham seconded. Motion passed 10-0-0

6. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan

Henig provided an update on the Commission's work plan and turned it over to Chair Nguyen to discuss the legislative issue and OpportuniTEEN Fair. Nguyen asked each member of the legislative committee--Sanchez, Ortega, Bhandal, and Nguyen--to provide a report on the area they were assigned. Sanchez cited the example of protective bike barriers installed recently at Cupertino's Lawson Middle School. Ortega discussed various scientific studies; Bhandal discussed costs; and Nguyen spoke about the proposed pilot program.

For the OpportuniTEEN Fair, the Vendor Committee reviewed the various vendors who had committed to participating in the event. To date, there are 26 vendors with several "Maybes." McPhillips recommended the Committee also reach out to the Downtown Gilroy Business Association group and Garlic Festival Association as possible vendors who may want to table.

The next step is for the marketing committee to meet with Staff liaison Henig and eventually, the logistics committee as well.

10. STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS

1. 10.1 – Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Attack Conference, Saturday March 7 2026 in Los Altos.

Henig reminded the Commission to register for the YAC Attack. Sanchez added herself. Also, the Commission will present on how to develop an intergenerational dance at the conference. Speakers will be Bermudez, Nguyen, and Bhandal.

2. Thank you LeeAnn McPhillips

On behalf of the Commission, Henig thanked McPhillips for her years of service supporting the Youth Commission.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.