

City of Gilroy
Youth Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 18, 2024 | 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair James called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **FLAG SALUTE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Alfred James, Chair Thanmay Sarath, Commissioner Biruh Abaneh, Commissioner Jacob Ortega , Commissioner Karin Rodriguez Sandoval, Commissioner Gianna Garcia, Commissioner Anna Nguyen, Commissioner
Absent	Emily Lai, Treasurer Sofia Romero , Commissioner Maya Beyret, Vice Chair

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The meeting agenda was posted on November 15, 2024.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1. October 14, 2024

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: ,

SECONDER ,

AYES: Commissioner Beyret, Commissioner James, Commissioner Sarath, Commissioner Abaneh, Commissioner Ortega , Commissioner Rodriguez Sandoval, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Romero , Commissioner Nguyen, Commissioner Lai

Commissioner Nguyen motioned to approve the October 14, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Rodriguez-Sandoval seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 7-0-0 vote (Beyret, Romero, and Lai were absent).

6. **PRESENTATION**

6.1. Santa Clara Family Health Plan – New Resource Center in Gilroy

Daysi Quijada of the Santa Clara Family Health Plan (SCFHP) presented about the organization's new Resource Center in Gilroy, which will open in Fall 2025.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

9.1. Review FY2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) Youth Commission Work Plan

Henig presented the staff report about the Commission's FY25 Work Plan:

- **Tech Week/Days for Seniors** – the following commissioners planned to attend the Senior Center on these days to assist seniors with their personal devices:
 - Monday, November 25 – Anna, Karin,
 - Tuesday, November 26 – Karin, Thanmay
 - Wednesday, November 27 – Karin, Thanmay
 - Tuesday, December 17 – Jacob, Alfred, Biruh
 - Wednesday, December 18 – Gianna

Henig will follow up with those commissioners who were absent.

- **Breakfast with Santa (BWS)** – All commissioners present (except for Jacob) will support BWS at the Senior Center on Saturday, December 7.
- **Environmental Issues** – Each group reported on their findings.
 - **Maya, Anna, Karin, and Gianna** - they contacted the local AAUW chapter, who was interested in organizing a special event. Since the commission's focus is on developing a policy, the collaboration most likely would not work, however, the commission can still participate in the event.
 - **Thanmay, Biruh, Emily and Alfred** – They conducted research to see what other youth commissions have done and discovered that there is a Gilroy/Morgan Hill Youth Climate Action Team. The Team advocated and contributed to a city-wide climate action plan in Morgan Hill and made a recommendation to MHUSD for the adoption of a similar plan. There was a letter submitted to the City of Morgan Hill City Council. Henig requested that the group obtain the letter.
 - **Jacob, Sofia, Karin** - They investigate a variety of issues that the Commission could develop a policy for. For example, Jacob came up with the following list:
 - Ban single use plastic within city limits.
 - Compostable packaging
 - Incentives for solar panels
 - Allocating vacant land for the use of community gardens
 - Protecting wildlife land
 - Creating more community trash pickup days.

Karin came up with several ideas too, which derived from the County's Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan. One of the recommendations she mentioned was to protect invasive species such as the Loma Prieta Hoita. To protect this flower, which can be found in Gilroy and throughout the South Valley, Karin advocated that the Commission can request that Council create incentives(which the Commission can provide examples of) to grow more of it and protect it. The Commission supported this idea as their legislative issue.

- **OpportuniTEEN Fair** – It was recommended that a group of commissioners form a committee to support the pre-planning of the event.

Henig recommended that half the Commission focus on the OpportuniTEEN Fair and the other half on the environmental issue. For the OpportuniTEEN Fair, which will likely be held again in March, the pre-planning committee will comprise of Gianna, Biruh, Alfred, Anna, and Thanmay. The environmental issue committee will be Karin and Jacob with those commissioners not present.

10. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

None.

11. **STAFF/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Henig mentioned that he needed assistance with the design for the Youth Commission T-shirts. Jacob and Thanmay volunteered. The goal is to have T-shirts ready for Breakfast with Santa on December 7.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

James adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Youth Commission of the City of Gilroy.

Adam Henig
Secretary