

AGENDA YOUTH COMMISSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

It is the duty of this commission to advise and make recommendations to the city council on matters pertaining to youth facilities, activities and programs. The eleven members are appointed and empowered by the city council.

Public Comment: If you wish to address the Youth Commission, please complete a "Request to Speak" form. Forms are located at the rear of the Council Chambers. Be sure to indicate which item number you wish to address. Comments are limited to FIVE minutes, unless you meet the requirements of a formal or informal organization and have registered your organization with the City Clerk in advance. Speakers are asked to fill out a "Request to Speak" form and hand it to staff, although provision of a name, address, or other identifying information is optional.

The Oral Communication segment of the agenda is for the purpose of allowing the public to address the Youth Commission on any matter NOT listed on the agenda. Speakers are limited to only one opportunity to address the Commission under Oral Communications. The Oral Communication segment is split on the agenda and begins with a 15-minute timed segment during which the Commission will hear as many speakers as possible. Upon the conclusion of the 15-minute timed segment, any remaining speakers will automatically be called during the continuation of the Oral Communication segment at the end of the agenda. The Youth Commission is prohibited by state law from taking action on items NOT listed on the Agenda. However, they may refer the matter to staff for a future report and recommendation. If you wish to speak under "Oral Communications," please complete a "Request to Speak" form as noted above.

CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ROLL CALL

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (5 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Special Youth Commission meeting Minutes from October 2, 2017.

APPROVE

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1. | Upcoming Volunteer Events – Cheryl Salazar | DISCUSS |
| 2. | Kids Connect to Culture – Subcommittee Report | DISCUSS |
| 3. | Kids Connect to Religion – Subcommittee Report | DISCUSS |
| 4. | Environmental – Subcommittee Report | DISCUSS |
| | a. Jack's Pond & Ranger Collaboration – April 21 or 22 | |
| 5. | Community Forum – Subcommittee Report | DISCUSS |

6. Staff Research of other Commissions – Cheryl Salazar

DISCUSS

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (5 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

7. Assembly Member Low – Lower the Voting Age to 17

DISCUSS

Next Meeting: Monday, December 4, 2017 at 4:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO) ss.

CITY OF SAN MARCOS)

Agenda packets are available for public inspection 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings at City Hall: 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069. Any agenda-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the time of the meeting in the Council Chambers. I, Cheryl Salazar, Youth Commission Staff Advisor, City of San Marcos, hereby certify that I caused the posting of this agenda at the north entrance of City Hall on Thursday, November 2, 2017.

Date: November 2, 2017

Cheryl Salazar, Staff Advisor

The City of San Marcos is committed to making its programs, services and activities accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you require accommodation to participate in this meeting or any other City programs, service or activity, please contact the City Clerk's office at 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069, or call (760) 744-1050.

MINUTES

San Marcos Youth Commission

Monday, October 2, 2017 4:00 PM
1 Civic Center Drive San Marcos, CA 92069

CALL TO ORDER CHAIR FLATLEY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:02 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY COMMISSIONER ANDREWS

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	Commissioner	ANDREWS	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	ATHALYE	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	FLATLEY	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	HERNANDEZ	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	ISTVANYI	(3/4) 75%
	Commissioner	JENNINGS	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	JORGE (ALT)	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	KAUSHIK (ALT)	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	MORRISON	(3/4) 75%
	Commissioner	VIJAYAKUMAR	(4/4) 100%
	Commissioner	WILLIAMS	(4/4) 100%

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT Youth Commissioner Staff Advisor Cheryl Salazar & Secretary Krystal Mainprize.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY CHAIR FLATLEY CALLED FOR A VOTE TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 MINUTES.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: ANDREWS, ATHALYE, FLATLEY, HERNANDEZ, ISTVANYI, JENNINGS, JORGE, KAUSHIK, MORRISON, VIJAYAKUMAR, WILLIAMS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINED: NONE

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Staff Advisor Salazar told Commissioners about the upcoming events they can volunteer at including the Fire Station Open House, Fall Festival, Family Night Halloween event, Jack's Pond Halloween event, Veterans Day event and Santa's Magical Village event. Commissioners can sign up on the google doc or email staff.

2. KIDS CONNECT TO CULTURE

Commissioner Andrews reported the subcommittee spoke with the library and they arranged to have the event in December, February, April and June. On December 6th the library already has a craft scheduled on the calendar so the craft can either be incorporated into the event or do the event on another day. Wednesdays work best for the library and seem to work for the Commissioners as well so they will be held on Wednesdays.

3. KIDS CONNECT TO RELIGION

Commissioner Andrews noted the library was skeptical of holding this event and needs to see the presentation before it could be presented as religion can be a sensitive subject for some. Commissioners are looking to start this in February and they will present this to the library in December or January for approval.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Commissioner Kaushik and Vijayakumar met to discuss the goals for the event. They want to educate both youth and adults on environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and waste. They want to have an interactive activity for the participants to do that would help slow down or assist with these environmental issues. The third goal is to have the event participants take away an idea or learn something from the event. The event will be structured with booths, activities and learning opportunities.

Chair Flatley asked where the event will be held. Commissioner Vijayakumar said the library would be a good location as we already collaborate with them on other projects. Commissioner Andrews suggested having the event at the Community Center for a larger site.

5. COMMUNITY FORUM

Commissioner Morrison said this is on the back burner until the other projects are handled.

Commissioner Andrews noted there is a college fair tomorrow at school and there will be a career fair in a few weeks. Commissioners could assist with the fairs that the schools already have planned next year.

Chair Flatley said her high school may have a career fair in the spring that the Youth Commission could assist with.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

A staff report regarding the San Marcos Youth Orchestra is included in the packet and if any Commissioners have questions they can ask staff.

Commissioner Morrison said it sounds like a great program and the Commission role in it was very unclear and complicated.

Commissioner Vijayakumar noted the Orchestra wanted the Commission to play a bigger role than what the Commission has control over.

Chair Flatley asked if they went to City Council. Staff Advisor Salazar said they did not go to City Council.

Chair Flatley asked if there has been any communication with them after the last meeting. Staff Advisor Salazar noted we have sent them emails and called and we have not gotten a response back.

Chair Flatley noted she does not want to end on bad terms.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTARY

Commissioner Morrison asked where we are with the smoking ban letter. Staff Advisor Salazar said that there is no actual law for smoking on patios but that there is a law that says you cannot smoke within 50 feet of a doorway where people are eating inside so that includes most patio areas.

Commissioner Vijayakumar said our mission and goal for the smoking ban has now changed so the letter will need to be modified.

Next meeting is Monday, November 6th.

Taylor the Youth Liaison for the Community Services Commission reported to the Youth Commission on the items covered at the previous meetings including the Rancho Tesoro project, community garden, rotating art gallery, youth sports council, and the Community Services Department received a new name and will now be the Parks and Recreation Department.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOVED BY FLATLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIJAYKUMAR AND CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE SAN MARCOS YOUTH
COMMISSION AT 4:39 PM.**

ISABELLA FLATLEY, CHAIR
CITY OF SAN MARCOS
YOUTH COMMISSION

ATTEST:

KRYSTAL MAINPRIZE, SECRETARY
CITY OF SAN MARCOS
YOUTH COMMISSION

From: [Tong, Monica](#)
To: [Salazar, Cheryl](#)
Subject: City of San Marcos Youth Commission - Please Support ACA 10
Date: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 3:58:10 PM
Attachments: [Sample letter for ACA 10 \(Low\).doc](#)
[ACA 10 \(Low\) Voting Age.pdf](#)

Hi Cheryl,

Thanks for taking my phone call this afternoon! Assemblymember Low would like to invite the San Marcos Youth Commission to consider supporting ACA 10 (Low) which will lower the voting age from 18 to 17. I'm happy to report that ACA 10 passed out of the policy committee, fiscal committee, and is now on the Assembly Floor.

By lowering the voting age from 18-years old to 17-years old, ACA 10 will promote youth becoming involved in matters that affect them. I've attached a fact sheet and sample letter for your review (please note that letters on letterhead would be greatly appreciated). Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. We're really hoping to have the committee's support.

Sincerely,
Monica

Monica Tong

Legislative Aide
Office of Assemblymember Evan Low
Assembly District 28 – San Jose/Silicon Valley
Room 4126
(916) 319-2028



OFFICE OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Evan Low

TWENTY-EIGHTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 10: Voting Age (Low)

SUMMARY

Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 lowers the voting age from 18 years-old to 17 years-old.

BACKGROUND

The California Constitution and Elections Code Section 2101 permit a person who is a United States citizen, a resident of California, not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election, to register to vote and vote in any local, state, or federal election.

While the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is often believed to set the voting age at 18-years-old for federal elections, the Amendment only prevents states from denying suffrage to 18-year-olds, and does not prevent states from establishing a lower voting age.

Research has shown that the earlier in life one votes, the more likely they are to form a lifelong habit of voting. As a result, there has been a nationwide movement to engagement youths earlier in the electoral process.

Currently, eleven states allow 16-year-olds to preregister to vote, including California. And twenty-two states and the District of Columbia permit 17-year olds to vote in the primary elections or caucuses if the voter will turn 18 before the general election.

Moreover, two localities—Takoma Park and Hyattsville, Maryland—have gone even further, and allow 16-year-olds to vote in their municipal elections. Takoma Park held its first elections with 16-year-olds voting in 2013 and Hyattsville had its first in 2015.

Last November, voters in the City of Berkeley approved a charter amendment that will allow the City Council to lower the voting age to 16-years old for elections for school director.

PROBLEM

Youth voters (ages 18-24 years old) in California have the lowest turnout rate of any age demographic. According to data from the UC Davis Center for Regional Change's California Civic Engagement Project, voter turnout in the 2014 elections was abysmal. Only 30.9% of California's eligible voters turned out to vote in the November 2014 election. Youth voter turnout was the lowest for all age groups in the November 2014 general election. Only 8.2% of California's eligible youth voted. This translates into only 285,000 of 3.5 million eligible youth who cast a ballot.

Due to low voter turnout, youth voters are drastically underrepresented. In the November 2014 general election, youth made up only 3.9% of those who voted, but were 14.5% of the eligible voting population.

Strong youth electoral participation is critical to achieving a fully representative democracy.

SOLUTION

For most young adults, their first contact with the political process is in their high school government class during their senior year or through volunteering on campaigns for community service credit. Moreover, many 18-year olds are usually in a time of transition — graduating from high school, going to college, or getting a job. Lowering the voting age to 17-years old will catch youth at a time when they are still connected to their school, their home, and their community.

By lowering the voting age from 18-years old to 17-years old, ACA 10 will promote youth becoming involved in matters that affect them personally and promote early civic engagement.

SUPPORT

California Professional Firefighters
California Young Democrats
City of South Pasadena
County of Sonoma Junior Commission on Human Rights
Generation Citizen – VOTE16USA
Mi Familia Vota
National Youth Rights Association
San Francisco Youth Commission
San Pablo Youth Commission
Silicon Valley Young Democrats
The Campbell Youth Commission
Youth Leadership Institute
Women's March California
5 Morgan Hill Youth Commissioners

[INSERT DATE]

The Honorable Evan Low
State Capitol, Room 4126
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Low:

The [insert organization name] is pleased to support Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA 10), which lowers the voting age from 18 years-old to 17 years-old.

Research has shown that the earlier in life one votes, the more likely they are to form a lifelong habit of voting. As a result, there has been a nationwide movement to engage youth in the electoral process earlier in their lives. California has already taken some important steps to promote youth engagement, and is one of eleven states that allow 16-year-olds to preregister to vote. However, there is more that the state can do to promote youth voter participation. Twenty-two states and the District of Columbia permit 17-year olds to vote in the primary elections or caucuses if the voter will turn 18 before the general election. Two localities—Takoma Park and Hyattsville, Maryland—have gone even further, and allow 16-year-olds to vote in their municipal elections. Here in California, voters in the City of Berkeley approved a charter amendment last November that will allow the City Council to lower the voting age to 16-years old for elections for school director.

For most young adults, their first contact with the political process is in their high school government class during their senior year, or through volunteering on campaigns for community service credit. Many 18-year olds are in a time of transition—graduating from high school, going to college, or getting a job. Lowering the voting age to 17-years old will catch youth at a time when they are still connected to their school, their home, and their community.

By lowering the voting age from 18- to 17-years old, ACA 10 will give youth a voice in the democratic process, and will help instill a lifelong habit of voting.

For all those reasons, the [insert organization name] supports ACA 10.

Sincerely,