

CITY OF RICHMOND

Youth Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 19 2019

5:30 PM to 6:30 PM



Members:

Alondra
Alvarez

Eduardo Castellon

Fatima Lopez

Ashley Moore

Alishba Sardar

Satine Walz

**City Council
Liaison:**

Demnlus Johnson III
Councilmember

Staff Liaison:

Trina Jackson
(510) 620-6581

Vincent Aguilar
(510) 620-6515

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Present: Alondra Alvarez, Fatima Lopez, Ashley Moore, Alishba Sardar

C. Welcome and Meeting Procedures

Individuals who want to comment on an item listed on the Agenda, may do so by during Open Forum. The standard amount of time for each speaker, in either instance, is three minutes.

D. Open Forum (3 minutes per speaker)

Cordell Hindler announced the West County Mayor's and Supervisors association meeting on March 28th, from 8:30 am to 10 am at the City of San Pablo Council Chambers. Refreshments will be provided. Cordell Hindler also mentioned that April 8th is the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council meeting, and the guest speakers will be Carlos Martinez, our city manager. Finally, Cordell Hindler requests to be on our agenda in May, to provide an overview of how our neighborhood watch is formulated and organized.

E. Review minutes of previous meeting

After the minutes were reviewed, Youth Councilmember Lopez brought forth the motion to approve, and Youth Councilmember Sardar seconded the motion. The minutes were reviewed and no changes were recommended. The minutes were not approved due to a lack of a quorum.

F. Summary of Sisters in Solidarity Women's Day event

Youth Councilmember Alvarez stated that the event was an entertaining experience. Alvarez stated that it was interesting to network with local non- profits, businesses and community members. The raffle provided a buzz, and the bingo was a good icebreaker. Youth Councilmembers Alvarez and Lopez stated that the event was welcoming to all, and an overall success. Liaison Aguilar asked if there could have been any improvements to the event Youth Councilmember Alvarez and Lopez stated that the youth councilmembers should have actively participated more in the event, as well as invited more high schools to the event. Youth Councilmember Alvarez said that the cheerleading was one of the highlights, providing energy to the event. Alvarez also stated that the event had a good turnout.

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G. Brainstorm on potential projects or programs to join

Liaison Aguilar suggested that the Youth Council brainstorm possible projects. The Youth Council brought up issues such as the quality of education in Richmond, pollution and environmental issues and homelessness.

Youth Councilmember Sardar suggested that U.C Berkeley has a leadership internship for youth and that she will email Liaison Aguilar the details. Youth Councilmember Moore and Sardar mentioned that RYSE has multiple internships and groups to join and that RYSE has a lot of resources and opportunities for collaboration. Youth Councilmember Lopez asked if Liaison Aguilar could provide an example of how the Youth Council can collaborate with non-profits, and Liaison Aguilar mentioned that we could invite the non-profit to first present at our Youth Council meeting, and then we can join a future event they are planning or the Youth Council can provide outreach to schools. The Richmond Youth Council should serve as a resource on how we can reach local youth (Note 1) Youth Councilmember Lopez mentioned that many students encounter a lack of guidance and access to resources, in particular on how to continue onto higher education. Youth Councilmember Lopez suggested that the Youth Council help students who feel left behind or without resources. Lopez notes the pressure that first-generation college students encounter and that mental health has an impact on the outcome of the youth in Richmond (Note 2). Youth Councilmember Moore stated that mental health at her school has not been sufficient and that the staff response to students needing assistance needs to improve. Youth Councilmember Lopez suggested that mental health should be our focus. Liaison Aguilar stated that there are multiple ways to address this issue. Youth Councilmember Sardar recommended Bay Area Community Resources, as a possible networking resource. Youth Councilmember Moore suggested RYSE and Students Rising Above are also non-profits that work on improving the mental health of youth within the community. (Note 3) Youth Councilmember Alvarez and Lopez agreed that our next focus of attention should be on improving youth mental health in Richmond. Liaison Aguilar asked if the rest of the Youth Council agrees, the youth council unanimously agreed.

H. Review schedule for future meetings

Liaison Aguilar listed that dates of the future Youth Council meetings and reminded the youth councilmembers to please inform Liaison Aguilar or Jackson if they cannot attend any meetings.

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I. Youth Council member reports and announcements

Youth Councilmember Alvarez announced a cleanup at Nevin Park, on 3/21/19, from 3 pm to 5 pm. Youth Councilmember Sardar reminded the youth council about the internship opportunity at UC Berkeley, and if anyone is interested to contact Ms. Sardar.

J. Recommended topics to discuss at an upcoming meeting and confirmation of the next meeting date – April 23, 2019

The Youth Council plans to discuss the next steps in planning future projects regarding the mental health of youth in Richmond.

K. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.