



PROBATION DEPARTMENT



**Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
Commission Meeting Minutes**
January 25, 2023
1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced CA 95341

Kalisa Rochester
Chief Probation Officer

Attending

1. Joe Hoffar, Chairperson
2. Kelly Bentz, Vice-Chair
3. Jermaine Paster, Commissioner
4. Linda Levesque, Commissioner
5. Sheri Campbell, Commissioner
6. Lisa Maples, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
7. Chris Henn, Deputy Chief Probation Officer

Absent

1. Lori Minor, Commissioner

Guests

1. Anthony DiBella
2. Ronald Evans

Call to Order

Joe called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Roundtable introductions were made. Lisa will be retiring in February and Chris Henn will be transitioning in her place.

Public Comments

Joe asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions. Sheri motioned, and Linda seconded. The agenda was approved.

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2022

Joe noted the correct spelling of Sheri's name. Joe asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Jermaine motioned to approve and Sheri seconded. There being no opposition, the minutes were approved.

New Business

- What Commissioners can do/have done – Joe passed out copies of the JJDC Mission Statement and attached list of items that other commissions have done or can do. He then read the mission statement and asked the group to take a few minutes to look through the

list. Jose asked the commissioners to pick out 2-3 for the commission's focus. Joe clarified that they're trying to identify a focus for the group to work on. The commissioners shared items they would like to do. Kelly and Jermaine agreed having a commissioner attend or speak at the Board of Supervisors meetings would be beneficial. Kelly advocated having a commissioner go to the Stephen Leonard Center once a week. Ron would like data from Probation on why youth are having issues. Lisa commented that data showed most youths have issues with truancy, runaway, etc. Sheri liked the idea of providing parenting classes. Lisa suggested the commission pick three things from the list that they want to do. Anthony would like to see an outline or a plan of what the commission is going to do. He likes the idea of a safe zone for youth to go to hang out, and learn or that parents can come to talk to people there. He sees the commission as an opportunity to be a mentor. Lisa added, for parent education, there is a parent café at the juvenile hall the commissioners can attend. Concerning the topic of how kids are raised, Probation has a great relationship with ACE Overcomers and they can connect the commission with them for some training. Ron asked if it would be possible to speak with the kids in the hall. Lisa confirmed that would be possible. Just let Priscilla know when they would like to do that and it can be arranged. Everyone will email Linda their top three choices by next month. Linda will then compile the focus ideas and will share them at the March meeting. Kelly volunteered to coordinate the commission to attend the BOS meetings. Lisa stated Probation can help coordinate with Dave Lockridge, ACE Overcomers, to come to speak at one of the commission meetings. Lisa added the commission can request the data they want and Probation would provide whatever data they have.

- Fundraiser / Focus Area Workshops – Joe asked the commissioners if they wanted to do a half day on the weekend or during an evening. The workshop can be hosted at his house. Jermaine and Kelly agree on the weekend. The group agreed to a workshop on a weekend after they identify their three focus items.

Legislative Updates

There's been a lot going on with Title 15. There's been a lot of sessions where activists and community members have been able to share feedback/input on the different sections of Title 15. The changes will probably come out around May.

On Monday they were notified that the mandate to wear a mask is no longer required. It is recommended masks be offered, but no longer necessary to wear them.

SB823 Update

Lisa reported the latest thing was CPOC was putting together some workshops, and that trainings were being implemented. This is a good thing that staff will be able to participate in. The OYCR put out some information in case people need technical assistance. It's been posted online.

Probation got their solar panels (which is part of SB823). They have their construction program, they have Peer Support Specialists that are doing the programming. They've added two case managers to do more programming as well as a lead case manager. The Secure Trak and camp kids will benefit from this. The way it's set up, they'll all be able to benefit from all the different programs being offered.

Old Business

- Update on Stephen Leonard Center – The city is still working on the building. Hopefully, it will open by the spring. There will be three Community-Based Officers out there when it opens. The Request for Proposals (RFPs) have gone out as well.
 - Probation assisted with the recent flood disaster. They were at all the different locations to help.
- Shirts and Logo Update – The commissioners agreed the shirts were very nice. Everyone liked the results. When commissioners go to any official events, they can wear their shirts and bring their IDs. Thank you for your work on the shirts Jermaine.

Events

- Merced County Week of the Young Child Events – Last year Lori attended the event. This is an opportunity to pass out resource information and let them know about the commission. Joe shared some flyers. He hopes that two commissioners can go in a shift (two in the morning, and then two in the afternoon).
 - Pacheco Park, Los Banos 3/25/23
 - Applegate Park, Merced 4/1/23

Linda asked if the commission had decided on any items to pass out at their table. She then added she thought the materials being passed out didn't look professional. She suggests not promoting all the different programs and changing up their strategy. Jermaine agreed based on his experience at the fair last year. The commissioners would like to focus on the JJDC at their table. Lisa suggested they consider having items on the table to give away. They should have a five-question survey on the table for people to fill out (they could win a prize for filling it out) and have applications to the commission on the table as well. Kelly thought having the children's resource pamphlet was helpful and she liked it was all in one place. Everyone agreed to email their five questions to put on the survey to Linda.

The commissioners agreed to a Zoom workshop on 2/16/23 at 6:00 pm, Joe will act as host. The commissioners will discuss finalizing the survey questions and printing and table items, their three focus topics, and any brochure changes. They can also decide on any raffle prizes, and in the meantime give out candy at the table until better items can be ordered. They can also decide who will work on which event dates.

Lisa informed the commissioners that Judge Trimble will be going to Los Banos. Judge Bacciarini to come back to Juvenile court.

Closed Session

Sharing Critical Incidents Update

- DC Maples reported on the critical incidents for the last month.

Grievances Filed

- The grievances were reviewed by the commission.

Stars

- The Stars were reviewed by the commission.

Adjourned

The next meeting will be on March 22, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at 1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Minutes by Priscilla Martin, Secretary III