



Agenda

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

**Tuesday, September 25, 2012
Community Services Conference Room
Main Post Office, 3rd floor, Room 326
120 South Federal Place
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: August 28, 2012
4. New Business:
 - a. Fall Needs Assessment
 - Gaile Herling, Adelante Program
 - Ed Gorman, Agua Fria Afterschool
 - Angelique LeRouge, Salazar Afterschool
 - Sandra Sena, Sweeney Early Intervention Program
 - Michele Lowrance, YMCA
 - Roman Abeyta, Boys and Girls Club
5. Comments from the Chair and Commissioners
6. Staff Report
 - a. FY 12-13 Contract Status
7. Matters from the Floor
8. Adjournment

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**Index Summary of Minutes
Children and Youth Commission
September 25, 2012**

<u>INDEX</u>	<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
Cover Sheet		1
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by the Chair.	2
Roll Call	Roll Call constitutes a quorum, one excused absence.	2
Approval of Agenda Amend agenda to approve minutes after Program presentations.	Ms. Fidel moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Ms. Gallegos de Hagman, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	2
Approval of Minutes August 28, 2012 Correction on Name Spelling: Letitia is Lateefah Phillips, Chief of Staff and Joe is Joel Boyd, SFPS Superintendent	Mr. Bustamante moved to approve the minutes of August 28, 2012 as amended, second by Ms. Fidel, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	3
New Business Fall Needs Assessment Adelante Program Agua Fria Afterschool Salazar Afterschool Sweeney Early Intervention Program YMCA Boys and Girls Club	<i>Welcome and Introduction of Guests</i> <i>Summary in minutes.</i>	3-7
Comments from the Chair and Commissioners	Recap of Needs Assessment and Staff Follow Up	8-9
Report from Staff	<i>Informational</i>	9
Matters from the Floor	<i>None</i>	9
Adjournment	<i>The chair called for adjournment at 8:30 pm</i>	9

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, September 25, 2012
Community Services Conference Room
Main Post Office, 3rd floor, Room 326
120 South Federal Place
6:00-8:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

Roll Call:

PRESENT

Sue Anne Herrmann
Ms. Dolores Fidel
Ms. Ernestine Gallegos de Hagman
Ms. Joanne Lefrak
Mr. Michael Multari
Mr. Thomas Bustamante

NOT PRESENT

Dr. Suzanne Gebhart, Excused

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Terrie Rodriguez

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michele Lowrance, YMCA – Central New Mexico
Roman Abeyta, Boys and Girls Club
Sandy Sena, Sweeney
Ed Gorman, Agua Fria After School Program
Isabel Ribe, Adelante
Israel Haros, Adelante
Angelique LeRouge, Salazar Afterschool Program
Cynthia Leyba, Piñon Pre-school Coordinator
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Fidel moved to amend the agenda and take action on minutes as final order of business, second by Ms. Gallegos de Hagman, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of Minutes: August 28, 2012

Correction on Name Spelling: ~~Letitia~~ is Lateefah Phillips, Chief of Staff and ~~Joe~~ is Joel Boyd, SFPS Superintendent

Mr. Bustamante moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ms. Fidel, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. New Business: Introduction of guests as listed in roll call.

a. Fall Needs Assessment

Ed Gorman, Agua Fria Afterschool

School Grade is a C. Mr. Gorman stated that the teachers have met and they are doing an academic push from the time that the child gets to the afterschool program until they leave. Five more certified teachers have been hired to work on the needs of these children. Mr. Gorman has asked for the targets and goals outlined for the kids and he works closely to streamline the academics during afterschool to provide balance with some arts and wellness programs. There are 86 students in the program with an additional 10 off and on and they could accommodate about 120. They still get a bit of the Arts, Fact is still available and they participate in the Community Gardens on Agua Fria on Friday. Mr. Gorman is working with the technology department to be able to offer compass training to the kids. Some of the kids need the after school tutoring but some of them don't.

Are you going to have a new school? Yes, groundbreaking will be in January, 2012. School will be off Hwy. 599 starting with grades 1-6.

Mr. Gorman said he was not sure how many kids are in the bubble. Agua Fria scored too high and they were not eligible for the 21st Century funding. Mr. Gorman said they would be coming back to request more money. He noted that Adelante kids are able to attend for free.

Angelique LeRouge, Salazar Afterschool

Serve about 84 students and their rates were based on their income. They were not bringing in enough money so the hours have been cut. They use to be open until 6 pm and they now close at 5 pm Monday-Thursday and 4 pm on Friday's. They have FACT, they have Folklorico and they also collaborate with the Community Garden. They have a rotation schedule where they do theater and fitness. The after school program focuses on academics Monday-Thursday and they break up the week by adding the Arts program on Friday. The district is very strong on academics and Ms. LeRouge said she is working to implement a Rosetta Stone program as they are a dual language school.

The Chair asked would this mean they would be coming back for more funding. Ms. LeRouge said, yes, funding is very limited.

It was noted that educational assistants can only work 40 hours a week and they spend 35 hours in the classroom which only leave 5 hours for afterschool assistance otherwise they go in to overtime which they cannot afford to pay.

It is very evident that even charging \$40 a week, parents cannot afford it. Keep in mind there are many single parents and in all honesty they cannot afford it. Hardship cases are increasing.

Sandra Sena, Sweeney Early Intervention Program

Heavy construction at the school site. Grades 3-4-5 are at Sweeney South, and Kinder – 2nd are at Sweeney north. Sweeney north is bussed to the school morning and afternoon. There are 32 children in the after school program. Parents are apprehensive and concerned about the safety of their children due to the construction. Sweeney is a C grade school right now. They have identified 25 children that need the academic push. After school program includes ballet Folklorico and after school enrichment. The school is doing a push with the parents to get children back in to the after school program. When sports start up that may increase the attendance in the after school program.

The contract says that construction should be done by November with a certificate of occupancy by December, 2012. Mr. Boyd is assuring, “they will be done.”

Capacity could be 70 vs. 32 children in the after school program. Ms. Sena said that what is happening in the community right now attributes to the economic challenges for many of these families. Children are going home; parents seem to think they are old enough to take care of themselves as home vs. attending after school program has no cost. Ms. Sena said that her class is very fortunate as Chris Lesley from Pandemonium comes in and really motivates and works with the children.

Israel Haros, Homeless Program Coordinator for Adelante

They service 950 young people vs. the 750 from last year. There is no Warehouse 21 on the south side and Zona del Sol charges for everything. Mr. Haros said that they were offered a building on Gallegos St. but it would not address the needs they have for their population. Space is an issue. As he works with undocumented students there are many concerns about them feeling safe at school or anywhere for that matter. Currently you have the Adelante Program, Life Link and Help NM who assist families with utilities cut off. If we don't take care of them it puts more people out in the street. Mr. Haros said they are proud to say their outcome on higher graduation rates for the kids at Adelante was strong. Mr. Haros said that they also took the necessary time to train on the rights of the documented and undocumented students. Mr. Haros said that there was no SAT prep available at the schools. The students are only offered SFCC options; they don't really get offered information for NM Universities much less Ivy League schools.

It was asked if substance abuse is a problem. Mr. Haros said that it isn't only in his program, it is very accessible in the schools; i.e., bathrooms, parks, they are able to access drugs. They would need help for SAT prep and education on undocumented issues. They want to educate the students so they know their rights. They continue to strengthen the programs for these kids, i.e., sports, academics, theater, arts.

Isabel Ribe, Adelante

Partnerships are hard at this time because of the lack of funding. All of the grants that they apply for come in less and less so they were significantly short on their budget. They are seeing a huge increase for students who are requiring service. It provides a challenge on how they will provide service. They were able to provide back packs, supplies and bags of food. Case management is very limited right now. There is so much they would like to do for the kids but due to the lack of budget they are unable to help. Ms. Ribe did not have information on specifics at this time, but they are definitely going to have a list of what their needs are.

**Michele Lowrance, Executive Director - YMCA and
Cynthia Leyba, Pre School Coordinator – Piñon School**

\$300,000 is allocated from the National YMCA for scholarships and \$100,000 comes to Santa Fe. There are 32 participants at Piñon School. There are 9 in the program at Kearney with 80 on the waiting list who would like to participate if it was free. At this time they only offer after school programs. We are all dealing with the same dismal situation, our children need the services but their parents can't afford it. They do receive funding from CYFD. As a whole association, the YMCA is working on a universal measurement component. The National YMCA has expectations and reporting guidelines that they follow.

Many of the problems are the same on Friday with early dismissal as they are under staffed. There are 4-locations – Atalaya, Chaparral, Kearney and Piñon. The staff is very creative in trying to staff with the need being so great. Many of the parents request that the educational assistants help their kids with homework and it becomes very difficult to provide 100% academics. They try very hard to build relationships with the families as they notice the challenges in homework. They also limit their academic service to 1 hour and provide them with wiggle time and snack time. It provides a great social intervention time for them. There is very few hours that the teaching assistants are offered and therefore their salaries are very low. Funding for the program is very low, they do have empowering for life for their physical well being and they do have character building activities.

They are not on a sliding scale, they do accept CYFD contracts and there is financial aid which is not based on sliding scale. At Piñon there are more CYFD than private pay families. The revenue loss in the summer program was based on the allowable for CYFD vs. the fee required.

It was noted that Fund Raising endeavors bring in some revenue but not enough to help. Parents are afraid to apply through CYFD due to the immigration issues.

Ms. Lowrance will share the After School YMCA guidelines with the committee.

The ratio for staffing is also a concern at Piñon. There are 4th, 5th and 6th graders who are going home and staying alone and they are not at the age where they should be left alone. They end up going home and taking care of their younger siblings. Monthly fee at Piñon is \$55 a week. It is reasonable but when parents do not qualify through CYFD they don't participate.

Roman Abeyta, Boys and Girls Club

Enrollment numbers for Alto and 4 satellite programs is 340 kids. Numbers are down because there are children who do not qualify for CYFD. All the satellite clubs have reached their capacity. Hopewell location is the largest population but again, families will not go to CYFD due to the fear that they have to go for the payment.

Can a CYFD staff member go to the site? Mr. Abeyta said that CYFD will not go to the site. It would help the community in many ways if they could have the information come to them. Without CYFD it is hard for a Club to survive. Hopewell will probably need to close as there is no funding other than a small Juvenile Justice grant. The other satellite Clubs get funding from the county but if that funding goes away the Club goes away. The Teen Center has re-opened on Alto Street. The problem is that parents won't pay for the teens and CYFD won't pay for the teens either. There are 31 teens in the program.

Funding Sources: They are breaking even at the end of the month. The budget has been slashed down to \$900,000. There are 28 staff members vs. the 45 staff members last year. With the CYFD license you have to staff at a 15-1 ratio. There is a program called Partnering with Parents – they go out to businesses and they help pay the difference. There are 13 children on that program. There are 9 children that come from shelters and they are free. Verizon gave a \$10,000 grant. Youth Media Project is a project that Zero Divide will provide help with. There are good turnouts at the fund raising events. The City and the County are the strong supportive funds that help to keep the satellite Club and after school program funded. Santa Fe County is also asking the Boys and Girls Club to take over the Chimayo and Abiqui club. There is also a site in Santa Cruz in the housing area. Boys and Girls Club of America is very active in strengthening the future for sites in Santa Fe County.

Outcomes: Boys and Girls Club of America have Formula's Impact, all the local Clubs need to report through this reporting mechanism.

Problems last year were that kids were attending for free. Parents have different priorities, if they can find free child care or leave the kids at home, that is what they do.

Hopewell-Mann has a heavy immigration population and they cannot afford the fees. If the grant does not come through they will need to close the center. The Chair asked, "is there a coordination problem with the on-site and off-site programs?"

Most programs are on-site. Parents choose to bus the kids off-site because it is more economical for them.

Ms. Terrie Rodriguez – City of Santa Fe

Carlos Ortega Teen Center – afterschool program open until 6 pm – 48 kids. Fee is \$400 for the complete year. Monica Roybal Youth Center – 80 kids – they pick up from the schools that are in the downtown area. They get homework help and they get a snack with time for them to go out to play. Fees at the Chavez Center are about \$110 a week in the summer. After school program is less expensive. Bus services go to Piñon, Chaparral and Kaune. Monica Roybal serves children 6-12 years of age. The more mature 12 year old kids go to the Teen Center. There are parents who cannot afford it and the city works with them on payment plan. The city does not do CYFD payments. There is always a waiting list for almost all programs in the city. Affording the program is a concern.

Recap:

The Chair reiterated that the funding they receive is the 3% from the gross receipts tax. The city has been consistent in trying to increase the funding requests when possible.

The Chair asked if there was anything else the city could do to assist besides funding?

Mr. Gorman said that getting assistance on Friday afternoons would be a big help. Ms. Leyba said that CYFD will not allow volunteers. Ms. LeRouge said that SFPS also requires background checks for volunteers. Ms. Sena also stated that volunteers cannot be alone with the children.

The City Immigration Committee would be a big help if the after school program representatives could be invited to explain their needs.

Dollars for School website is a good resource.

Wells Fargo also has a good opportunity called Apples for Schools. Ms. Sena will send the link.

Thank you for coming and the city will do what they can to continue support.

5. Comments from the Chair and Commissioners

Comments: Total of 534 students being served between the programs that were present tonight. Why is there not a uniform after school program for the city, why can't we have a fee scale and fund for the program? It would benefit the city to do the math and figure out how much is being spent per child. There is a lot of money being put out in the community yet the populous does not seem to match the funding.

Is there some other way we can provide the services to make it more readily accessible? There is something missing that can't be pin pointed. How can we look at the homeless issues? Possibly take a percentage from all those that are funded throughout the year for the new homeless program.

The SFPS Superintendent would like to see every school have a PTO and Wood Gormley is a good example; they were an A-school and they have a strong PTO. The Superintendent also feels that the community has failed in supporting our kids.

Recommendation to create a system that is not just enabling and that the committee give smart.

There are 17,000 students in the school population. The city does have statistical information on how many are in the immigration population. Charter School's admission is based on a lottery basis.

It was reiterated that the outcomes that are being asked for is imperative for review. It shows how effective we are or where the needs exist.

Information needs to be communicated to the community on what is offered through an after school program showing that academics is the major focus and explain the added programs are available, i.e., transportation, arts, FACTS, health and well being, etc. There is a whole wide range of who goes where, Geneva Center, Carlos Ortega Center and Boys and Girls Club. Population will differ in each location and parents make those decisions.

Why is the cost so different? Some are hiring qualified teachers and some are hiring teacher assistants.

The committee would like to see an updated report from the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Bustamante, Ms. Gallegos de Hagman and Ms. Lefrak will follow up by meeting with Paul Gonzales and the Treasurer. Ms. Rodriguez will set up this meeting.

Adelante Program does not have an afterschool program for lack of funding. They have 950 kids in their program. It would be interesting to know where those kids are going. Yet they are saying that their high school graduations are at a high ratio. We should ask if they are high school graduations or GED. They also need case management.

Could we ask the Director of Instruction from SFPS to come and talk about the after school programs? Ms. Rodriguez will follow up on this question.

6. Staff Report

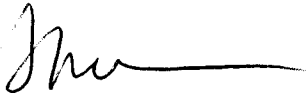
- a. FY 12-13 Contract Status
Report to follow for next meeting.

7. Matters from the Floor
None

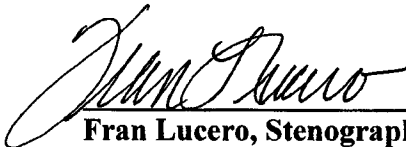
8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Children and Youth Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Signature Page



Anne Herrmann, Chair



Fran Lucero, Stenographer