

**MARIN COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COMMISSION (JJDPC)**

Meeting Notes

April 6, 2021

4:30- 6:15 pm

1. Introductions and meeting call to order 4:30-4:45
 - a. Who you are, what you do in your day job, whether you are a commissioner or not and describe yourself as a season
 - i. Alexa Davidson (Co-chair of the Commission)
 - ii. Doug Cooper (not a commissioner)
 - iii. Judge Wood (Juvenile Judge focuses on delinquency and dependency)
 - iv. Tori Lemos (Director of Juvenile Hall)
 - v. Chief Marlon Washington (Chief of Probation)
 - vi. Kathy Williams (Commissioner and Board Chair of Bridge the Gap College Prep)
 - vii. Laura McDonnell (Founder and ED of Next Steps Liaison Project - gardening programs inside Marin and SF Juvi and works with probation)
 - viii. Lori Frugoli (District Attorney)
 - ix. Lisa Bennett (SURJ Core, Board of Multicultural Center of Marin and Trustee for the Marin City-Sausalito School District)
 - x. Don Carney (Co-Chair and Director of Youth Court)
 - xi. Jack Parnel Wolf (Educator @ Brandyce Marin)
 - xii. Antonio Zavala (Commissioner and works with Youth Transforming Justice)
 - xiii. Richard Carlton (Commissioner and Case Supervisor for Marin Court of Special Advocates)
 - xiv. Sayra Soriano
 - xv. Scott Eberle (Commissioner and San Rafael PD Officer)
2. Next Steps Liaison Project 4:45 - 5:15
 - a. Laura McDonnell, Founder
 - i. Overview of what Next Steps Liaison does
 1. Learn more at <https://www.nextstepsproject.org>
 2. Insight Garden Program was it's predecessor
 3. Emotional literacy and gardening and their relationship
 - a. Creates a 'spiritual lift' for folks

- b. Sitting in circle for gardening, with hearts facing each other, overlaps with emotional literacy
 - c. Lowers stress
 - 4. Three way partnership between 1) Juvi and Probation, 2) Bay Area Orgs and 3) Next Steps
 - 5. Re-entry Support through Gardening Internships once they are no longer incarcerated
 - a. They now offer paid internships where kids can continue gardening with Next Steps OR with Gardening Centers, though still paid by Next Steps. This came from the youth themselves. This is where the partnership with the Probation Department began.
 - i. Youth on Probation have the option of applying for this program.
 - ii. How did we survive this past year/Covid?
 - 1. ESL Classes one-on-one with Marin Community School
 - 2. Things on the side to help kids move forward like helping them get their driving licenses
 - 3. At-home gardening internships - what really kept the program afloat
 - iii. Where we are at now and what's next
 - b. Questions
 - i. How do kids know to apply?
 - 1. Probation Officer can refer them
 - 2. Juvenile Hall will pick up if they are interested in gardening and then will refer them to Next Steps
3. School Safety/Data Team Report 5:15-6:00
 - a. Who is on the Team?
 - i. Sayra, Scott, Don, Jack and Antonio. Lori, Judge Wood and Savannah have also helped throughout the process of drafting.
 - b. After acquiring data around SROs, we are now curious in engaging with how we take action considering the racial disparities that the data illuminated.
 - c. Alexa shared the School Safety Initiative Doc
 - i. View it here:
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pgC6HdjOw8Na-1rGUtPGa7exRR5uJqeL2HCXrtW5yNE/edit>
 - d. MCOM may be interested in partnering with us as we craft the recommendations.

- e. Questions
 - i. Judge Wood lifted up wanting to receive feedback from School Administration and ask them for their recommendations
 - 1. Expressed some concern about the wording, “Remove law enforcement from discipline...etc.”
 - ii. Kathy asked about Recommendations for Schools, bullet point a. It was clarified that we are not suggesting new authority to school security, just really making sure they know
 - 1. Veronica expressed the concern of how to ensure that youth of color do not continue to get disproportionately impacted by these searches
 - a. We could suggest a baby cousin of RIPA here. If students get searched, school security would have to report it along with race/gender/etc. of student.
 - b. Lori emphasized the importance of collecting racial data on these encounters.
 - c. Jack suggested MCOE also could keep these records.
 - iii. Could School Security wear body cameras as well (Judge Wood suggested this)
 - iv. Kathy emphasized point F. “Understand that some students will have a trauma response to interacting with law enforcement...”
 - 1. Starting with a trauma-informed lens is so critical as we engage with youth around SROs, if SROs will still be in their schools.
 - f. Next Steps
 - i. Take this data and the recommendations and present it to School Boards throughout the County
 - 1. So the recommendations are aiming to be flexible enough that each school has the chance to adapt it to it’s specific needs
 - ii. NUHSD
 - 1. A comprehensive survey asking questions about what the purpose of SROs originally was. Antonio will be sending the answers to this survey out to us.
4. Updates, reports, follow-ups 6:00-6:15
- a. Juvenile Hall Updates
 - i. Got TV screen for Zoom up and running. Want to get more programming up with Zoom and Tori is getting that going. So far things are going smooth.

- ii. Overall the kids are in a good space. Had a graduation this month and it was a great experience through zoom. The family was able to observe.

Tori

- b. Youth Court Update (Don left early) Don
- 5. Close 6:15

Upcoming meeting dates: 5.4, 6.1, 7.6