



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
REGULAR MEETING
SANTA BARBARA YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday
November 3, 2025
5:15 p.m.

Westside Neighborhood Center
423 W. Victoria Street

MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT: General Public Comment is held at the beginning of the meeting, and public comments on items listed on the agenda will occur after the discussion of that item. The total amount of time for General Public Comment is 15 minutes. Each speaker will be given a total of 2 minutes to address the Santa Barara Youth Council. Pooling of time is not allowed during general public comment. Members of the public wishing to comment on a matter on the agenda must indicate that they would like to make a public comment prior to the conclusion of the discussion for the item.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public wishing to make an in-person public comment must complete a "Request to Speak" form and submit it prior to the time Public Comment is taken up by the Youth Council.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT: Written public comment regarding items on the agenda or any matters not listed on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara Youth Council, may be emailed to NMorgan@SantaBarbaraCA.gov. All written public comments will be provided to Youth Councilmembers and will become part of the public record. Comments received no later than 24 hours before the meeting will be submitted to the Youth Councilmembers prior to the meeting.

REPORTS: Copies of reports relating to agenda items are available for review in the office of the Westside Neighborhood Center, 423 West Victoria Street or online at the City's website (SantaBarbaraCA.gov/YouthCouncil). Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Community Services Section after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Westside Neighborhood Center located at 423 West Victoria Street, during normal business hours.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact Nicole Morgan, 805-897-2582. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

CALL TO ORDER

Nicholas Gaston called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Youth Council Members

Amelia Leonardi, present
Carlos Vazquez, excused
Carter Saunders, present
Frida Hernandez Pulido, present
Layla Llewellyn, excused

Nicholas Gaston, present
Rumi Jahangir-Arshad, present
Sindy Zavala, excused
Wyatt Wagner, absent

Junior High Representatives

None

Staff Present

Nicole Morgan, Youth Council Advisor

Liaisons Present

Rob Nielsen, Parks and Recreation Commissioner

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

STAFF AND LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

Nicole Morgan provided an update on the Unity Shoppe donation for the Holiday Toy Distribution project.

Rob Nielson provided updates on interviews for Parks and Recreation Commission seats, election of Vice-Chair Lesner-Buxton, and continued discussion of tree removals.

INTERVIEWS BY YOUTH COUNCIL

1. Youth Council Applicant Interview – For Information

Recommendation: That the Youth Council interview applicants interested in joining the Santa Barbara Youth Council during the Fall 2025 Advisory Board Recruitment Cycle.

The Youth Council interviewed:

Piper McGinnis

CONSENT ITEMS

1. **Approval of the Minutes – For Action (Attachment)**

Recommendation: That the Youth Council waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Monday, October 20, 2025.

It was moved and seconded by Youth Council members Leonardi and Gaston respectively, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting Monday, October 20, 2025.

All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Trunk or Treat 2025 Event Debrief – For Discussion**

Recommendation: That the Youth Council discuss the 2025 Trunk or Treat event successes and reads that need improvement.

The Youth Council discussed the importance of continuing Trunk or Treat, as it provides a safe environment for families to Trick or Treat while also learning more about community resources. The Youth Council agrees that it is a great way to continue learning more about local organizations that support youth as well as meeting other city departments.

Recommendations for next year include:

- More collaboration between the Youth Council and PAL Youth Leadership Council
- Additional tasks or responsibility from Youth Council members, running activities, assisting with Trunks.
- Review voting method, no more use of QR codes to minimize multiple votes from the same individual

2. **Executive Board Vote on Appointment Recommendations– For Action**

Recommendation: That the Youth Council Executive Board make recommendations for member appointments to be sent to the Mayor and City Council.

It was moved and seconded by Youth Council members Jahangir-Arshad and Gaston respectively, to approve the following candidate be included in the nomination memo.

Bella Warmerdam (SBUSD, DPHS – City)

Julia Kramer (SBUSD, SBHS – City)

Ellie Cogert (SBUSD, SBHS – City)

Piper McGinnis (Private – City)

All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Subcommittee Breakout Groups – For Discussion

Recommendation: That the Youth Council meet in their respective breakout groups to discuss current subcommittee tasks.

The Youth Council met in the following groups:

Youth Making Change Subcommittee:

Amelia Leonardi, Carter Saunders, Sindy Zavala

Marketing & Outreach Subcommittee:

Nicholas Gaston, Frida Hernandez Pulido

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Youth Council Updates – For Discussion

Recommendation: That each Youth Councilmember take up to two minutes to update the public on specific current issues or events.

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Next regular meeting:

**Westside Neighborhood Center
423 W. Victoria Street
*Monday, December 15, 2025***