



**City and County of San Francisco  
YOUTH COMMISSION  
Civic Engagement and Education Committee**

**MINUTES**

**Friday, October 13th, 2023  
4:30 pm**

**IN-PERSON MEETING  
City Hall, Room 270  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

**IN-PERSON MEETING with REMOTE ACCESS via Webex**

**Members:** Valentina Alioto-Pier (Mayoral, Member), Ewan Barker Plummer (Mayoral, Member), Joselyn Marroquin (Mayoral, Member), Isabella T. Perez (Mayoral, Member).

**Present:** Valentina Alioto-Pier, Ewan Barker Plummer, Joselyn Marroquin, Isabella T. Perez.

**Absent:**

**Tardy:**

The San Francisco Youth Commission's Civic Engagement and Education Committee met in-person with remote access for public comment, on October 13th, 2023, with Interim Chair Barker Plummer presiding.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance**

Chair Barker Plummer called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 4 present, 0 absent.

Valentina Alioto-Pier present  
Ewan Barker Plummer present



Joselyn Marroquin present

Isabella T. Perez present

A quorum of the Civic Engagement and Education Committee was present.

## 2. Communications

Joy Zhan, Youth Development Specialist of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with the Civic Engagement and Education Committee.

## 3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

No discussion, and no public comment.

Commissioner Alioto-Pier, seconded by Commissioner Perez, motioned to approve the October 13th, 2023 Civic Engagement and Education Committee meeting agenda. The motion carried by a voice vote:

Roll Call vote: 4 ayes, \_\_ absent.

Valentina Alioto-Pier aye  
Ewan Barker Plummer aye  
Joselyn Marroquin aye  
Isabella T. Perez aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

## 4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

### a. July 7th, 2023 (Packet Materials)

No discussion. No public comment.

Commissioner Alioto-Pier, seconded by Commissioner Perez, motioned to approve the July 7th, 2023 Civic Engagement and Education Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried by a voice vote:

Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, \_\_ absent

Valentina Alioto-Pier aye  
Ewan Barker Plummer aye  
Joselyn Marroquin aye



Isabella T. Perez aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

**5. Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda** (2 minutes per comment)

No public comment.

**6. Committee Business** (discussion and action item)

- a. Election of 2023 - 2024 Civic Engagement and Education Committee (CEEC) Leadership

Commissioner Barker Plummer nominates Commissioner Alioto-Pier for CEEC Chair, seconded by Commissioner Perez. Commissioner Alioto-Pier accepts the nomination and gives a speech. During Q&A time, Commissioner Barker Plummer asked Commissioner Alioto-Pier about her thoughts about the Committee name change. Commissioner Perez asked about Commissioner Alioto-Pier's priorities other than Vote16.

*No public comment.*

Roll Call vote: 4 Alioto-Pier

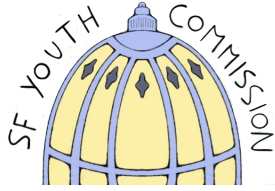
Valentina Alioto-Pier Alioto-Pier  
Ewan Barker Plummer Alioto-Pier  
Joselyn Marroquin Alioto-Pier  
Isabella T. Perez Alioto-Pier

Commissioner Alioto-Pier is elected as the 2023-2024 Civic Engagement and Education Committee Chair.

Commissioner Alioto-Pier nominates Commissioner Perez for CEEC Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Marroquin. Commissioner Perez accepts the nomination and gives a speech. During Q&A time, Commissioner Barker Plummer asked Commissioner Perez about her thoughts about the new CEEC name.

*No public comment.*

Roll Call vote: 4 Perez



Valentina Alioto-Pier Perez  
Ewan Barker Plummer Perez  
Joselyn Marroquin Perez  
Isabella T. Perez Perez

Commissioner Perez is elected as the 2023-2024 Civic Engagement and Education Committee Vice Chair.

Interim Chair Barker Plummer passed the gavel to newly elected Chair Alioto-Pier.

b. Goal Setting

Commissioner Barker Plummer wants to lower the voting age to 16. Vice Chair Perez suggests that the Committee should also focus on voter education through events and social media. Joy (staff) suggests partnering with the Department of Elections to see what the Department is doing as well. Commissioner Barker Plummer, in the short-term, will be monitoring the situation with the SFUSD teachers' strike and see what actions the City and County can take, but not overstepping what the Student Advisory Council (SAC) is doing. Vice Chair Perez also wants to address sexual assault and harassment in schools. Commissioner Marroquin agrees with Vote16, but she also wants there to be education about voting rights. Additionally, she wants to advocate for career options after High School, life skill classes, and more college counseling. Commissioner Perez suggested that the Committee work with Breakthrough Summerbridge. The organization can do a presentation, or the Commission can also present a resolution of commendation to them.

Chair Alioto-Pier talks more about Vote16. She will have a presentation on the topic for the next meeting. Commissioner Barker Plummer will be doing an op-ed with the Bay Area Reporter and wants the Committee to provide feedback.

Chair Alioto-Pier wants Commissioners to bring questions to the next meeting, familiarize themselves with the Board of Supervisors, and bring in talking points so that the Committee can practice in the meetings to come. Joy (staff) clarifies what the Youth Commission has the right to do. Per the Commissioners' request, Joy (staff) gives a brief presentation on the Supervisors.

Commissioner Alioto-Pier gives a breakdown of the next meeting. Joy (staff) will bring in Director Esquivel Garcia next time. Commissioner Barker Plummer recommends discussing the BPPs next meeting.



Commissioner Alioto-Pier asks other Commissioners to bring in any non-voting members to further the efforts of CEEC.

c. CEEC-related Updates

Discussion happens.

**7. Announcements** (including Community Events)

No announcements.

**8. Adjournment**

There being no further business on the agenda, the Civic Engagement and Education Committee adjourned at 5:38 pm.



# History of Vote16

2016 and 2020, both started in YC!

## 2016 Run - Prop F

- Began with resolution from YC
  - [FILE NO. RESOLUTION NO. 1819-AL-14 \[Lower San Francisco's Legal Voting Age to 16 Years of Age\]](#)
- Lost with 48% of the vote, started at 36%
  - > 172,000 voted yes
- Supported by the entire school board and a lot of elected officials/prominent politicians in SF
- Generation Citizen big supporters



## 2020 Run - Prop G

- Unanimous Support from BOS and BOE, Speaker Pelosi, many others
- Sponsored by Board Pres Supervisor Yee
- Began by resolution from YC(this committee)
- Lost by 6k votes

	Ballots cast	Percentage
No	213,694	50.79%
Yes	207,054	49.21%
Total	420,748	100%
Under Votes	26,891	
Over Votes	73	

<https://www.vote16sf.com/>

<https://electionmapsf.com/?county=SFO&election=11-2020#>

<https://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4537421&GUID=B C4108F4-4B42-41A2-AD37-49B72C3F26C2&Options=ID|Text|&Search=200477>







# Talking Points

There are 4 main ones we go to



# 1. 16 YEAR OLD VOTING BUILDS LIFELONG VOTERS

Research shows that:

- Voting is habitual. Once someone casts their first vote, they will continue voting
- The earlier someone starts voting, the more likely they are to be a lifelong voter



## 2. 16 IS A BETTER AGE TO BEGIN VOTING THAN AGE 18

- Age 18 is a year of transitions for most young people, making it a challenging time to register and establish first-time voting habits
- Currently, many delay beginning to vote until their late twenties or longer
- At age 16, young people are embedded in their communities of origin where they care about local issues, and have opportunities for discussions in their classrooms and families that support informed choices
- 16 and 17 year olds register and turn out at greater rates than older first-time voters. This has been seen in other countries that allow teens to vote (Norway, Germany, Argentina, the United Kingdom, Brazil, and Austria).



### **3. 16 & 17 YEAR OLD VOTING WOULD INCREASE DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATION**

- This will create a more representative democracy. Right now, the highest voter turnout rates are among white older adults and seniors.
- We need creative ways of making sure our elected leaders feel accountable to all of our communities. 16 & 17 year olds are community members.
- 16 & 17 year olds are affected by issues like who runs our schools, and decisions that are made about housing, transit and lots of other issues. We believe we deserve a voice.



## 4. 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS ARE PREPARED TO VOTE

- Teens today have more access to knowledge and information and more outlets for debating social and political issues than ever before.
- Research shows that 16-year-olds' political knowledge is the same as 21-year-olds' and quite close to the average for all adults. Many 16 & 17 year olds are already taking government classes
- Researchers assert that 16 and 17 year olds have developed the intellectual maturity for measured, non-rushed, decision-making “ie, cold cognition,” needed for making responsible voting choices.
- Many civic responsibilities accrue at age 16. 16-17 year olds can work without limitations on hours, pay taxes, drive cars, and other responsibilities.



# **Who/What is Important (the most basic for now)**



# Who

- Elected Officials in SF (who are they, what is their district, what are their passions in office, where do they stand on the political spectrum)
  - Supervisors
  - Mayor
  - Congressman



# What

- The language you use (**expand not lower**, speak in the positive, **bipartisan issue**, etc)
- The rules committee (whos on it?)
  - Supervisor Dorsey
  - Supervisor Walton
  - Supervisor Safai
- What was on past resolutions