STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
http://sbc.lacounty.gov

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (16-6295)

Attachments: AUDIO

Present: Chairperson Barbara Bigby, Vice Chairperson Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia, Commissioner Susan Burton, Commissioner Percy Duran III and Commissioner Eleanor R. Montaño

Excused: Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Staff present: Cesar Hernandez, Roy Sinclair and Jenny Kimbell. (16-6297)

Call to Order. (16-6213)

Chairperson Bigby called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Bigby led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Self-introductions were made by all in attendance.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the December 14, 2016 Minutes. (16-6214)

On motion of Commissioner Percy Duran III, seconded by Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

II. REPORTS

2. Department of Auditor-Controller (AC). (16-6215)

Ms. Michele Day, AC, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report during the months of October and November 2016.

October 2016

There were a total of 18 Hotline Requests for Assistance Calls and a total there were 9 Outreach visits to the following facilities:

- **San Gabriel Children's Center (3 Sites)**
- **St. Anne's Maternity Home**
- **Children's Homes of Southern California (5 Sites)**
- **Phoenix House of Los Angeles**
- **Shouridge Group Home**
- **Hillside Home for Children (Main Campus)**
- **Childhelp, Inc. (3 Sites)**
- **Field's Comprehensive Youth Services**
- **West Covina Group Home**

November 2016

In continuing her report, Ms. Day reported that in November 2016 there were a total of 23 Hotline Requests for Assistance Calls and conducted 5 Outreach visits to the following facilities:

- **Deliann Lucile Corp.**
- **David and Margaret Home**
- **Hillsides Home for Children**
- **Murrells Farm and Boys Home**
- **Rosemary Children's Services**

3. Internal Services Department (ISD). (16-6216)

There was no representative present to report.

4. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). (16-6217)

Ms. Patricia Bolanos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator II, Out of Home Care Management Section, DCFS, reported that during the month of November 2016 there were a total of 910 Absent Without Leave (AWOLS) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 22 referrals in the following categories:

- **General Neglect (GH) – 5**
- **Physical Abuse (PA) – 6**
- **Sexual Abuse (SA) – 9**
- **Exploitation – 1**
- **Severe Neglect (SN) - 1**

Total number of referrals closed: 19

- **GN – 2**
- **PA – 6**
- **SA – 9**
- **EA (Emotional Abuse) – 2**

Investigation results of closed referrals:

- **Evaluated Out (EO) - 5**
- **Inconclusive (I) - 3**
- **Not Investigated – 4 - Two of these referrals were for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) and the other two were referrals generated for the replacement of youth.**
- **Unfounded – 6**
- **Substantiated (S) -1**

Ms. Bolanos-Gonzalez also reported that Olive Crest's (RCL 14) Investigative Hold was lifted on October 14, 2016. Penny Lane (RCL 12) was placed on an Investigative Hold on November 14, 2016 and the Investigative Hold was lifted on December 9, 2016.

5. Department of Mental Health (DMH). (16-6218)

Mr. Bart Callender, Residential/TBS Program Administration, DMH, reported that the DMH is in the process of working with group homes that do not hold mental health contracts to ensure that the proper mental health services are provided in group homes.

6. Probation Department (PD). (16-6219)

Mr. Michael Varela, Director of Dorothy Kirby Center, reported that Terry McDonnell has been appointed as the new Chief Probation Officer. Mr. Varela also reported that Camps Mendenhall and Scott are temporarily closed for repairs. Mr. Varela further reported that Camp

Kilpatrick has been redesigned and is scheduled to reopen in April 2017.

Ms. Mikesha Taylor, Program Analyst, PD, provided the status of group home AWOLs during the months of September, October, and November 2016 as follows:

<u>September 2016</u>

There were 102 AWOLs involving 86 youth:

- **40 Remain AWOL**
- **49 Returned to group homes**
- **12 Placed in Juvenile Hall**
- **1 Child Death**

<u>October 2016</u>

There were 106 AWOLs involving 98 youth:

- **44 Remain AWOL**
- **42 Returned to group homes**
- **16 Placed in Juvenile Hall**
- **2 Placed in Camp**
- **1 Jurisdiction Terminated**
- **1 Home on Probation**

<u>November 2016</u>

There were 119 AWOLs involving 99 youth:

- **50 Remain AWOL**
- **54 Returned to group homes**
- **15 Placed in Juvenile Hall**

Ms. Taylor also provided the Commission with detailed monthly status reports of group home AWOLs during the months of September, October and November 2016.

7. Office of the Inspector General (OIG). (16-6220)

Ms. Stacy Nelson, OIG, introduced herself to the Commission and answered questions posed by the Commission.

8. Sheriff's Department (SD). (16-6221)

Commander Henry Romero, Los Angeles County Sheriff Department, reported that all issues that have been submitted during the December 14, 2016 visit to Twin Towers Correctional Facility have been addressed. Commander Romero also advised the Commission to immediately report future concerns to the Watch Commander on duty.

Commander Romero also answered questions posed by the Commission and informed the Commission that he will be retiring at the beginning of 2017.

9. Chairperson's Report on various items. (16-6224)

Chairperson Bigby reported that she met with Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger and updated her on the work of the SBC and advised the Commissioners to meet with their Supervisors.

10. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (16-6222)

Staff reported that the proposed changes to the SBC Ordinance have been submitted to County Counsel for review.

11. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections. (16-6225)

During the reporting period, the following group homes/facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

<u>Chairperson Bigby visited:</u>

- **Penny Lane #1 (Burnett Ave., North Hills, CA) on December 15, 2016.**
- **Penny Lane #2 (Nordhoff At., North Hills, CA) on December 20, 2016.**

<u>Vice Chairperson Grills visited:</u>

- **O'Connor and Atkins (41st St., Los Angeles, CA) on December 21, 2016 and reported that this facility has been closed permanently.**

<u>Commissioners Bhatia and Duran visited:</u>

- **Los Angeles Mental Health Court (Hill St., Los Angeles, CA) on December 14, 2016.**

<u>Commissioner Andrews visited:</u>

- **Pitchess Detention Center - East (The Old Road, Castaic, CA) on December 15, 2016.**

Commissioners Andrews and Montaño visited:

- **Optimist Group Home (Tillman Ave., Carson, CA) on December 19, 2016.**
- **Orange County Children's Foundation (Marbella Ave., Carson, CA) on December 20, 2016.**

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

12. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (16-6226)

There were no items presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

13. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (16-6227)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

14. Adjournment for the meeting of December 21, 2016. (16-6228)

There being no further business, Chairperson Bigby adjourned the meeting of December 21, 2016 at 11:38 a.m.