



CITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FROM July 16, 2025
Huntington Beach City Hall

Call to Order at 5:35 PM

Roll Call

- Committee Members: *(Present) Delaine Bailey, Ellen Kuhnert, Patricia Pappas, Yolanda Campos, Julian Douglas, Michael Latham, and Valentina Bankhead*
- Council: *Butch Twining*
- Staff Liaisons: *Julie Toledo*
- Public: *Amory Hanson, Kelly Mandic*

Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)

- *None*

Approve minutes from November 12, 2024 meeting (*Ellen Kuhnert, 2nd by Delaine Bailey*)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. 2025 Celebration Calendar Themes

- a. January – “Founder’s Legacy – Celebrating Huntington Beach’s Origins”
- b. February – “Shop & Dine Locally”
- c. March – “Honoring Huntington Beach – Celebrating Community Service & Volunteerism”
- d. April – “Appreciating Huntington Beach’s Ecological Legacy”
- e. May – “Exploring Public Art”
- f. June – “History of Independence Day & What it Means”
- g. July – “Surf City Showcase – Highlighting our Lifeguard Legacy”
- h. August – “Huntington Beach Pier – A Long History”
- i. September – “Celebrating Aviation”
- j. October – “Horses, Cows & Dogs, Oh My!”
- k. November – “History of our Military – Honoring Important Military Dates”
- l. December – “California History”

2. Proposed Events for 2025

- a. **August – “HB Pier – A Long History”**
 - Come up with photo contest with hashtag for best pier photos.
 - “See You at the Library” event was discussed.
- b. **September – “Celebrating Aviation”**
 - Patriot Day Event at Pier Plaza
 - National Constitution Day Sept. 17 – potentially Council to read Constitution
 - RC Vintage Plane Exhibit – Ray Raines
 - Pacific Air Show
 - Ask Kevin Elliott for ideas to help publicize Air Show – Councilman Twining to contact Kevin
 - Ask about adding HB (local) Food Trucks near 9th Street to Goldenwest
 - Post airplane photos



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- c. **October – “Horses, Cows & Dogs”**
 - Pumpkin Patch at Dog Beach or Equestrian Center
 - Connect with local animal shelter – Yolanda Campos to research volunteer opportunities, adoption event, dog walker
 - Connect with Equestrian Center – Julie Toledo to organize tour/field trip for the committee
 - d. **November – “History of our Military – Honoring Important Military Dates”**
 - Genealogy event featuring our Vets from American Legion Post 133 or Elks Club. Talk about family & military service – show heirlooms
 - Will discuss at next meeting
 - e. **December – “California History”**
 - TBD – will discuss ideas in next meeting.
 - f. **Other Ideas**
 - Cultural Family Event – Valentina Bankhead mentioned hosting an International Festival with dancers representing different countries (Scottish, fire dancers, etc.)
 - HB Symphony Event at City Hall – free concert
 - Julian Douglas suggested the committee meet bi-monthly. Valentina Bankhead second the motion.
3. **2026 Semiquincentennial**
- Councilmember Twining announced NYFD Firefighters being invited to march/lead the City’s 122nd Independence Day Parade as part of the 25th anniversary of the tragedy. Kowabunga Van Klan to assist and hotels being contacted to host at discounted rate.
 - Will come up with additional ideas at next meeting on August 20.

Adjournment – 7:10 PM

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM.