



CITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FROM June 8, 2026
Huntington Beach City Hall

Call to Order at 5:36 PM

Roll Call

- Committee Members: *(Present) Patricia (Patti) Pappas, Julian Douglas, Michael Latham, Valentina Bankhead, Ellen Kuhnert (on phone)*
- Council: *Mayor Pro Tem Twining*
- Staff Liaison: *Julie Toledo*
- Other Staff: *None*
- Public: *Amory Hanson, Debbie Iorio*
- Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)
 - *MPT Twining announced he would appoint Debbie Iorio to the Committee. Debbie has a marketing background and could assist with marketing efforts. Debbie stated she could help with prizes for certain events.*

Approve minutes from May 11, 2026 meeting (1st by Julian Douglas; 2nd by Patti Pappas)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. **2026 Celebration Calendar Themes**

- ~~January – “Foundations of Freedom – Early HB Foundations”~~
- ~~February – “From the Sands of Iwo Jima to Sands of HB – The Legacy of Sacrifice & Service”~~
- ~~March – “Valor & Sacrifice – Celebrating Our Sworn Personnel”~~
- ~~April – “Patriotism & Remembrance”~~
- ~~May – “Honoring Service, Building Community – Military Appreciation Month”~~
- June – “Countdown to America 250 – Honoring Our Symbols & Sacrifice”
- July – “Happy 250 America!”
- August – “Honor & Valor – Honoring the Purple Hearts & Coast Guard”
- September – “Echoes of Bravery – Civil War Valor & 9/11 Resolve”
- October – “Wings of Freedom”
- November – “Honoring the Brave – Saluting Our Veterans”
- December – “Season of Remembrance & Reflection”

2. **Review Draft 2026 City Celebration Events/250 Semiquincentennial Calendar**

- June – “Countdown to America 250 – Honoring Our Symbols & Sacrifice”**
 - Julie announced the coloring contest was on as of today and posted on social media. Contest will run through June 26. Julie state she needs prizes for the winners for each category.
- July – “Happy 250 America”**
 - Photo contest after July 4th – show us your best Independence Day photos. Julian came up with categories for Patriotism in HB, 4th of July Celebrations and Patriotic at the Beach. Will promote this the week before the 4th on social media.



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- Julie stated “National Treasure” Movie to be shown on July 31 at Central Park and needs to purchase the rights to the movie.
 - Julian and Butch discussed having the City Celebration Committee have a larger role in events. Butch said Stacey with the parade was looking for volunteers. Julie said she would put them in touch with Stacey.
- c. **August – “Honor & Valor – Honoring the Purple Hearts & Coast Guard”**
- A night with Dr. Stefan Bean and Supervisor Janet Nguyen will be held Aug. 3 at City Hall for their “American Dream” discussion. Patti suggested hosting a reception for them
- d. **September -“Echoes of Bravery – Civil War Valor & 9/11 Resolve”**
- Julian brought up 9/11 at the 25th Anniversary and how do we make this bigger. Julian suggested getting donations and will look into. Butch suggested having more fire trucks at Pier Plaza.
 - National Constitution Day is Sept. 17 and it was brought up that there be readings at the Sept. 15 City Council meeting. Reading of the preamble. Michael said his son Greyson could read.
 - Patti said she would write articles on the founding fathers and constitution in September.
- e. **October -“Wings of Freedom”**
- Julian stated he would talk with Kevin Elliot about opportunities to get involved with the Air Show as it’s the 10th anniversary of the show.
- f. **November -“Honoring the Brave – Saluting Our Veterans”**
- Patti suggested we serve lemonade at the Veterans Day ceremony
 - Tree planting idea by Patti.
- g. **December -“Seasons of Remembrance & Reflection”**
- Time Capsule – Julie to research. Come up with ideas for how the community can become involved with it. We will discuss at the July meeting as to what will go inside the capsule.

Adjournment – 6:34 PM *The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2026 at 5:30 PM*