



CITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FROM April 13, 2026
Huntington Beach City Hall

Call to Order at 5:34 PM

Roll Call

- Committee Members: *(Present) Ellen Kuhnert, Patricia (Patti) Pappas, Yolanda Campos, Julian Douglas, Michael Latham, Delaine Bailey*
- Council: *None*
- Staff Liaison: *Julie Toledo*
- Other Staff: *None*
- Public: Amory Hanson, Roz Price
- Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)
 - *Roz Price introduced herself and stated that she had a family member sign the Declaration of Independence*
 - *Amory Hanson stated that he's a historic choice for council*

Approve minutes from February 23, 2026 meeting (*Julian Douglas, 2nd by Patricia 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

- Patti suggested framing past articles that have been posted on social media/website and framing them at City Hall. Also suggested to have stories on the City Celebration page on the website.
- a. **April – “Patriotism & Remembrance”**
 - Julie said City is doing event with County – Pet Expo on April 25 from 1pm to 4pm.
 - April's Pet Expo is coming up April 25 – Patti, Delaine and Yolanda will staff booth. Yolanda to contact the Seal Beach Shelter.
 - Kick off “What Does American Mean to Me” Contest – Display work in May/June – Michael said he could help with this effort.



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- b. **May – “Honoring Service, Building Community – Military Appreciation Month”**
- Chris Epting Roosevelt Discussion on Thursday, May 7 at 6pm. Patti will assist with Green Room and Meet and Greet prior to the discussion at 4pm.
 - Julie said HB Symphony putting on Patriot Concert on Sunday, May 24 at 5:30pm at City Hall for Memorial Day
 - Memorial Day event on Monday, May 25 – it was suggested we serve lemonade. Julie will look into a potential doner.
- c. **June – “Countdown to America 250 – Honoring Our Symbols & Sacrifice”**
- Julie will come up with rules for art “What Does America Mean to Me.” Yolanda brought up Newport Beach displays.
 - Julie to come up with categories for July’s photo contest after Independence Day.
 - Patti said she was still trying to get the Freedom Truck to HB.
- d. **July – “Happy 250 America”**
- Photo contest after July 4th – show us your best Independence Day photos. Categories for parade, kids/family, fireworks, etc. Julie to refine categories.
 - Ellen suggested a movie night in the park to show “National Treasure” in July.
 - It was discussed the Committee participate in the parade
- e. **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
 - Julian is looking into ideas to do event with the Coast Guard.
- f. **September -“Echoes of Bravery – Civil War Valor & 9/11 Resolve”**
- Julian brought up 9/11 at the 25th Anniversary.
 - 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 would like to do some kind of lecture on the Constitution or Declaration of Independence.
- g. **October -“Wings of Freedom”**
- Julian brought up Airshow and what ideas they were doing to celebrate 250.
 - Ellen brought up pumpkin patch in Sunset Beach
- h. **November -“Honoring the Brave – Saluting Our Veterans”**
- It was discussed having another lemonade stand for Veterans Day ceremony
 - Tree planting idea by Patti.
- i. **December -“Seasons of Remembrance & Reflection”**
- Time Capsule – Julie to research. Come up with ideas for how the community can become involved with it.
 - Wreaths Across America – Julian brought up and will bring to next month’s meeting to discuss.



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3. Review 250 HB Logo

- Did not review.

Adjournment – 6:47 PM

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

DRAFT