

These Meeting Minutes are not official until approved by the Fiesta La Ballona Committee

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

February 2, 2022
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Guzzetta called the regular meeting of the Fiesta La Ballona Committee to order at 7:07 P.M. via Webex.

Present: Greg Guzzetta, Chair
Lisa Marie Parker Desai, Vice Chair
Roshni Mejia, Member
Lila Swenson, Member
Bob Wayne, Member

Staff: Armando Abrego, Parks, Recreation and Community
Services Director
Dani Cullens, Recreation and Community Services
Manager
Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community
Services Manager
Jeannine Houchen, Special Events Coordinator
Patricia Mooney, Senior Management Analyst
Terrica Miller, Administrative Clerk

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Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Parker Desai led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Terrica Miller, Administrative Clerk, read public comment submitted by Darrel Menthe expressing opposition to allowing the NRA (National Rifle Association) to have a booth at Fiesta La Ballona noting that they had not honored the terms of their agreement and requesting that any organization having a booth be prohibited from bringing firearms to the event.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Jeff Cooper, The Exchange Club, indicated that John Cohn was working to join the meeting to provide a recap of the Beer and Wine Garden for Fiesta 2021.

David was invited to speak but indicated that he had no comment.

Patricia Mooney, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that since the Beer and Wine Garden was not an agenda item, a full discussion of the item could not be had.

Chair Guzzetta suggested that the Exchange Club submit a report to the Committee.

Jeff Cooper, The Exchange Club, indicated that a financial report had been submitted to staff.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement to agenda a discussion of the report from The Exchange Club on the 2021 Beer and Wine Garden; Committee input; and distribution of the report to Committee Members prior to the meeting.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Patricia Mooney, Senior Management Analyst, reported that correspondence had been distributed to Committee Members.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI, SECONDED BY MEMBER SWENSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Fiesta La Ballona Committee Meeting of January 5, 2022

Chair Guzzetta indicated that Public Comment had been submitted by Stacey Wiren, not Stacey Byron as was written on page 2.

Vice Chair Parker Desai questioned whether the title of Fiesta La Ballona had been notated correctly in the 4th bullet point on page 6 of 9 and she asked that a comma be added to the paragraph below the bullet points on the third line after the word revised.

Patricia Mooney, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that she would verify the proper name of the event and add a comma in the requested location.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI AND SECONDED BY CHAIR GUZZETTA THAT THE FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2022 AS MODIFIED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GUZZETTA, MEJIA, PARKER DESAI, SWENSON

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: WAYNE

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Order of the Agenda

Item A-4 was considered before and after Item A-3.

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Action Items

Item A-1

FLBC – Review of 2021 Fiesta La Boo-llona Survey Results

Jeannine Houchen, Special Events Supervisor, provided a summary of the Fiesta 2021 Survey Results.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding repeated comments in the document; the date change; food trucks; dancing; wrist bands; involvement of the High School performing groups; bringing back the silent disco; and information collected.

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Item A-2

FLBC - (1) Review of the Survey Results Regarding the Selection of Dates for Fiesta La Ballona 2022; and (2) Selection of Dates for Fiesta La Ballona 2022

Jeannine Houchen, Special Events Supervisor, presented a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding carnival availability; the directive to avoid the Art Walk and Roll event; support for a Halloween-themed Fiesta on October 28-30; availability of entertainment; the missed opportunity to brand the event in 2021; survey support for an October date; and transparency to the community.

MOVED BY MEMBER SWENSON, SECONDED BY CHAIR GUZZETTA AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE HOLD FIESTA BALLONA 2022 ON OCTOBER 28, 29 AND 30, 2022.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the need for City Council approval; the timeframe for City Council consideration; and eliminating the need for yearly consideration of the matter.

MOVED BY MEMBER WAYNE, SECONDED BY CHAIR GUZZETTA AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE MOVE THE DATE FOR FIESTA LA BALLONA TO THE WEEKEND IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING HALLOWEEN FOR 2022-2026.

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Item A-4

(Out of Sequence)

FLBC - (1) Adoption of Motions Appointing Fiesta La Ballona Committee Members to Existing Ad Hoc Subcommittees; (2) [If Desired] Formation of New or Dissolution of Existing Fiesta La Ballona Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees; and, (3) [If Desired] Adoption of Motions Appointing Committee Members to Newly Formed Ad Hoc Subcommittees

Chair Guzzetta proposed deferring the item to the next meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the need to have all Members present before considering the item; retention of old subcommittees until new ones are made; deferring the item to the meeting of March 2, 2022; the current number of applications for the open positions; recruitment efforts; the appointment process; and the resignation of Member Martin-Straw from the Committee.

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Item A-3

FLBC – Update Regarding the Vendor Contractual Performance at Fiesta 2021

Dani Cullens, Recreation and Community Services Manager, provided a summary of the material of record noting that attendance is not usually taken; she discussed the intent to track attendance moving forward; email received from non-profits that did not have enough volunteers to attend all three days; establishing rules that hold true for everyone; and sponsors.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that the NRA did not communicate to staff that they would not be able to attend at all; preferred vendor locations by the Beer and Wine Garden; continued discussion of the item by the ad hoc subcommittee; enforcing lack of attendance of the NRA in 2021; the lack of official records; contract requirements; breach of contract; lack of communication with staff; First Amendment issues; whether to request guidance from the City Attorney to build a case for excluding the NRA; preparation of a statement from the Committee for review; exclusion of other groups; and consensus that the Committee select Member Swenson to write and send a statement about a specific vendor to the City Attorney for approval.

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Item A-4

(Continued)

FLBC - (1) Adoption of Motions Appointing Fiesta La Ballona Committee Members to Existing Ad Hoc Subcommittees; (2) [If Desired] Formation of New or Dissolution of Existing Fiesta La Ballona Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees; and, (3) [If Desired] Adoption of Motions Appointing Committee Members to Newly Formed Ad Hoc Subcommittees

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the current subcommittees; making the t-shirts a separate subcommittee; one year appointments; and Member willingness to serve.

MOVED BY MEMBER WAYNE, SECONDED BY MEMBER SWENSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE FIESTA LA BALLONA COMMITTEE:

1. APPOINT CHAIR GUZZETTA, VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI, AND MEMBER SWENSON TO THE SITE LAYOUT AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
2. DEFER APPOINTMENTS TO THE MARKETING AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
3. APPOINT VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI AND MEMBERS SWENSON AND WAYNE TO THE ENTERTAINMENT AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
4. APPOINT CHAIR GUZZETTA AND MEMBER SWENSON TO THE SPONSORSHIP AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
5. DEFER APPOINTMENTS TO THE SUSTAINABILITY AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
6. APPOINT VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI TO THE SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
7. APPOINT CHAIR GUZZETTA AND MEMBERS SWENSON AND MEJIA TO THE VENDORS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
8. APPOINT CHAIR GUZZETTA AND MEMBERS SWENSON AND MEJIA TO THE BEER AND WINE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,
9. DISSOLVE THE BACKUP PLAN AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND,

10. CREATE THE VOLUNTEER T-SHIRT AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPOINT VICE CHAIR PARKER DESAI AND MEMBER WAYNE THERETO.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding continuing the discussion to the next Committee meeting; the ability to make changes at any time as the topic is a standing agenda item; the description for the Volunteer T-Shirt Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and the City's purchasing process.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Guzzetta invited public comment.

Patricia Mooney, Senior Management Analyst, indicated no requests to speak.

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Items from Members/Staff

Armando Abrego, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, thanked the Committee for picking a date for the Fiesta; reported that Recreation and Community Services Manager Dani Cullens would serve as the main liaison to the Committee and that staff would be assigned to each subcommittee; and he introduced Recreation and Community Services Manager Francisca Castillo.

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, indicated that she was new to the City and she thanked the Committee for their commitment to the community noting that she was looking forward to working with everyone.

Dani Cullens, Recreation and Community Services Manager, expressed appreciation for being a part of the 2021 Fiesta La Ballona process and felt that moving the event to the end of October offered new opportunities.

Armando Abrego, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, indicated that Darren Uhl was now serving as Recreation and Community Services Supervisor; asked that the

Committee begin to think about an operating budget for 2022; he discussed previous budget requests; and funding allocation for t-shirts.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the deadline for budget recommendations for the next fiscal year; staff participation in the Entertainment Subcommittee; Brown Act rules; whether Members must each join the meeting at a separate location; ensuring that there are not three people at the same location; following appropriate City policy; the status of in-person meetings; and the ability of the Committee to request in-person meetings.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:42 P.M., the Fiesta La Ballona Committee adjourned to a regular meeting on March 2, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

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Terrica Miller

SECRETARY of the Fiesta La Ballona Committee

APPROVED _____

GREG GUZZETTA

CHAIR of the Culver City Fiesta La Ballona Committee
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK

Date