

**INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, July 10, 2025 – 7:00 PM
College Room - Alexander Hughes Community Center

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Carson Elhai called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT STACEY CAPONIGRO, KRISTA CARSON ELHAI, CHARLIE GALE,
CHRISTINE MOORE, BARBARA RUGELEY, JULIANNE SALTZER

ABSENT NONE

ALSO PRESENT

Brisa Sifuentes, Community and Human Services Commission Liaison
Nancy Brower, Community and Human Services Commission Liaison
Melissa Vollaro, Recreation and Human Services Director
Kelly Love, Recreation and Human Services Coordinator
Amber Tudor, Program Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CEREMONIAL MATTERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Carson Elhai invited public comment.

Vice Chair Carson Elhai read a written public comment from Richard Rosenbluth.

There were no more requests to speak.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Chair Carson Elhai invited public comment on the Consent Calendar.

There were no requests to speak.

1. Independence Day Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2025
Approved and filed the Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2025.

Committee Member Gale moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Chair Caponigro, and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Committee Member – Caponigro, Carson Elhai, Gale, Moore,
Rugeley, Saltzer

NOES: Committee Member – None

ABSTENTION: Committee Member – None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2. Committee Member Feedback on the 2025 4th of July Events

The Committee shared their feedback about the Festival. Positive reports included that tattoos, and Minh Tran the Magician's performance were wonderful. Areas for improvement included adding a bubble guy, more umbrellas near inflatables, lost & found procedures outlined, clear procedures for outside vendors walking in the park, and the need for a one-minute light for Speakers Corner.

Chair Caponigro left at 7:13 PM.

The Committee shared their feedback about the Parade. They reported that the length and variety of entries were good. They liked the addition of the City sanitation truck. Areas for improvement include more floats and less gaps between entries.

The Committee shared their feedback on the Fireworks Show. Positive reports included the addition of online ticket sales, the new band, and the pyrotechnics this year. Staff reported that 4,318 tickets were sold and 3,673 were checked in.

Committee Member Saltzer suggested that fireworks are not necessary since so many other cities have them and that drones should be considered.

Vice Chair Carson Elhai invited public comment.

There were no requests to speak.

The Committee received and filed the report.

REPORTS

Staff

Melissa Vollaro, Recreation and Human Services Director, reported that the summer events including Monday Night Concerts have started, and Movies in the Park are next week, and wading pools and camp Claremont are open.

Committee

Committee Member Saltzer reported that the staff at the inflatables were great.

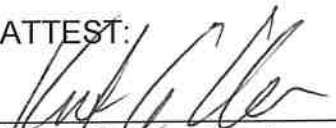
Liaison

No Report

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Carson Elhai adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM. The next regular meeting of the Independence Day Committee will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Alexander Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Rd, Claremont.

ATTEST:



Krista Carson Elhai

Vice Chair



Amber Tudor
Recording Secretary