

**INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, January 22, 2026 – 7:00 PM
College Room - Alexander Hughes Community Center

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Carson Elhai called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT STACEY CAPONIGRO, KRISTA CARSON ELHAI, CHARLIE GALE,
JULIANNE SALTZER

ABSENT CHRISTINE MOORE

ALSO PRESENT

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.

There were no 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 Special Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2025
Approved and filed the Independence Day Committee special meeting minutes of September 18, 2025.

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

AYES: Committee Member – Caponigro, Carson Elhai, Gale, Saltzer
NOES: Committee Member – None
ABSTENTION: Committee Member – Moore

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM

2. **SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Vice Chair Carson Elhai opened the floor for nominations for the office of Chair for the 2025-26 term.

Committee Member Caponigro nominated Krista Carson Elhai for the office of Chair.

Nominations were closed and Vice Chair Carson Elhai invited public comment.

There were no requests to speak.

Committee Member Caponigro moved to nominate Krista Carson Elhai for the position of Chair for the 2025-26 term, seconded by Committee Member Gale, and carried on the following vote:

AYES: **Committee Member –Caponigro, Carson Elhai, Gale, Saltzer**

NOES: **Committee Member – None**

ABSTENTION: **Committee Member – Moore**

Chair Carson Elhai opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice Chair for the 2025-26 term.

Committee Member Gale nominated Stacey Caponigro for the office of Vice Chair.

Nominations were closed and Chair Carson Elhai invited public comment.

There were no requests to speak.

Committee Member Gale moved to nominate Committee Member Caponigro for the position of Vice Chair for the 2025-26 term, seconded by Committee Member Elhai, and carried on the following vote:

AYES: **Committee Member –Caponigro, Carson Elhai, Gale, Saltzer**

NOES: **Committee Member – None**

ABSTENTION: **Committee Member – Moore**

REPORTS

Staff

Melissa Vollaro, Recreation and Human Services Director, reported that the Winter/Spring Activity Guide is available now and Independence Day Committee member recruitment is ongoing. She also reported that the City Council priorities workshop will take place January 31st.

Amber Tudor, Program Coordinator, reported that Pomona College's field has been reserved, a pyrotechnic vendor has been secured, and entertainment has been booked. She also reported that the theme contest is accepting entries and that fundraising banner sales have begun. She asked the committee to assist with sharing the information about contests and banner sales with the community.

Committee

None.

Liaison

Commissioner Brower reported that Claraboya Pine Trees may be moving to a three-year trimming cycle pending City Council approval, the Committee on Aging has some fun trips in store including the Nixon library and a Route 66 tour, and that Larkin Park will be updated including the playground.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Carson Elhai adjourned the meeting at 7:36 PM. The next regular meeting of the Independence Day Committee will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Alexander Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Rd, Claremont.

ATTEST:



Krista Carson Elhai

Chair



Amber Tudor

Recording Secretary