

RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA &
ARTS COMMISSION
Eddrick Osborne, Chair
Aaron Sencil, Vice Chair
Essex Cook, Member
Lilia Dardon, Member
Jonathan D Faria, Member
John Harter, Member
Donna LeBlanc, Member



RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA &
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

A G E N D A
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SUISUN CITY
RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA, AND ARTS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024
6:00 PM

Suisun City Council Chambers, 701 Civic Center Blvd., Suisun City, CA 94585

*RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA AND ARTS COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE HELD IN-PERSON
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM*

*ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:
WEBSITE: <https://zoom.us/join>
MEETING ID: **829 4547 2772**
CALL IN PHONE NUMBER: (707) 438-1720*

*REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT IS AVAILABLE FOR THE RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA AND ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING BY EMAILING CLERK@SUISUN.COM (PRIOR TO 4 PM), VIA WEBSITE, OR ZOOM CALL IN PHONE
NUMBER: (707) 438-1720.*

*(If attending the meeting via phone press *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute/mute for public comment.)*

ROLL CALL

RPMA Commissioners

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATION

(Any items on this agenda that might be a conflict of interest to any Commissioner should be identified at this time.)

REPORTS: (Informational items only.)

PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

(Presentations, Awards, Proclamations, Appointments)

1. Recreation, Parks, Marina, & Arts Commission (Commission) Recommendation:
Community Events for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent calendar items requiring little or no discussion may be acted upon with one motion.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Recreation, Parks, Marina and Arts Commission held on February 21, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Request by citizens to discuss any matter under our jurisdiction other than an item posted on this agenda per California Government Code §54954.3. Comments are limited to no more than 5 minutes unless allowable by the Chair. Speaker cards are available on the table near the entry of the meeting room and should be given to the Clerk. By law, no prolonged discussion or action may be taken on any item raised during the public comment period, although informational answers to questions may be given and matters may be referred for placement on a future agenda.)

GENERAL BUSINESS

REPORTS: (Informational items only.)

- a) Park Inspection Reports
- b) Art Ad Hoc
- c) Harbor Theatre Ad Hoc
- d) Montebello Vista Park Revitalization Ad Hoc
- e) Poet Laureate Ad Hoc
- f) Director's Report
- g) Commissioner's Report
- h) Chair Report

ADJOURNMENT

Public Access To Agenda Documents

A complete packet of information containing staff reports and exhibits related to each item for the open session of this meeting, and provided to the City Council, are available for public review at least 72 hours prior to a Council /Agency/Authority Meeting at Suisun City Hall 701 Civic Center Blvd., Suisun City. Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Council/Board/Commissioners less than 72 hours prior to a Council/Agency/Authority meeting related to an agenda item for the open session of this meeting will be made available for public inspection during normal business hours. An agenda packet is also located at the entrance to the Council Chambers during the meeting for public review. The city may charge photocopying charges for requested copies of such documents. To the extent feasible, the agenda packet is available for online public viewing on the City's website: <https://www.suisun.com/Government/City-Council/Agendas>

The City Council/Agency/Authority/Commission/Committee hopes to conclude its public business by 10:00 p.m. No new items will be taken up after 10:00 p.m., unless so moved by a majority of the City Council, and any items remaining will be agendaized for the next meeting. The agendas have been prepared with the hope that all items scheduled will be discussed within the time allowed.

Accommodations

If you require an accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 421-7302 or clerk@suisun.com. The City's reasonable accommodation policy is available for review on the City's website at www.suisun.com/government/city-council/, you may request an electronic copy or have a copy mailed to you. Please note that for accommodations that are not readily available, you must make your request as soon as you can prior to the time of the meeting.

Decorum

All participants are expected to conduct themselves with mutual respect. Conduct that disrupts meetings will be addressed in accordance with Section 54957.95 of the Government Code.

Ordinances

Ordinances are city laws contained in the Suisun City Municipal Code. Enacting a new city law or changing an existing one is a two-step process. Government Code 36934 provides, except when, after reading the title, further reading is

waived by regular motion adopted by majority vote all ordinances shall be read in full either at the time of introduction or passage; provided, however, that a reading of the title or ordinance shall not be required if the title is included on the published agenda and a copy of the full ordinance is made available to the public online and in print at the meeting prior to the introduction or passage.

Certification Of Posting

Agendas for regular and special meetings are posted in accordance with the Brown Act at Suisun City Hall, 701 Civic Center Boulevard, Suisun City, CA. Agendas may be posted at other Suisun City locations including:

- Suisun City Fire Station, 621 Pintail Drive, Suisun City, CA;
- Joe Nelson Center, 611 Village Drive, Suisun City, CA;
- Harbor Master Office, 800 Kellogg Street, Suisun City, CA.

I, Kathleen Shrader, Administrative Assistant for the Recreation Department for the City of Suisun City, declare under penalty of perjury that the above agenda for the meeting was posted and available for review, in compliance with the Brown Act.

AGENDA TRANSMITTAL

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Recreation, Parks, Marina, & Arts Commission (Commission) Recommendation: Community Events for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

FISCAL IMPACT: Total Budget of \$133,900 with \$75,000 being funded by fireworks sales, \$19,500 from booth rentals, and a request of \$39,400 from the General Fund.

BACKGROUND: The Recreation, Parks, and Marina Department, in alignment with the City's strategic plans goals of revitalizing the Downtown Waterfront District and Enhancing Environments, has worked diligently to identify events that cater to a wide range of interests and demographics within our community to promote community and neighborhood livability and enhance community connection. The proposed events aim to celebrate local culture, encourage outdoor activities, and strengthen community bonds. The City has established positive relationships with a variety of organizations that will continue to foster growth in the community and continue to provide a positive gathering place for residents and visitors alike.

STAFF REPORT: Special events are essential productions that bring neighbors together and build a sense of place and community. By providing these opportunities, residents have a gathering place in which they can celebrate a national holiday, recreate together, and build positive community relationships. Special events also act as an economic driver for those businesses located within close proximity of the events.

The recommended events include our summer events:

- 4th of July Celebration, Thursday, July 4
- Friday Night Movies in the Park, Friday, July 19-October 18 (includes June 20, 2025)
- Saturday Night Music on the Waterfront Series, Saturday, July 13-August 10
- Sunday Jazz Series, Sunday, July 7-August 11 (in conjunction with the Farmers Market)
- National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6
- Cruisin' Suisun Car Show, Saturday, October 12
- Christmas on the Waterfront, Saturday, December 7
- Kwanzaa Celebration, Saturday, December 28
- Menorah Lighting, Thursday, January 2, 2025
- Suisun City Pride, Saturday, June 1, 2025

Staff is also planning to partner with the Solano Pride Center and offer a Suisun City Pride event in the current 2023/2024 budget utilizing residual funds. The date of this event is Sunday, June 2, 2024.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the RPMA Commission Recommend the list of Community Events to the City Council.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Exhibit A: Community Events Calendar for FY 2024-2025
2. Exhibit B: Community Events Budget for FY 2024-2025
3. Community Events Powerpoint

PREPARED BY:

Janet Hull, Recreation Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Kris Lofthus, Deputy

APPROVED BY:

Kris Lofthus, Deputy City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Exhibit A - Community Events Calendar for FY 2024-2025.pdf](#)
2. [Exhibit B - Community Events Budget for FY 2024-2025.pdf](#)
3. [Community Events Powerpoint.pdf](#)

Exhibit A
Special Events Schedule 2024-2025

Summer Events

Dinner & Movies in the Park Series (5)

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| 7/19/2024 | Heritage Park |
| 8/16/2024 | Heritage Park |
| 9/20/2024 | Heritage Park |
| 10/18/2024 | Heritage Park |
| 6/20/2025 | Heritage Park |

4th of July Independence Day Celebration

July 4th 11am-9:30pm All of the Waterfront

Saturday Night Music on the Waterfront (5)

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 7/13/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 7/20/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 7/27/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 8/3/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 8/10/2024 | Harbor Plaza |

Sunday Jazz Concert Series (6)

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 7/7/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 7/14/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 7/21/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 7/28/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 8/4/2024 | Harbor Plaza |
| 8/11/2024 | Harbor Plaza |

National Night Out

8/6/2024 Heritage Park

Fall Events

Cruisin' Suisun Car Show

Saturday, October 12, 2024 Harbor & Sheldon Plaza

Dia de los Muertos Celebration

Saturday, November 2, 2024 Joseph Nelson Center

Winter Events

Christmas on the Waterfront

Saturday, December 7, 2024 Harbor & Sheldon Plaza

Menorah Lighting

Thursday, January 2, 2025 City Hall

Kwanzaa

Saturday, December 28, 2024

Joseph Nelson Center

Summer 2025

Suisun City Pride

Harbor Plaza

Sunday, June 1, 2025

SPECIAL EVENT BUDGETS FOR FY 2024-2025

| Date | Special Events | Expenditures | Revenue Type | Revenue Amount |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 7/19-10/18/24 6/20/2025 *3rd Friday of month | Friday Night Movie in the Park Series(5) Staff Movies Field Supplies Marketing Friday Night Movies in the Park Total | \$ 1,000 \$ 2,500 \$ 500 \$ 500 \$ 4,500 | | \$ - |
| 6/2/2024 | Pride Event Staff Restrooms Marketing Field Supplies Pride Total | \$ 300 \$ 1,000 \$ 300 \$ 500 \$ 1,500 | | \$ - |
| 7/4/2024 | 4th of July Celebration Staff OT - PW and PD Entertainment Sound Fireworks Security Restrooms Field Supplies Marketing Rentals Permits 4th of July Total | \$ 2,000 \$ 7,000 \$ 4,000 \$ 3,000 \$ 17,500 \$ 4,700 \$ 5,700 \$ 2,300 \$ 1,200 \$ 4,500 \$ 600 \$ 52,500 | Rent | \$ 10,000 |
| 7/13/24-8/10/24 | Saturday Night Music on the Waterfront Series (5) Staff Bands Permits ASCAP Music License Sound Field Supplies Marketing Restrooms Saturday Night Music on the Waterfront Total | \$ 1,500 \$ 6,200 \$ 800 \$ 1,250 \$ 4,500 \$ 500 \$ 1,000 \$ 1,200 \$ 16,950 | Rent | \$ 1,500 |
| 7/7/24-8/11/24 | Sunday Jazz Series (6) Staff Marketing Bands Restrooms Sunday Jazz Total | \$ 1,000 \$ 500 \$ 5,000 \$ 1,500 \$ 8,000 | | \$ - |
| 8/6/2024 | National Night Out Staff Music / Sound Refreshments Marketing Field Supplies National Night Out Total | \$ 300 \$ 900 \$ 750 \$ 500 \$ 500 \$ 2,950 | | \$ - |
| 10/12/2024 | Cruisin' Suisun Car Show Staff Marketing Permits Entertainment/Sound Restrooms Security Field Supplies Cruisin'/Suisun Car Show Total | \$ 1,000 \$ 500 \$ 500 \$ 2,500 \$ 1,600 \$ 400 \$ 1,500 \$ 8,000 | Rent/Entry Fee | \$ 4,000 |
| 11/2/2024 | Dia de los Muertos Staff Security Marketing Permits Entertainment/Sound Field Supplies Dia de los Muertos Total | \$ 450 \$ 400 \$ 500 \$ 300 \$ 3,000 \$ 1,500 \$ 6,150 | | \$ - |
| 12/7/2024 | Christmas on the Waterfront Staffing OT - PW and PD Field Supplies, tree decorations Permits Sound Entertainment Fireworks Show Rentals Security Restrooms Marketing Christmas on the Waterfront Total | \$ 1,500 \$ 3,000 \$ 4,000 \$ 500 \$ 1,700 \$ 3,000 \$ 5,000 \$ 2,000 \$ 1,500 \$ 2,700 \$ 1,500 \$ 26,400 | Rent | \$ 4,000 |
| 1/2/2025 | Menorah Lighting Staff Marketing Field Supplies OT - PW Menorah Lighting Total | \$ 200 \$ 300 \$ 600 \$ 300 \$ 800 | | \$ - |
| 12/28/2025 | Kwanza Staff Field Supplies Marketing Permits Entertainment Security Kwanza Total | \$ 450 \$ 1,500 \$ 500 \$ 300 \$ 3,000 \$ 400 \$ 6,150 | | \$ - |
| All Events 2024/25 Events Total | | \$ 133,900 | | |
| Fireworks Sales | | | | \$ 75,000 |
| Ticket, Booth, and Concession Sales | | | | \$ 19,500 |
| General Fund Request | | \$ 39,400 | | |



RPM
REGIONAL PUBLISHERS & MARKETING CENTER

Presentation of Community Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024



RPM
REGIONAL PUBLISHERS & MARKETING CENTER

List of Events

- Brew Bash at the Basin
- Suisun City Pride
- 4th of July Celebration
- Dinner & Movies in the Park (6)
- Sunday Jazz Concert Series (6)
- Summer Concert Series (5)
- National Night Out
- Cruisin Suisun Car Show
- Dia de los Muertos Celebration
- Christmas on the Waterfront
- Menorah Lighting
- Kwanzaa Celebration



Fairfield-Suisun
Rotary

BREW BASH LAGERFEST

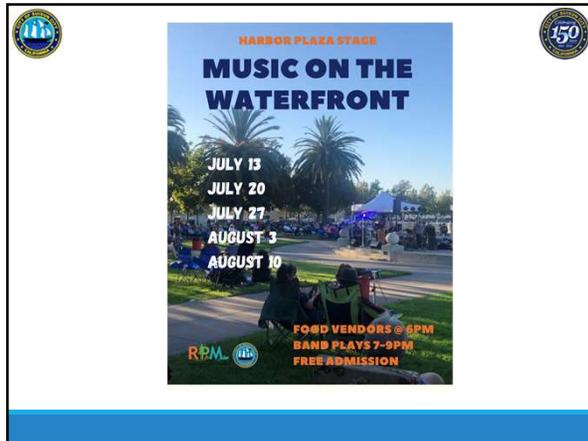
April 27th 2024
12pm-4pm



RPM
DINNER & MOVIES IN THE PARK
LOCATION: HERITAGE PARK
FOOD TRUCK - FREE MOVIE - FUN!
FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024
FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2024
FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024
MOVIES STARTS AT DUSK
SMOKE FREE EVENT, PET FREE EVENT



4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION
Thursday, July 4, 2024
Suisun City Waterfront
FOOD VENDORS, RETAIL VENDORS, & AMUSEMENT RIDES!
COMMUNITY ACTS
11:00AM-2:00PM
Fireworks 9:15PM
Smoke free environment, no open alcohol, no BBQs, no pets permitted in the festival area
RPM



HARBOR PLAZA STAGE
MUSIC ON THE WATERFRONT
JULY 13
JULY 20
JULY 27
AUGUST 3
AUGUST 10
FOOD VENDORS @ 6PM
BAND PLAYS 7-9PM
FREE ADMISSION
RPM



**SUNDAY
JAZZ**
ON THE WATERFRONT
2PM-4PM

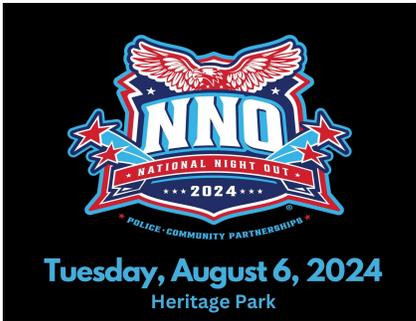
JULY 7, 2024
JULY 14, 2024
JULY 21, 2024
JULY 28, 2024
AUGUST 4, 2024
AUGUST 11, 2024

HARBOR PLAZA
STAGE

RPM

THIS IS A SMOKE, ALCOHOL, AND PET FREE EVENT

150



NNO
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
2024
POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday, August 6, 2024
Heritage Park

150



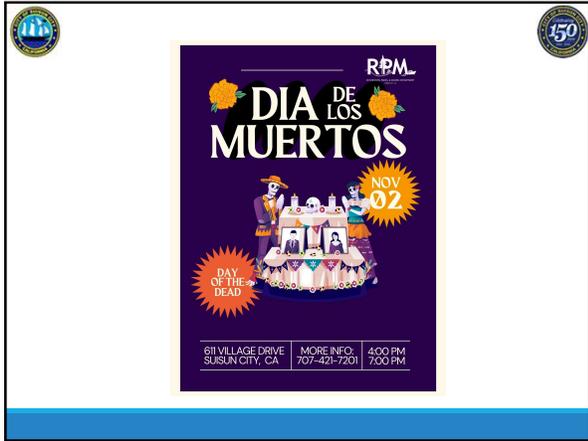
SUISUN CITY RPM PRESENTS
**Cruisin' Suisun
Car Show**

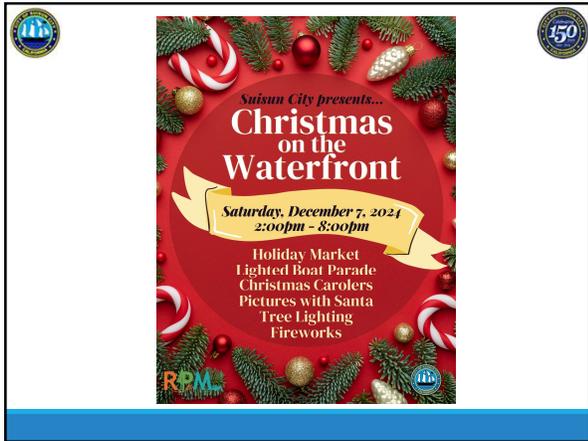
SUISUN CITY WATERFRONT
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024
9:00AM-2:00PM

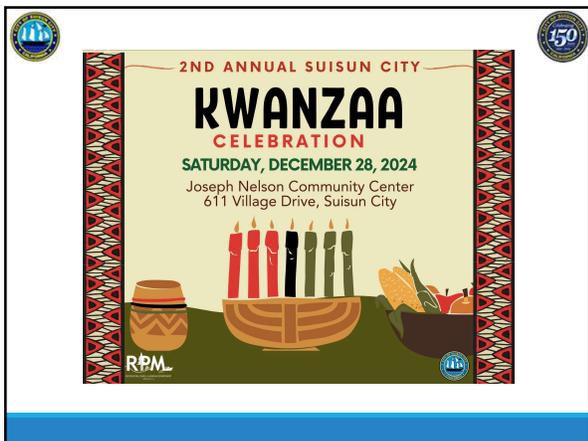
CARS - FOOD - MUSIC - VENDORS

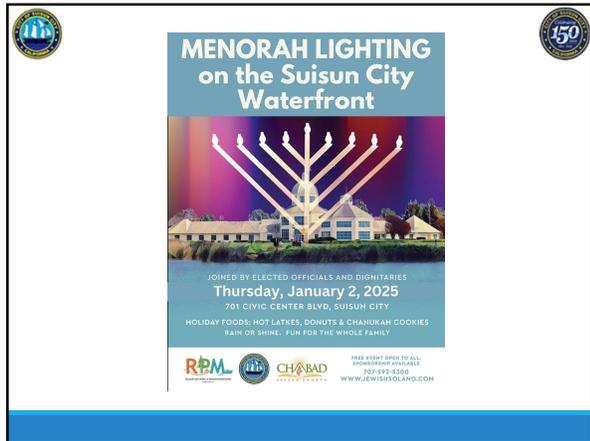
RPM

150









MENORAH LIGHTING
on the Suisun City
Waterfront

JOINED BY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DIGNITARIES
Thursday, January 2, 2025
701 CIVIC CENTER BLVD, SUISUN CITY
HOLIDAY FOODS: HOT LATKES, DONUTS & CHANUKAH COOKIES
RAIN OR SHINE. FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

RPM REGIONAL PHIL & MUSEUM CENTER
CHABAD
FREE EVENT OPEN TO ALL
SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE
925-992-5800
WWW.JEWISHSOLANO.COM



RPM
REGIONAL PHIL & MUSEUM CENTER

Questions



RECREATION COMMISSION
Eddrick Osborne, Chair
Aaron Sencil, Vice Chair
Essex Cook
Lilia Dardon
Jonathan David Faria
John Harter
Donna LeBlanc

RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA, & ARTS
COMMISSION



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SUISUN CITY
RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA, AND ARTS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, February 21, 2024
6:00 PM

Suisun City Council Chambers, 701 Civic Center Blvd., Suisun City, CA 94585

NOTICE

FACE MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHILE IN CITY FACILITIES IF NOT FULLY VACCINATED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A FACE MASK, ONE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU.

THE CITY COUNCIL HAS RESUMED IN-PERSON MEETINGS IN ADDITION TO ZOOM. A LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS ARE AVAILABLE, TO RESERVE A SEAT PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT clerk@suisun.com OR 707 421-7302.

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:

WEBSITE: <https://zoom.us/join>

MEETING ID: 8529 4547 2772

CALL IN PHONE NUMBER: (707) 438-1720

REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT IS AVAILABLE FOR THE RECREATION, PARKS, MARINA, AND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING BY EMAILING CLERK@SUISUN.COM (PRIOR TO 6 PM), VIA WEBSITE, OR ZOOM CALL IN PHONE NUMBER: (707) 421-7302.

*(If attending the meeting via phone press *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute/mute for public comment.)*

ROLL CALL

Chairman Osborne called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

The following Commissioners were present: Osborne, Sencil, Cook, Dardon, Faria, Harter, LeBlanc.

Community Participants: Steve Olry, James Berg, Chuck Kingeter.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATION

(Any items on this agenda that might be a conflict of interest to any Commissioner should be identified at this time.)
None.

REPORTS: (Informational items only.)

None.

PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

(Presentations, Awards, Proclamations, Appointments)

1. Art District Presentation

Recreation, Parks and Marina Department and Deputy City Manager Kris Lofthus presents the idea of creating an Art District area within Suisun City. Lofthus gives a quick background of what an art district is, why an art district would be beneficial to Suisun City, what larger cities in the continental US have art districts, and then what cities within California have dedicated art or cultural districts. As presented, a possible location could be the downtown area between Main Street – starting at the Waterfront Stage – and running through Morgan Street. This item is being brought back to the Commission at the request of the Chair.

Chairman Osborne remarks that this was mentioned during his presentation at City Council a couple months back and was brought up from the Mayor – since the City seems to be turning towards an art concentration, Osborne thought it best to bring it back to the Commission to see what the consensus was.

Commissioner Cook remarks that planning wise, we're ahead of the curve by talking about it. As far as culturalization, revitalization, and tourism appeal and having that conversation with the local businesses needs to happen – Cook is appreciative that it's come back to the Commission.

Commissioner Faria asks if it's going to be themed. Chairman Osborne replies that it's unknown at this point if it will be themed. Faria remarks that if the theme is centered around the nautical aspect would be appreciated.

Commissioner Dardon asked if the art district was a year round endeavor. Chairman Osborne remarks that it would be.

Commissioner Cook remarks that building an identity would be beneficial – it would get the word out about Suisun.

Commissioner Harter asked what it would take to get businesses down to the waterfront area that cater to those types of businesses. Lofthus responds that that's the beginnings of a conversation in regards to the art district – this could be a multi-year progression towards having a district.

Commissioner Faria asked what locations could be available for this proposed district. Osborne remarks that it's part of what's up for discussion. He further clarifies that this could be an up to 5 year process, and would take a lot of public input.

Commissioner Dardon asked if it would be a cost to the city or if it would be revenue. Lofthus responds that it would more be staff and planning costs initially before foot traffic brought more revenue in.

Vice-Chairman Sencil has concerns regarding interest for the arts to keep the district hustling. Sencil compares to other art businesses that have tried to stay in the waterfront area, or the hardships that they've had to get the IArtSuisun event going with local talent.

Chairman Osborne remarks that at one point, there was plans to do an inventory of the artistic aspects within the City. Lofthus responds that taking stock of current public art, business and non-profits that are involved within and outside of Suisun City.

Vice-Chairman Sencil brings up Artmosphere in Walnut Creek to highlight that there are other places, locally such as the Library that have places where you can utilize space to create art. Chairman Osborne adds that there is a similar place in Richmond. Lofthus adds that there are a lot of libraries that have “maker spaces” to be creative, and to use specific equipment, if available, that would otherwise be unattainable.

Commissioner LeBlanc agrees that there needs to be “maker spaces” for people at all levels of financial status, ages in life, etc. to create art. LeBlanc further suggest that, if possible, the Senior Center or the Harbor Theatre would be great spaces to utilize for the creation and possible selling of art.

Commissioner Cook tells the Commission that there are other places that are creating virtual spaces for people to participate in the arts, such as e-gaming, to bring the other various parts of art that are more common and easily accessible, which can produce an idea of spacing to be created. Places like Sacramento have spaces that that are specifically centered around local talent and local business that support the local arts.

Chairman Osborne remarks that he was invited to a public meeting for what is referred to as Hollywood North in Sacramento for a proposal to build a movie studio to train techs, producers and other film centered opportunities, backed by producers in Southern California. The idea was for this meeting was to see the interest and the support that would be focused into the endeavor, but suggests that it's something that can go into the idea of what we want to do for the City's art district.

Commissioner Dardon asked for clarification on the art district location. Chairman Osborne remarks that while it seems to be the best space, it is in its infancy stage and can be moved around.

Commissioner LeBlanc reminded the commission that there is still the 34-acre lot that could potentially be sold to a developer with promises to potentially use some of the space for an arts district.

Commissioner Cook agrees with Commissioner LeBlanc and further remarks that it's the new norm for the standard.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Steve Olry: Olry questions the type of art that would be asked to be installed or implemented and suggests starting with the architectural art and to move from there. Olry further remarks that the town needs to be cleaned up before the arts district becomes a living thing.

Chairman Osborne thanks the Commission for having the conversation and will see if there is consensus to bring it back as an actionable item.

2. Park Projects Update

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Department Director Kris Lofthus informs the Commission that he's working with the legal team regarding the purchase of the mobile stage and using park development funds to do so due to the Quimby Act and further remarks that there needs to be a little more groundwork for the park pavilion idea. Lofthus asks the Commission to pause the updates due to notification of awards of a grant – this award would potentially allow for park updates and may require attention to be temporarily shifted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent calendar items requiring little, or no discussion may be acted upon with one motion.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Recreation, Parks, Marina, and Arts Commission held on January 17, 2024

Commissioner Harter made a motion to accept the Minutes as read. Vice-Chairman Sencil seconds.

AYES: Osborne, Sencil, Cook, Dardon, Faria, Harter, LeBlanc.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Request by citizens to discuss any matter under our jurisdiction other than an item posted on this agenda per California Government Code §54954.3. Comments are limited to no more than 5 minutes unless allowable by the Chair. Speaker cards are available on the table near the entry of the meeting room and should be given to the Clerk. By law, no prolonged discussion or action may be taken on any item raised during the public comment period, although informational answers to questions may be given and matters may be referred for placement on a future agenda.)

Mr. James Berg: Berg initially expresses that he is disappointed that the Commission does not do the pledge of allegiance at the beginning of the meeting. Furthermore, Berg notifies the Commission of the Beautification Committee in Suisun that meets the day after the Commission and asks the Commission for collaboration. Berg's hope is that the Commission can back the Committee on items that need to be brought to Council.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Recommendation: Recommend Tractor Supply Public Art Installation to City Council, Meeting the Requirement of the 1.5 Percent Art Fee.

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Director Kris Lofthus remind the Commission about the previous art work for Tractor Supply – both Council and Commission found issues with the art work, and had asked Tractor Supply to either bring better renderings or redo the art piece. Lofthus reminds the Commission that if they do art work and bring in the remaining monies that satisfy the Art Policy, it becomes a point of the First Amendment and while subjective, should not be infringed on. Lofthus shows the renderings of the proposed mural from Tractor Supply, letting the Commission know that the mural would total \$14,472 and a cash contribution of \$53,028 to the dedicated public art fund to satisfy the 1.5% fee.

Vice-Chairman Sencil asks if this mural would be like the Starbucks mural, or if it would be painted directly on. Lofthus responds that the mural would be painted directly on.

Commissioner Faria asks if there will be lighting on the piece. Lofthus responds that the parking lot lights will be in close proximity to illuminate the piece.

Commissioner Harter asks if there will be information on the mural at the site. Lofthus responds that he can talk to the artist to see if they would like to do something to that effect. Vice-Chairman Sencil suggests doing something easy for the plaque, like a QR code.

General consensus from the Commission is that they like this rendering a lot better than the previously presented artwork.

Commissioner Faria asks who would be required to maintain the mural. Lofthus responds that it would be Tractor Supply's obligation to maintain that art piece. Faria asks what would happen if the original artist would no longer be available. Lofthus responds that they would possibly find someone to touch it up or replace it.

Commissioner Faria made a motion to move forward the proposed mural for Tractor Supply to City Council. Vice-Chairman Sencil seconds.

AYES: Osborne, Sencil, Cook, Dardon, Faria, Harter, LeBlanc.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

5. *Recreation, Parks, Marina and Arts Commission Discussion and Recommendation of Adding a Suisun City Pride Celebration to the List of Community Events.*

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Department Director Kris Lofthus gives the Commissioners a quick background of the Community Events and clarifies that this discussion is to ultimately get the events schedule approved through Council. Lofthus turns the conversation over to Vice-Chairman Sencil.

Vice-Chairman Sencil opens the conversation – Sencil states that this conversation is about basic rights and civil liberties, not about how people feel about the gay community. Sencil gives a quick background on himself and how the community, as a whole, has turned more supportive and how a large number of people from the gay community are a part of the art community. Sencil further states that he hopes that this pride event is a learning opportunity for those who are not understanding and those who cast negativity or doubts about the community, especially for a community that seems to be trending to more tolerance and acceptance. Sencil recognizes that this discussion may be hard, but opens the conversation to the Commission. Lofthus adds that this is brought before the Commission because the community has asked why not, and as a community based department and commission, it's our responsibility to serve the members in the community.

Chairman Osborne remarks that he believes that it will serve to enhance the diversity of the community, and encourage the members to express themselves.

Commissioner Dardon comments that she is not in favor of it, but wants to find out how the event would prevent the 'disgusting' things she's seen in pride parades in places such as San Francisco. Vice-Chairman Sencil responds that without starting a large tangent debate, in other local community pride events, it doesn't typically happen. Dardon responds that she is aware of that, but asks how it would specifically be prevented with this event. Sencil asks for clarification on what, specifically, she would want to be prevented. Dardon provides a scenario of someone attending the event that was dressed inappropriately, with children present. Lofthus interjects that they would need to adhere to all state laws and city ordinances – there is no difference on how they would be dealt with in similarity to dealing with people at the 4th of July event, the Christmas at the Waterfront Event, Music series', etc. who were not adhering to laws or ordinances, and if needed, Police can be brought in to take care of the situation. Sencil adds that at local prides in the area, such issues are typically not there – those issues are typically seen with bigger pride celebrations. Commissioner Dardon remarks that she believes that a person's sexuality is something personal and should be something kept at home and not displayed. She further remarks that her religious practice calls it a sin, and she does not condone it.

Commissioner Harter tells the Commission that despite his outward appearance, his beliefs are vastly different than typically assumed. His child came out at 15 and trans at 18 – he understands the struggle for the gay community. He also remarks that Suisun being one of the few cities in the area that doesn't have a pride event shows how much Suisun has fallen behind the times. Harter also comments about the talk of sin – people eat shrimp, wear polyester, etc., but they're not hated or discriminated against.

Commissioner LeBlanc thinks that everyone should be celebrated, and that having a pride event would be a great thing for this city, even if it only supports the people within the city.

Commissioner Cook asks what, exactly, would be a part of the celebration. Sencil responds that there would not be a parade, but a celebration. In this celebration, it would consist of a gathering of people in the community, gay or not, poets, artistic people, music, performances, etc. The most important part is that there is education and inclusion.

Commissioner Harter also remarks that, from the other various pride events he's been to, there is not much difference between the Polynesian events and pride events. Sencil agrees and says that the only difference he's really aware of is the use of colors at the pride events. He also clarifies that the majority of local pride events are more family based and promote inclusivity and tolerance, and don't typically have people dressed in thongs and bright colors or people running around naked.

Commissioner Cook appreciates the clarification and recognizes that there is a want for a day for people to celebrate who they are, and likens the want to cultural development and education – similarly to the Juneteenth event including the ever-changing need to keep it growing to make it better. Cook continues that instead of walking into the discussion with a tribal need, he's open to the need to show their pride. Lofthus remarks that, in regards to the Juneteenth event, there were several phone calls taken by people in the Rec office that dissuaded the fears of something happening and the initial Juneteenth event, and nothing happened at that event to raise cause or concern, and Juneteenth is now in its third year of planning. Lofthus reminds them that the premise behind the pride celebration is simply a celebration of community.

Chairman Osborne opens the floor for Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Herbert Dardon: Dardon remarks that he does like where the conversation is going with the Commission. He further remarks that he does not believe that pride people are being treated differently, and believes that that is a belief being held on to by the Vice-Chair – Dardon clarifies by saying that from what he sees, everyone is being loved for who they are, and believes that by doing the pride event, the gay community is separating themselves from other people in the community. Dardon continues with the trans topic and remarks that there is so many things going on with the media that are pulling other people into it, and recommends taking everything with caution.

Mr. Chuck Kingeter: Kingeter remarks that there's always going to be someone who can ruin a good thing, but likes how Lofthus notified the Commission of the codification for conduct. Kingeter also remarks that the world isn't going to fall apart by creating an atmosphere of acceptance, and hopes that police will be present to assuage the natural fear that will be present.

Chairman Osborne commends the Commission and the Public for a well done conversation, and appreciates everyone's input.

Commissioner Harter makes a motion to add the Pride Celebration to the Recreation Department's list of Community Events. Vice-Chairman Sencil seconds.

AYES: Osborne, Sencil, Cook, Harter, LeBlanc.

NOES: Dardon, Faria.

ABSENT: None.

6. *Recreation, Parks, Marina and Arts Commission Coordination of Poet Laureate Program*

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Department Director Kris Lofthus gives a quick background on the Poet Laureate program. The item is up for discussion to see if the Commission wants to continue doing the Poet Laureate program. If there is consensus for the project, the Commission can appoint two or three people to design the program to operate it this year, if so wanted.

Commissioner LeBlanc remarks that the program was a good one to have, and agrees that there should be an Ad Hoc created to work out the details, and to hopefully morph it into an annual event.

Commissioner Cook remarks that he thinks that this would be a step into the right direction to getting deeper into an art district.

Commissioner Dardon asks if the Poet Laureate gets paid. Sencil responds with no and remarks that when they did the original Poet Laureate, there wasn't a large interest in it – previous Commissioners had to hunt to get submissions. Lofthus clarifies that a misstep was marketing – it did not get broadcasted, it was not taken to schools, etc.

Vice-Chairman Sencil remarks that Excalibur, the previous winner of the Poet Laureate, has been extremely inspiring and is always ready to do readings or help out.

Chairman Osborne remarks that it seems like there might be consensus to do an Ad Hoc.

Commissioner Harter asks for clarification on what would be required for the Ad Hoc. Osborne clarifies – the Ad Hoc would be responsible for recreating the program, doing the marketing, and the processes or rules that would go into the program. Osborne also recommends that the Ad Hoc reach out to Excalibur to see if he has any ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Chuck Kingeter: Kingeter is excited for the agenda item. Kingeter recommends that the Ad Hoc talk to Susan Brice, the Poet Laureate in Fairfield. He further remarks that the Poet would need good marketing skills, as well as Public Relations skills. He also comments that the Poet Laureate program is not just for the young, the Senior community is active and would be interested in the program.

Chairman Osborne asks if there are any volunteers for an Ad Hoc. Commissioner Cook and Commissioner LeBlanc volunteer.

Chairman Osborne makes a motion that we create a Poet Laureate Ad Hoc and that Commissioner Cook and Commissioner LeBlanc become members of said Ad Hoc. Vice-Chairman Sencil seconds.

AYES: Osborne, Sencil, Cook, Dardon, Faria, Harter, LeBlanc.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

REPORTS: (Informational items only.)

g) Chair Report

Chairman Osborne commends the Commission for their healthy discussions, whether everyone agrees or not.

a) Park Inspection Reports

Chairman Osborne reminds the Commission to get their Inspection Reports in.

f) Commissioner's Report

Commissioner LeBlanc reports that while her assigned parks are soggy, they weathered fine. Furthermore, she's curious about the Montebello Vista Revitalization Park.

Commissioner Dardon remarks that her parks are okay, but Rev. Claybon Lea, Sr. Park still has the tree that needs to be addressed with better staking.

Commissioner Harter asked if it was possible to put a Port-a-Potty in the downtown area – there has been an increase of people asking for bathrooms. Lofthus & Harter will discuss further.

e) Director's Report

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Department Director Kris Lofthus reports that the Prosperity Park plans are 100% and are scheduled to be reviewed by the City Engineer. Once the plans are reviewed and approved, the bid documents will be released and things will hopefully move from there.

d) Montebello Vista Park Revitalization Ad Hoc

Deputy City Manager and Recreation, Parks and Marina Department Director Kris Lofthus reports that the Montebello Vista Revitalization Project will need a public meeting to start the process and gather some direction from the community.

b) Harbor Theatre Report

Chairman Osborne reports that they had the initial Ad Hoc meeting, and that there are currently two Council members involved with the Ad Hoc, with the next calendar meeting scheduled.

c) Art Ad Hoc Report

Vice-Chairman Sencil reports that their next few meetings have been calendared. Sencil further reports that there was issues getting artists for the IArtSuisun event in September until he did a call for artists on Facebook, where several people were very interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Osborne made a motion to conclude the meeting. Commissioner Harter seconded. All in. The February 21, 2024 RPMA Commission Meeting concluded at 7:58 PM