



CITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FROM Sept. 21, 2026
Huntington Beach City Hall

Call to Order at 5:31 PM

Roll Call

- Committee Members: *(Present) Patricia (Patti) Pappas, Julian Douglas, Michael Latham, Valentina Bankhead, Ellen Kuhnert, Yolanda Campos*
- Council: *None*
- Staff Liaison: *Julie Toledo*
- Other Staff: *None*
- Public: *Amory Hanson*
- Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)
 - *Amory Hanson suggested a themed month around Olympic athletes and HB Surfers. Thought it would be a good theme for 2028 as the Olympics will be in LA in 2028. Also discussed a Memorial Day concert with a different music selection.*

Approve minutes from August 17, 2026 meeting (1st by Ellen Kuhnert; 2nd by Julian Douglas)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. **2026 Celebration Calendar Themes**

- 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**

- Review activities for the final few months. Julie provided time capsule update.

3. **Began Drafting 2027 Calendar**

- Julian provided a guide with themed months for 2027. The group discussed and brainstormed the monthly themes.
- The following monthly ideas were brought up for 2027:
 - January: Serving with Courage: Honoring Our Heroes
 - February: HB Takes Flight: Celebrating Aerospace & Innovation
 - March: Hidden HB: The Stories, Places & People That Make Our City
 - April: Central Park, Central to Us
 - May: Sunrise to Sunset – Celebrating Sunset Beach
 - June: From Playgrounds to Paths: Celebrating 79 Parks
 - July: Stars, Stripes & Surf: Celebrating Independence in HB
 - August: Surf City USA: One Wave, One Community, Countless Helping Hands
 - September: Pawsitively HB: Celebrating Our Four-Legged Friends
 - October: Old World Village: Tradition, Taste & Togetherness
 - November: Main Street, Surf City: Where Community Meets the Coast
 - December: Anchored in Community: Celebrating Huntington Harbour

Adjournment – 6:30 PM *The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for Oct. 13, 2026 at 5:30 PM*