



Life Connected.

MINUTES  
SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
CELINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION  
302 W WALNUT ST.  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026  
5:30 PM

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM PRESENT:**

Vice Chair Lisa Whiteside called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**Members Present:**

Chair Chris Baksa  
Vice Chair Lisa Whiteside  
Committee Member Amanda Bowmer  
Committee Member Amanda Webber  
Committee Member David Hogue  
Committee Member Rebecca Lassere

**Members Absent:**

Committee Member Amy Ludwyck

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **OPEN FORUM:**

Open Forum is for information only. If you wish to speak, please sign one of the “Speaker Cards” and present to the Staff Liaison prior to the beginning of the meeting. **Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes.** No action can be taken. No charges and/or complaints will be heard against any elected official or employee of the city that are prohibited by law.

**\*Please note\*** Anyone wishing to furnish copies/handouts regarding their item of interest must provide nine (9) copies and present them to the Staff Liaison for distribution.

Vice Chair Lisa Whiteside opened the Open Forum at 5:32 PM. As no discussion cards were submitted, the Open Forum was closed at 5:33 PM.

IV. **WORKSESSION:**

A. 2025 Events SWOT Analysis Workshop Activity (Shamsy)

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, facilitated a 2025 SWOT analysis workshop, guiding the committee through a structured discussion to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats impacting the City’s special events program. Committee members provided feedback and insights during the activity.

B. Quarterly Events Update (Shamsy)

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, presented updates related to the 2026 calendar of events, including Touch-A-Truck and Celina Cajun Fest, and led committee discussion to gather feedback and recommendations for the upcoming festivals and events.

C. 2026 Movie Night at the Park Workshop Activity (Courson)

Haley Courson, Senior Special Events Coordinator, led the committee through an interactive workshop to select the movies for the 2026 Movie Nights at the Park series.

D. Celina 150th Workshop Activity (Monaco)

Joe Monaco, Director of Marketing and Communications, facilitated feedback and new ideas through a workshop activity for the City's 150th celebration.

E. Suggestions Regarding Future Agenda Items

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, asked the committee for suggestions regarding future agenda items. The committee would like to discuss the upcoming fiscal year budget and Oktoberfest.

F. Set Next Meeting Date

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

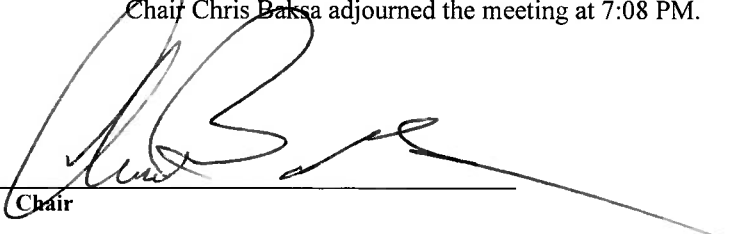
V. **ACTION:**

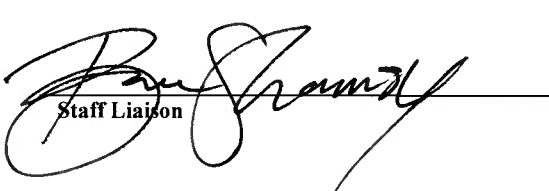
A. Minutes Approval: Special Events Advisory Committee — Regular Meeting — November 5, 2025, 5:30 PM

Upon a motion by Committee Member Rebecca Lassere and a second motion by Committee Member Amanda Webber, the committee voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting - November 5, 2025, 5:30 PM. The motion carried 6-0.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Chris Baksa adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM.

  
Chair

  
Staff Liaison

3.25.26  
Date