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MINUTES
SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
CELINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION
302 W. WALNUT ST.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026
5:30 PM

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

Chair Chris Baksa called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and announced a quorum was present.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Committee Member Amanda Bowmer

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.

Chair Chris Baksa 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. Introduction of New and Current Board Members & Oath of Office

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, led the introduction of new and current board members.

B. Quarterly Events Update (Shamsy)

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, presented updates on Celina Cajun Fest and Splash & Blast. The Committee participated in a discussion regarding potential admission models for Celina Cajun Fest and expressed interest in continuing the conversation at the next quarterly meeting, including exploring both partial and full admission options for the event. The Committee was also asked to provide feedback on creative solutions for the Splash & Blast Kid Zone and expressed interest in exploring these options further following the event. Additional updates were provided on Celina Oktoberfest.

C. Celina 150th Progress Update (Monaco)

Joe Monaco, Director of Marketing & Communications, presented an update on the Celina 150th celebration and facilitated Committee discussion to gather feedback and recommendations.

D. FY27 Budget & Events Workshop Activity (Shamsy)

Bree Shamsy, Special Events Manager, led the Committee through the Fiscal Year 2027 budget and events workshop activity. The Committee received an update on the current fiscal year budget and was asked to identify the top three events to prioritize for Fiscal Year 2027. The top three events ranked by the Committee were Celina Cajun Fest, Christmas on the Square, and Splash & Blast.

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 admission regarding Celina Cajun Fest and potential solutions to address the kid zone for Splash & Blast.

F. Set Next Meeting Date

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

V. **ACTION:**

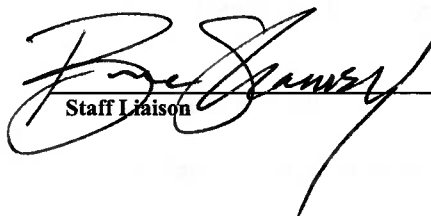
A. Minutes Approval: Special Events Advisory Committee — Regular Meeting — January 14, 2026, 5:30 PM

Upon a motion by Chair Chris Baksa and a second my Committee Member David Hogue, the committee voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting - January 14, 2026, 5:30 PM. The motion carried 6-0.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Chris Baksa adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.

 8/5/2026
Chair


Staff Liaison

8/5/2026
Date