



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
FOURTH OF JULY / FESTIVAL OF BALLOONS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES – APRIL 28, 2021**

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

A Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena Festival of Balloons Committee was called to order by Chair Payne on Monday, April 28, 2021, at 7:05 p.m. The Meeting was held in a virtual setting, with all Committee member, and Council Liaison attending via Zoom.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Chair Joe Payne, Committee Members Rosemary Whitney, Michael Schlaifer, Jane Jackson, Bob McClain, Bill Glazier, Marty Smith, and Joan Shaw

**Absent:** Marlin Perry, Joan Payne, Michael Mc Cully and Jim Anderson

**COUNCIL LIAISONS:** Jon Primuth, Council Member - Absent

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sheila Pautsch, Community Services Director

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS**

1. No email public comments were received in writing or verbally via Zoom

**COMMUNICATIONS**

2. City Council Liaison Communications-No Report
3. Committee Communications-No Report
4. Staff Liaison Communications -No Report

**ACTION/DISCUSSION**

5. Approval of the March 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Committee Member Jackson, second by Committee member Whitney carries 8-0, to approve the minutes of March 24, 2021

**6. Discussion and Recommendation regarding the 2021 Festival of Balloons Events and Fireworks Show**

A motion by Committee Member Jackson, seconded by Committee Member Whitney, carries 8-0, to forego the Festival of Balloons Fireworks Show and Parade for 2021. Discussion was as follows:

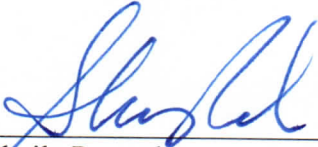
1. A survey was sent to past participants of the parade (about 40). There were twelve responses received. Of these 12 responses, 50% stated they would like to do something, just let us know what you are doing, and we will see if we can be a part. The other 50% stated that they have not met since March 2020 and have no idea what the organization is planning, if anything.
2. The parade consists of almost 80% youth groups. The vaccine is not available yet to those 16 years and under
3. Los Angeles County Health Dept has not released in-person parade and spectator guidelines.
4. There are not enough volunteers to keep spectators socially distant and with masks (if required) on the sidewalks during the parade.
5. Los Angeles County guidelines for outdoor entertainment currently restrict (Orange Tier) to 33% total venue capacity, assigned seating, groups limited to 6 persons made up of three households but if fully vaccinated can have a larger group and show proof of vaccination.
6. Unable to maximize the space at SPHS for firework show limits the revenue from the event, which pays for the fireworks show, parade, and park events. With that said, it runs the risk of depleting the reserve funds that start up the following year's event as half of the firework show that is due in February.
7. The last time the fireworks show was canceled due to new field and track construction, the Committee had to ask the City for start-up funds of \$10,000, and some councilmembers gave some of their discretionary funds to kick-off the event.
8. Two months to plan everything is just not enough time

The Committee would like to see it happen but not at the cost of not ever doing it again due to funding and lack of volunteers. They would like to send out a survey in October/November to ask residents to help re-imagine what 2022 could be. They also want to see if they can get the local nonprofits to be more a part of the event and not just be in the parade and find sponsors for the entire event.

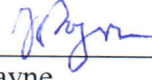
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on September 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Festival of Balloons Committee of South Pasadena at the Meeting held on September 22, 2021.



Sheila Pautsch  
Community Services Director



Joe Payne  
Chair FOB Committee