

CITY OF BELLEVUE
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2022
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Freeburg – Parks
Andy Heider – Parks
Dane Waisanen – Fire
David Sanabria – Police
Rick Logwood – Transportation
Casiano Atienza – Transportation
Weijun Zhu – Transportation
Mike Ogliore – Business Representative Downtown
Laurie Scott – Downtown Resident Representative
Jonathan Rose – King County Metro

OTHERS PRESENT: Imane Elmesbahi, Parks; Carl Lunak – Emergency Management;
Brett Bernsten

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chair Freeburg who presided.

2. COMMUNICATIONS: Written and Oral – None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Laurie Scott. The motion was seconded by Captain Sanabria and the motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the May 12, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted was made by Laurie Scott. The motion was seconded by Captain Sanabria and the motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ Routing and Location Subcommittee Report

Weijun Zhu reported meeting with the Ironman group, some city staff and representatives from National Barricade to address the details for the marathon route. The group has the route

finalized and has turned to addressing the specific details of the traffic control plan. National Barricade anticipates having a first draft of the traffic control plan completed by the end of the month of June.

Weijun Zhu announced leaving employment with the city on July 5. It is yet undecided who will take over as representative to the Special Events Committee.

Chair Freeburg said the Committee would be sorry to see Weijun Zhu leave and voiced appreciation for all of the hard work done on behalf of the Committee.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- ❖ Tabled Events – None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ Applications of Intent – None
- ❖ Event Organizer Presentations – None
- ❖ Post-Event Evaluations – None
- ❖ Alcohol Policy in Parks

Chair Freeburg noted having sent to all Committee members earlier in the day the alcohol policy in parks language. Until 2007, the city allowed alcohol in parks and there has been a push by some event organizers to revisit the issue. The leadership team along with the City Manager and the legal department has worked to develop a pilot program that will allow special events to have alcohol in parks under some pretty strict guidelines. Events will have to be approved by the Special Events Committee, which means only large events will be eligible to have alcohol in parks. The state requires a special occasion license, but in order to have such a license the requesting party must be a non-profit. Accordingly, only non-profits will be allowed to run beer gardens or serve any of the alcohol.

The pilot program will allow alcohol in only three of Bellevue's parks: the Botanical Garden, Crossroads Park and Downtown Park. An application has been developed and will be processed to determine if all of the qualifications are met. The pilot program will run through 2024 and if not successful it will be revisited. If successful, it will be adopted.

Laurie Scott asked if the events are responsible for monitoring who is allowed in beer gardens and making sure people are not overserved. Chair Freeburg said they are and added that there are strict guidelines that come from the state Liquor Control Board.

- ❖ Comments/Follow-up – None

Laurie Scott asked if the Committee would be moving to meeting in person. Chair Freeburg said the July meeting will be virtual, adding that there are still some logistics to be worked out. Hopefully the August meeting will be in person.

7. NEXT MEETING

❖ July 14, 2022

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Freeburg adjourned the meeting at 8:41 a.m.