



**Meeting Minutes of the  
California Exposition & State Fair  
Cultural Advisory Council**

Held

Thursday August 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.  
In the Administration Building Boardroom  
California State Fairgrounds  
1600 Exposition Blvd.  
Sacramento, California 95815

**Council Members Present**

Anita R. Johnson, Chair

Dorian Almaraz, Member  
David Banuelos, Member  
Debora Richardson-Brister, Member  
Delgreta Brown, Member

Denise Carter, Member  
Stephanie Chavez, Member  
Jag Nagendra, Member  
Cat Nou, Member

**Council Members Absent**

Letitia P. Earl, Vice Chair  
Twiana Armstrong-Bryant, Member  
Indi Kallirai, Member  
Chris Mateo, Member  
Richard Pannell, Alternate Member

Jackie Morris-Henderson, Member  
Cha Vang, Member  
Jerry Yamashita, Member  
Danny Vang, Alternate Member

**Board and Staff Present**

Director Sonney Chong, Board Liaison  
Rick Pickering, CEO  
Erica Kendall, Wilson Entertainment  
Sue O'Brien, Recording Secretary

This notice is also available on the Internet at: [www.calexpo.com](http://www.calexpo.com)

## MINUTES

1) **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was call to order at 5:40 p.m. by Chair Johnson.

2) **ROLL CALL** – Role was taken and a quorum was present.

Vice Chair Earl and Council Members Armstrong-Bryant, Mateo, Morris-Henderson, Vang, Yamashita, Pannell and D. Vang were not present and asked to be excused. Council Member Kallirai was not present.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Council Member Banuelos and seconded by Member Richardson-Brister to excuse the absence of Vice Chair Earl and Council Members Armstrong-Bryant, Mateo, Morris-Henderson, Vang, Yamashita, Pannell and D. Vang. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

3) **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & STAFF**

Erica Kendall

4) **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

a) Approval of Council Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2019.

**Motion:**

Councilmember Almaraz made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 9, 2019, and Councilmember Banuelos seconded the motion.

**All in favor, motion carried unanimously.** Chair Johnson abstained.

5) **STAFF UPDATES**

a) Cal Expo Updates

CEO Pickering reported that 2019 was a great fair. The Food Festival and Food Festival Pass was a hit with the Food Festival Pass selling out and Food vendors' up in sells. Had a hot last weekend. Great programing. Out at the Fair went well even with a change of plan with the concert. CAC Parade was wonderful with all of the colorful costumes and great looking cars. Ending the parade at the stage and doing a flash mob with a Mariachi Bands was well received. Mariachi Competition and Gospel Fest were a hit. Military Appreciation Day and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders day had over 20,000 people come out! Esports was spectacular.

Drones were new this year and worked great with fireworks.

b) 2019 California State Fair

1. Report Back:

a. Opening Day

b. AAC-CAC Mixer

Council Member Nagendra reported that he enjoyed the cheese and wine at the mixer. He had an opportunity to meet with some of the State Fair Board Member. He also met with some of the Friends of the Fair who are a cool group of people working with State Fair to improve fair goer's experience.

- c. CAC Parade  
Council Member Chavez reported that the parade was good and Council Member Nou's idea of a progressive parade was wonderful. Ms. Kendall gave a parade de-briefing and encourage the group to step up. Council Member Nou thanked everyone for helping. Council Member Banuelos was a great MC.
- d. CAC Cooking Demonstration  
Council Member Banuelos reported there were 3 chefs, Council Member Nagendra, Council Member Pannell and himself. The ingredients to use was Peaches and Honey. Found out later those two ingredients together are harder than they look to cook. Everyone had a great time. Backline was wonderful, Michael Marks was there doing a fine job. Just a great way to highlight, expose, and present multi-culturism with food.
- e. Walk Along Program  
None
- f. VIP Deck Hosting by CAC  
Council Member Brown reported that everyone seemed to be having a good time. Many were disappointed about TLC cancelling however, the replacement was good. Many negative comments about the food. Not up to usual standards.
- g. CAC Survey Results  
Council Member Nagendra will do the Survey for this year.

## 6) MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- a) Public Comments Matters not on the Agenda.  
Recording Secretary reported about an email received concerning the Selfie Exhibit.
- b) Members Comments not on the Agenda  
Council Member Banuelos suggested that supplementing the cooking demonstration with local young chefs when members can't fill all spots and he and Karen Rodriguez are putting together a local youth Mariachi Band for next year.  
Council Chair Johnson mentioned that Jackie Morris-Henderson sent a letter resigning her position. Chair Johnson and Vice Chair Earl discussed that there are only 2 meetings left for this year and would like to leave her position empty until new appointments are made. Chair Johnson also announced the Council Member Nagendra is running for President of the Project Management Institute Sacramento Valley and asked him how individuals on this Council could help him.  
Council Member Brown shared with the group her exhibits she has had this summer.  
Council Member Carter mentioned her Ray Gay festival at the Yolo County Fair grounds.

## **7) ADJOURNMENT**

The Cultural Advisory Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.