

OPARC Did not have quorum on Sept 17, 2024 to conduct an meeting, therefore, there was no meeting of the committee and no meeting minutes were taken, etc.

However, those in attendance decided to move forward with some initial planning efforts for the Grand Opening event of the Oceano Plaza. Notes of those planning efforts are below.

Attendance: Eleven people total were in attendance at the meeting (one left after the OPARC quorum wasn't met):

OPARC Committee members: Beverly Joyce-Suneson, Charles Varni, Ray Monson, Wanda Monson, Alternate member – Allene Villa. OCSD staff: Peter Brown. Members of the public: Diane Casteneda, Karen White, Christina Casillas. District 4 Supervisor's office rep: James Sofranko.

1. **Dates and Times.** Suggested dates, Christina Casillas – Nov 1, Friday - mariachi theme, adjacent businesses.

- Second suggestion Ray Monson. Same - Dia de las Muertos
- Wanda Monson talking about Folklorico... same theme.
- Nov 2nd.

- Karen White... Vaco FYI trunk or treat. Halloween event Oct 31 Thursday is already being planned so we may not want dates so close to each other.

- James Sacranco, Supervisor Paulding's office is present

- Diane Casteneda Oceano Elementary School "don't overdo it for events" once a month is plenty.

- Charles Varni, there's been discussion about holding the grand opening celebration after the election? Could be better, can avoid conflicts with Nov 5 election.

- Ray Monson – Nov 16 (sat) or 17th – Sunday, could be good days. Peter Brown asked if the group has thoughts/preferences regarding times of day and Sat vs Sunday.

- Diane OES – 16th. Sat is better than Sunday.

- Christina Friday the 15th?

- Some suggested 10am – 2pm midmorning, Charles suggested 1-4pm (other comments, if food is involved, it's good to plan a time when folks come with appetites, i.e. lunch time... better for food/biz)

2. **Planning team participants.** Who will volunteer to comprise the event planning team? Wanda Monson, Diane Casteneda, (Karen White can't but suggested that maybe another Vaco member may want to participate), Beverly Joyce-Suneson, Ray Monson, Allene Villa. (Charles Varni and Christina Casillas volunteered to support the team as needed)

3. **Themes.** Oceans, waves, community gather place, town center, plaza central. Ribbon cutting touched on some of the themes of the plaza, artwork, etched quotations. Charles Varni- something more general? – building community, county programs, tabling, IWMA, music, party, can also launch fundraising for community track and soccer field Peter Brown mentioned a Zocalo concept, town center, gathering place. Karen White- suggested Harvest theme, fall, day of the dead. Beverly - Day of the Dead... if we have no speeches, can it be before the election? Nov 2 day of dead. Celebrate ancestors

4. **Event Program.** Entertainment, music, DJ , Mariachi depending on day, ballet folklorico, Lack of electricity an issue. If a DJ or other, they will need to bring own generator Food – food trucks? Competing w local biz...may not be well received Efrens, La Tapatia, Sylvesters... local impacted businesses were most affected and could be front and center in providing food. (Chachos/deli/Market) also considered. Idea for 100-150 \$5 grant funded vouchers that can be given away to attendees for adjacent business/food.

5. **Peter Brown** to look into OCSD/County 5a Permits/fees, b Insurance, c TCP/road closure, e. electricity wont happen anytime soon. Peter also to contact South county sanitary and or IWMA to provide 3 stream bins.. or 3-6 yard bins Cost. Donate services, provide trash/recycling, empty bins

Christina Casillas - Graffiti removal needed? Sylvesters, if private property then owner is responsible.

d. church parking lot, st. francis church, can that be used?

f. restrooms handrooms, costed out for the event date

g. planning committee to work on set up and clean up. To involved jr high and HS kids for set up and clean up, rotary, optimists, eagles club, elks club

kids activities, art

6. **Budget, Co. Grant** – OCSD approved applying for a District 4 grant for \$2500, but event details and OCSD Board action needed prior to submittal. Earliest is after Oct 9 OCSD Board meeting
Other sources, Bejo, Deltina Coffee, sponsors, banners... ? publicity and promotion

7. **Next OPARC** Meeting date October 1st

James – promoting the event will matter. District 4 newsletter, KSBY, may useful to walk or bike promote.

Grant timeline – 30 days min... turnaround from the County perspective.

If it's a community resource event (tabling, non-profit, county dept/agencies), let me know asap so we can rally participants.

Action items:

Peter Brown to investigate item 5 details a. -c. .

Planning Committee:

- a. Convene follow up meetings – likely Sept 23 and Sept 27, finalize progress by Sept 30 for report to OPARC Oct 1st.
- b. Get quotes for portable potties, DJ's, other event participants for cost estimations.
- c. Do outreach with adjacent businesses to gauge interest
- d. Work on set up clean up volunteers list, willingness, availability 5 g.
- e. Seek Church input on parking 5 d.

James Sofranko – run idea up regarding \$5 vouchers in grant and other issues related to County participation.