



**STAFF REPORT TO COMMUNITY AND LIBRARY SERVICES
COMMISSION (CLSC)**

TO: Chair Yamamoto and Members of the CLS Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Christopher Roke, Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING DATE: July 13, 2026

TOPIC: Recap of recent events: Cultural Festival, Juneteenth, Membership Drive, Movie Night, Foxboro Park Ribbon Cutting

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Community and Library Services Commission receives a report on the status of recent events in the City of Hercules. There is no action for this item tonight.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Hercules has a long-standing tradition of providing a variety of special events to the community. Some events are run by the Parks and Recreation Department, some are a collaboration with other groups like the Library or the Bay Front Chamber, or the Friends of the Hercules Senior Center, etc. Tonight staff is here to talk about several events that happened in June, including but not limited to the Cultural Festival, Juneteenth, Membership Drive, Movie Night, and Foxboro Park Ribbon Cutting.

On Friday, June 5, the Hercules Senior Center hosted its annual Membership Drive in partnership with the Friends of the Hercules Senior Center (FHSC). The event was a great success, bringing together approximately 100 seniors for a fun-filled afternoon of food, good company, and presentations. Over 100+ membership registrations were renewed during the event.

FHSC generously provided lunch, which included Sam's Club pizza, green salad, cookies, and refreshments. Following lunch, attendees enjoyed a variety of presentations and activities. FHSC shared updates on board elections, voting, and introduced the HundredX program.

Special guests included Alison and Natalie from the library, local small business owner Rica, and Seana Field, who provided information on the City of Hercules Housing Survey. Seniors enjoyed learning about the various resources and programs available in the community. The afternoon concluded with exciting raffle prize giveaways. Overall, the event was well received, and attendees expressed how much they enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect with friends, learn about community resources, and celebrate another successful year of membership at the Hercules Senior Center.

On Sunday, June 7, the City of Hercules partnered with the Bay Front Chamber of Commerce to bring the 4th annual Cultural Festival to Hanna Ranch Park. The crowd was estimated to be between 4,500 & 5,000 people throughout the day; with peak crowd levels between 1-5pm. The change of venue worked well for the set up as the park was large enough for vendors to park on the field. However, the consensus was that the lack of visibility did not work in our favor. While the shuttle driver reported that more folks used the shuttle service this year (noting a large percentage were handicapped), the overall crowd was not as big as the past few years. The food and performers represented the diversity of our community. And the event went very smoothly.

On Saturday, June 13, the City of Hercules partnered with the Hercules Library to celebrate Juneteenth. The day began at the Library with Storytime, featuring Mayor Kelley, and Council Member Grimsley. A flag raising ceremony followed, and featured line dancing. The program included an interactive workshop on quilting in the African American community, shown through beautiful quilted tapestry made by the talented Khristel Johnson. The day was full of storytelling, music, culture and community celebration honoring the legacy of Juneteenth.

On Monday, June 15, the City of Hercules and the Hercules Library partnered with the West Contra Costa Unified School District to bring the Free Summer Meals program to Hercules. Youth 18 and under are able to get a free lunch Monday through Friday at various locations around town, and on Fridays at the Library. The schedule is as follows...

On Thursday, June 25, the City of Hercules held a special ribbon cutting event at Foxboro Park to celebrate the re-opening of the new playground and the refurbished basketball court. Over 200 people participated in the event, including 4 Council Members, several City Staff, the Executive Director CPRS (from Sacramento), as well as the Director of Marketing from GameTime and MRC who awarded the City with a grant to make this possible. There were also several members from multiple City Recognized Nonprofit groups, our basketball contractor who brought out many kids to play some hoop, and lot of residents especially from the neighborhood.

On Friday, June 26, movie nights returned to Refugio Valley Park. Initially the movie nights were in question for this summer due to the projects in RVP. But with the lake dredging project being postponed, the movie nights and National Night Out are returning to RVP for the summer.

All in all, June was a very busy month for the City. Staff would like to thank the many great partners we have and continue to work with, as well as the dedicated nonprofit groups who always show up to be a part of these events. But even more so to the community for continuing to support these fine events and programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with receiving this report.

ATTACHMENTS:

None