

**AGENDA**  
**Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors**  
**Community Engagement Committee**  
**Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 9:00 AM**  
**Irving Convention Center**  
**500 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, Texas 75039**  
**First Floor Conference Room**

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NOTE: A possible quorum of the Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors and City Council may be present at this committee meeting.

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1. Citizen Comments on Items Listed on the Agenda
2. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2025
3. Recap of High Spirited Citizen Luncheon – November 14, 2025
4. High Spirited Citizen Program Nominations and Recommendations
5. Discussion Regarding City of Irving Holiday Parade Recap and 2026 Plans
6. Strategic Plan – Committee Updates
  - a. Update on Resident Sentiment Survey
7. City Council Report
8. Committee Chair Report and Staff Comments
9. Next Meeting – April 14

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted on the Kiosk at the City Hall of the City of Irving, Texas, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and said Notice was posted by the following date and time:

\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ and remained so posted at least 3 business days before said meeting convened.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk, City Secretary's Office

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This meeting can be adjourned and reconvened, if necessary, the following regular business day.

Any item on this posted agenda could be discussed in executive session as long as it is within one of the permitted categories under sections 551.071 through 551.076 and section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code.

A member of the public may address the governing body regarding an item on the agenda either before or during the body's consideration of the item, upon being recognized by the presiding officer or the consent of the body.

This facility is physically accessible and parking spaces for the disabled are available. Accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for accommodations must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Contact the City Secretary's Office at 972-721-2493 or Relay Texas at 7-1-1 or 1-800-735-2988.

## **MINUTES – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **IRVING CONVENTION CENTER Mustang Boardroom Tuesday, October 14, 2025**

Those in attendance: Committee Chair David Cole, Board Chair Richard Stewart, Jr., Bob Bourgeois – Committee; Carol Boyer, Anabel Espinoza, Maura Gast, Susan Rose, and Monty White – ICVB Staff.

Committee Chair David Cole called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Cole asked for any citizen comments and there were none.

#### **APPROVING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Consensus was reached to approve August 25 and September 17, 2025 minutes.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN – COMMITTEE UPDATES**

##### **HIGH SPIRITED CITIZEN LUNCHEON – NOVEMBER 4, 2025**

- Assistant Executive Director Marketing and Communications Monty White noted the electronic invitations will be sent tomorrow, October 15. Staff is currently preparing biographies, the program booklet, event script and is coordinating with local talent for celebrity emcee, with a preference for a representative from Fox 4 News, since they are building their new studio here in Irving.
- Changes to the reception format this year include passed appetizers and sparkling water, along with live music during the reception.
- Responses to the invitation are due October 31.

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

No report.

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Board Chair Richard Stewart requested that in future Committee minutes include the names of Committee members who are absent, for all Committees.

#### **Executive Director Maura Gast:**

- The City's holiday parade and tree lighting will take place on Saturday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m. The ICVB / High Spirited Citizens group will participate in the parade with two horse-drawn carriages. For future years, staff will explore the use of a flatbed trailer to be pulled by truck to enhance safety of our participants.
- The parade invitations will be sent during the week of the High Spirited Luncheon. A sign-up sheet for anyone wanting to participate in the parade will be available at the Luncheon.
- Received over 1,000 survey responses and 958 coming from Irving. The results reflect a good representation across age groups. A draft summary of the survey outcomes should be available for upcoming meetings.

- Photographs from Board members participating in the Oktoberfest 5K, and the Main Street Reimagined event were shared with the Committee. Gast noted that Main Street Reimagined included approximately a dozen vendor tents, with the Arts and Culture Department hosting photo opportunity spaces. Friday night featured live music and was well attended.
- The next Committee meeting date will be communicated after Committee appointments have been made. Stewart asked that the Committee sign-up sheet be available at the October and November Board meetings.
- Irving 360 program is being hosted at the Irving Convention Center tonight. Presentations will be given by Gast and the City's Economic Development Department. Gast described the program as a valuable introduction to the City and its operations.
- Stewart added that Committee attendance concerns should be addressed by Committee Chairs engaging directly with members who are not actively participating. It was noted that Board member Cambria Jones is out on maternity leave but will continue to participate as able.

The Committee reviewed upcoming Board and Council members whose terms will be concluded in the upcoming years:

2025 – Herb Gears, Kyle Taylor

2026 – Yasir Arafat, Richard Stewart, Jr., and Mayor Stopfer

2027 – Colvin Gibson, Sam Reed, and Councilman Al Zapanta

2028 – Michael Basoco

With no further discussion, Cole adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Allen Gast, FCDME  
Executive Director

**CITY OF IRVING/IRVING CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU HIGH SPIRITED CITIZEN AWARD  
NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY**

Name: John Barbosa  
 Address: 2110 Marvel  
 City: Irving State: TX Zip: 75060  
 Phone: 972.896.1485 Email: ?unk@this time

Please list nominee's civic affiliations in Irving. In addition, list major volunteer accomplishments within these affiliations and date(s) of activity. Do not include any paid positions as the award recognizes an individual's volunteer accomplishments.

CIVIC AFFILIATION	VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	DATE(S)
Choir member	Irving Silvertones	3 yrs
Board member	Irving Heritage Society	4 yrs
Contributor/ Resident member	South Irving Task Force Entertainment Series of Irving	+ years 2 yrs

Please list nominee's honors and awards as a volunteer:

- President of the Irving Silvertones Choir
- → (a community of residents discussing city highlights)
- Saturday morning breakfast attendee @ Good Day Cafe
- Member of Oakview Baptist Church
- Graduate of Nimitz High School

Additional information:

- \* Lifelong Resident of Irving, TX \*
- Outside his part/full-time employment with the City's Parks Dept, John finds time to go out of his way to support, uplift, and encourage others in the community. He makes impactful contributions with his singing.

Number of years nominee has resided in Irving: voice and magnificent presence.

Nominated by: Annette French Date: Oct. 27, 2025

Email: french.annette@gmail.com Phone: 214.676.4883

Return to: Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau  
 c/o Monty White  
 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd.  
 Irving, TX 75039  
 mwhite@irvingtexas.com

Nominators are encouraged to be as thorough as possible. If there is additional information you would like to submit for consideration that doesn't fit within the form above, please attach additional page(s) with this form.

**CITY OF IRVING/IRVING CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU HIGH SPIRITED CITIZEN AWARD  
NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY**

Name: Benedict Parks  
 Address: 1911 William Brewster  
 City: Irving State: TX Zip: 75061  
 Phone: 214. 868. 8426 Email: benedictparks6@gmail.com

Please list nominee's civic affiliations in Irving. In addition, list major volunteer accomplishments within these affiliations and date(s) of activity. Do not include any paid positions as the award recognizes an individual's volunteer accomplishments.

CIVIC AFFILIATION	VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	DATE(S)
Treasurer	Irving Heritage Society	years
Boardmember	Firefighters Commission	Just started 202
Boardmember	Irving Democratic Club	
Supporter	Irving League of Women Voters	years
Member/Resident	South Irving Task Force	years
President	Irving Democrats	
Regular Attendee	Saturday morning Breakfast Club	

Please list nominee's honors and awards as a volunteer @ Good Day Cafe.

His mother Eileen Parks can give actual awards of contributions made to the City of Irving, when he was still in school. 469.369.3203  
 I met Benedict, since moving into Irving, around 2015 at one of the social civic organizations. Benedict stands out with his knowledge of facts and historical points. He has a quiet demeanor, but impactful and insightful perspective, which is

**Additional information:**

- Aside from his full-time job at Dallas County, Benedict admin
- has carved out-time and effort to help his neighbors and friends around Irving. A graduate of MacArthur High, he is dedicated to seeing others and using his financial oversight talent

Number of years nominee has resided in Irving: Lifelong Resident for the good of

Nominated by: Annette French Date: Oct. 27. 2025 this  
 Email: french.annette@gmail.com Phone: 214. 676. 4883 Communi

Return to: Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau  
 c/o Monty White  
 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd.  
 Irving, TX 75039  
 mwhite@irvingtexas.com

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**CITY OF IRVING/IRVING CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU HIGH SPIRITED CITIZEN AWARD  
NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY**

**Name:** Diana Pfaff  
**Address:** Steeple Chase  
**City:** Irving **State:** TX **Zip:** 75062  
**Phone:** 214 236-8885 **Email:** Pfaff\_diana@yahoo.com

Please list nominee's civic affiliations in Irving. In addition, list major **volunteer** accomplishments within these affiliations and date(s) of activity. Do not include any paid positions as the award recognizes an individual's volunteer accomplishments.

CIVIC AFFILIATION	VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	DATE(S)
BSW Foundation Board	Chairman	
BSW Hospital Board	Board member	
Irving Schools Foundation	Board and chair	
DFW Humane Society	Chair	
Lyric Stage	Volunteer	
Texasfest	Event Chair	

**Please list nominee's honors and awards as a volunteer:**

- ISF Legacy Award 2021
- IHF Pat Carnell Service Award 2018
- Irving. ISD Outstanding Graduate
- DFW Humane Society Presidents Award
- Irving Chamber Flor/Jennings Smith Community Service Award

**Additional information:**

- \*see notes attached
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Number of years nominee has resided in Irving: Life time

Nominated by: Clem Lear Date: July 21,2025

Email: Clemlear@swbell.net Phone: 214 686 2337

Return to: Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau  
c/o Monty White  
500 W. Las Colinas Blvd.  
Irving, TX 75039  
mwhite@irvingtexas.com

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Diana Pfaff

**Additional Information:**

Diana has been an active member of the Irving community for over 30 years. She helps make Irving rock.

She has served on just about every organization in the city giving generously of her time and resources.

The Byron Nelson would have not been the same without her.

I first met Diana in March 1998 when she presented an award to the Rising Star -Individual 21-35 years old - at the Hollywood Premier Night benefiting the Cancer Society. She was a rising star then too.

-Clem Lear

**CITY OF IRVING/IRVING CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU HIGH SPIRITED CITIZEN AWARD  
NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY**

**Name:** Diana Pfaff  
**Address:** 4407 St. Andrews Blvd.  
**City:** Irving **State:** TX **Zip:** 75038  
**Phone:** 214-236-8885 **Email:** dianapfaff1903@gmail.com

Please list nominee's civic affiliations in Irving. In addition, list major **volunteer** accomplishments within these affiliations and date(s) of activity. Do not include any paid positions as the award recognizes an individual's volunteer accomplishments.

CIVIC AFFILIATION	VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	DATE(S)
DFW Humane Society	Board Member/Board Chair	2012-
Irving Healthcare Foundation	Board Member/Board Chair	2013-2020
Irving Schools Foundation	Board Member/Board Chair	2003-2020
Baylor Scott & White Irving	Board Member	2021-

**Please list nominee's honors and awards as a volunteer:**

- Legacy Award, Irving Schools Foundation
- BS&W Health Foundation Pat Carnell Service Award
- DFW Humane Society President's Award
- Irving Schools Foundation Fellow
- GILCC Flor & Jennings Smith Community Service Award

**Additional information:**

- Diana has worked for ICVB for 30 years and represented our city well
- Attended Irving ISD schools; graduated from MacArthur High School
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Number of years nominee has resided in Irving: 50+

Nominated by: Karen Berlin Cooperstein Date: 7/22/2025

Email: kbcooperstein@gmail.com Phone: 972-953-8314

Return to: Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau  
c/o Monty White  
500 W. Las Colinas Blvd.  
Irving, TX 75039  
mwhite@irvingtexas.com

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