



AGENDA

Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation

Thursday, January 8, 2026, 6:00 PM
Calistoga Fairgrounds | Tucker Building
2025 Grant Street
Calistoga, CA 94515

Board Members

Molly Towey, Chair
Glenn Ratterree, Vice Chair
Alfonso Alfaro, Co Vice Chair
Emily Panovich-Bucchianeri, Secretary
Open, Treasurer
Alexis Shoemate, Media
Julius Baron, Assistant Media
Wyatt Farris, Member-at-Large
Open, Member-at-Large

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation meets as specified in its adopted annual calendar on the second Thursday of every month. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

Information Available: Agendas can be located at www.CalistogaFairgroundsFoundation.com

Governing Law: The Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation conducts all meetings in accordance with the "Ralph M. Brown Act" (California Government Code Sections 54950, et seq.).

How to Participate Comments: In accordance with the California Government Code Section 54954.3, members of the public are permitted to address the Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation during the designated public comment period and in relation to any agenda item under consideration. Each participant has the option to provide their name for the record prior to speaking and will be allotted three (3) minutes for their remarks. The Chair reserves the right to limit public comments should they become irrelevant to the agenda item or if they are repetitive of previous statements. Furthermore, the Chair is responsible for maintaining order and decorum throughout the meeting.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** (Chair – tap gavel, verbally call meeting to order)
- 2. ROLL CALL** (Chair – ask Secretary to take a roll call of Board Members present, note absences)
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Open the floor to public comments not on the agenda, not Q&A. Thank them for their comment. Ok, to Stop comments on agenda items & ask them to comment during that item's time)

An opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board on topics of interest that are not included on the agenda. Individuals wishing to speak must state their name and address and are requested to limit their comments to three minutes. In accordance with the restrictions set forth by the Brown Act, the Board is unable to engage in substantive discussions or take action on issues that are not outlined in the agenda.

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (Chair – If there are no additions or changes to the minutes, May I get a motion to approve the minutes, 2nd, All those in favor, oppose; pass or failed)

The official vote by the Board to accept or amend the minutes of previous meetings.

- 4.1. DATE**, Minutes (See attached)

5. OLD BUSINESS

- 4.2 Emily Buccianeri accepted the lead for the Blue Ribbon Ceremony, May 22, 2026. Kerri Abreu, and Christy Fitzpatrick-Webb volunteered to help
- 4.3 We discussed the meeting with Pat Merchant, Tim Reilly and Lana Richardson. Everyone expressed their disappointment that the meeting occurred-going forward we will just invite anyone who is interested, in our ideas and focus, will just be invited to our monthly meetings.
- 4.4 Kerri Abreu expressed the need to create a separate identity from FAC, create a sponsorship letter, and tangle projects that people can directly donate to-such as 'adopt a tree', tables that can have the plaques on them. Kerri Abreu also voiced her caution about a general fund.
- 4.5 Cindy Yant asked what Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation mission statement is, Cindy Yant asked about putting flyers to the community and asking for donations.
- 4.6 • Alexis's notes on the meeting:
 - 11/13/25: Overview notes from a conversation between Molly Towey, Alexis Shoemate, Pat Merchant, Lana Richardson, and Tim Reilly
 - Discussion on the importance of maintaining community involvement in the future, and that we hope the City Council will continue to foster an environment that seeks community input. Not just now, but in the many years as we advance.
 - Discussion on the disappointment in how the survey was sent out with limited public awareness, and how people like Alexis mistook it for recycling. Between our various conversations with other community members, it sounds like we all had contacts in the community that either never received the postcard or didn't know about it coming in the mail.
 - FAC terms. Interest in seeing if the Council might rethink the FAC term and consider it to be more like our other committees, which have a two-year commitment.
 - How can we get more community representation at the FAC meetings?
 - Explained that CFF is not part of the old Friends of Napa County group to clear up some misperceptions.
 - Molly and Alexis invited Pat Merchant, Tim Reilly, and Lana Richardson (and their contacts) to attend future CFF meetings, and we provided them with our meeting schedule through 2026.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Items for discussion or decision by the Board. During discussion, Board members may ask staff questions, and public comment time is opened/closed.

- 6.1. • Wyatt Farris asks to establish term lengths for positions starting in January by amending the by laws
- 6.2. • Molly Towey makes motion to revisit later
- 6.3. • Sheli Wright urges board to make a motion now, so it can be on the next agenda in time for board elections and suggests ending the terms for Chair, Treasurer, Member at Large, Assistant Co-Media Chair, and Co-Vice Chair at the end of 2025, and Vice-Chair, Secretary, Media Chair, and other Member

at Large position at the end of 2026.

- 6.4. • Emily Panovich-Bucchianeri makes a motion to establish the terms lengths as Sheli suggested
- 6.5. • Wyatt Farris seconded
- 6.6. • Approved
- 6.7. • Cindy Yant mentions James Benjamin needs to be taken off the bank account after he resigns as Treasurer
- 6.8. • James Benjamin says we need our own P.O. Box
- 6.9. • Alfonso Peña says our phone should have an account in our organization's own name too
- 6.10. • Alfonso motioned to separate the phone account and P.O. Box from any one officer's name and instead use the organization's name: Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS (Read Below)

*This is a time when Board members and subcommittees may present reports on items of general interest or the status of Board projects. Brief questions for clarification may be asked and answered, and the Board may request that items be added to a future agenda, it is traditional that this is a majority of members wanting something added. The Brown Act restricts any further discussion or action by the Board. Which means you can't discuss or advocate for items here. Each Board member can be called on by you, or you can say **does any Board Member have anything to report**. If a member wants something on agenda, you can say, can I get a consensus or take a vote. This is only Board members and not an open item.*

ANNOUNCE – “The next regular meeting of the Calistoga Fairgrounds Foundation will be held on February 12, 2026, in the Tucker Room (2025 Grant Street, St. Helena Golf Course Room, Calistoga Fairgrounds. 6:00 PM.”

This meeting is adjourned at __:__ PM