

7/6/2021

Item # 8-C

## Nora Pimentel

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**From:** Allen Loomis <a.loomis958@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 12:46 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Santa Clara Parade of Champions

Dear Great City of Santa Clara,

I have had the pleasure of working with Ana Vargas Smith, Karen Ardizzone, Mary Grizzle, and the rest of the amazing SCPOC board for the past two years. My name is Allen Loomis, and I am a recent highschool graduate who was able to walk across the field despite the pandemic.

The Parade of Champions was a turning point in my life. In highschool I started as a shyer, timid teen, waiting to join clubs until my sophomore year. It was through one of these clubs that I later led that club's efforts to aid the cause. I went from being afraid to make a phone call to chatting it up with people who lived along the parade route and needed to be given notice of road closures. I went from spending my Saturdays on the couch to handing out flyers or running a booth at the art and wine festival. I went from organizing my desk to organizing student volunteers at a city-wide parade!

Even in the pandemic, many great Wilcox Highschool students and I learned about social media marketing to help the SCPOC. We formatted a posting schedule and Aubri Lee even did interviews with small businesses. The pandemic didn't stop the parade from giving back to the community, nor did it stop the parade from giving students meaningful experience.

I will close with this: I wrote many of my college essays about my work with the SCPOC, and specifically about the smiles I saw. Not just of a large crowd on parade day, but of a father and his son at the SCPOC photo booth in the Art and Wine festival(2019). When you see a smile that pure, you let go of any differences you may have and celebrate how you both are a part of a community. I hope the city finds the means to allow the SCPOC to continue making smiles and celebrating the community.

Thank you for your time and concern.

Sincerely,  
Allen Loomis

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**Nora Pimentel**

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**From:** Patti Allmon <p.allmon@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 5, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** Public Comment; Patti Allmon  
**Subject:** Parade of Champions

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Thank you for considering funding the 2021 Santa Clara Parade of Champions. The 2019 Parade as you know was a great success as well as the 2020 Virtual Parade. Everyone I meet who attended the Parade express their excitement and long for the next parade. There is nothing like a Parade to bring this great diversified community together to celebrate life, front line workers, talent, and all the hometown heroes. This years parade will be an especially important event with everything that has gone on this past year. We need to come together and be reminded that life is good and we are here for each other.

Thank you for your support.

Patti Allmon

Sent from my iPhone  
Patti Allmon  
Coldwell Banker  
CA.BRE# 01337313  
408-828-0078

**POST MEETING MATERIAL**

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Item # 8.C

## Nora Pimentel

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**From:** Karen Ardizzone <kardizzone@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 1:08 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Cc:** kardizzone@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Santa Clara Parade of Champions submission for 7/6 mtg.

As a resident of Santa Clara for 71 years, I have seen many happenings in our City. My Dad and Grandfather owned a business on the original Franklin Street and had to move to a new location due to Urban Renewal. It affected my family and so when I had the opportunity to become involved, it seemed a natural fit that bringing back Santa Clara Parade of Champions would be a great community builder. Every year we would go to the parade and participate in all of the cultural events and activities for a whole week leading up to the parade.

It brought so many smiles in 2019 and it brought goodwill throughout the whole city and recognition at the County and State levels.

It is a positive event. The team worked very hard to make this a success in 2019 and also the virtual parade in 2020. I feel it would be a huge disappointment if the Council does not vote to support the Parade in 2021, when we have so much to celebrate. Let's bring the smiles back to the street and show our thanks to all the hometown heroes. We want to celebrate them. Thank you.

## POST MEETING MATERIAL

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**Nora Pimentel**

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**From:** Teresa Sulcer <teresa.sulcer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 2:07 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Funding for 2021 Parade of Champions

Dear Council -

I am writing to you on behalf of the Santa Clara Parade of Champions. The Parade is a collaborative and inclusive event that welcomes participation from all groups, organizations and businesses in the City. It gives all participants the opportunity to highlight their work and activities and helps build connections within the City. I believe that community service, collaboration and connection are the foundations upon which all successful communities and businesses are built and the Parade of Champions is one of the few events in the City that provides this opportunity for everyone who lives and works here. As we emerge from the days of enforced isolation it is more important than ever to start to reconnect, to collaborate and to work together for a stronger community. Funding the Parade will be one step in this process.

Thank you all for your consideration and I look forward to seeing you at the 2021 Parade of Champions.

Teresa Sulcer  
Santa Clara Resident  
Cultural Commission, Commissioner

**POST MEETING MATERIAL**

07-06-21

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RTC 21-926

## Melissa Meslo

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**From:** Public Comment  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 9:08 PM  
**To:** Melissa Meslo  
**Subject:** FW: Support for 2021 SCPOC

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**From:** Nancy Biagini <nancy.biagini@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:40 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for 2021 SCPOC

Honorable Mayor & City Council,  
I was born and raised in Santa Clara, still here almost 70 years later.

I have fond memories of our Parade of Champions and all the work my relatives engaged in to make it a reality. We shared the trials and tribulations of putting on such a huge affair, surpassed only by the fun and excitement of the event itself. It was a time of coming together, cheering our local champions and just enjoying our community.

To call it a community builder is an understatement. It was what made Santa Clara unique in the South Bay, a community with a small town feel in the middle of an expanding area.

Two years ago, the new SCPOC brought it back. I'll never forget the look on participant faces - either remembering what was and thrilled to see it return or enjoying it for the first time.

We've endured a tough time these past several months. With the Council's support, we can reverse that with the 2021 Parade of Champions. Let's cheer our heroes, AND EACH OTHER, in a community wide live (hopefully) celebration. It may well be the only one of its kind this year. I urge your financial support.

Thank you so much for your consideration and I hope too see you all on October 9, 2021,  
Nancy Biagini

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Nancy Biagini

07-06-21

ITEM 8.C  
RTC 21-924

## Melissa Meslo

**From:** Public Comment  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 9:08 PM  
**To:** Melissa Meslo  
**Subject:** FW: Support our Parade of Champions!

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**From:** Skip Pearson <pearsonrealty siliconvalley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:00 PM  
**To:** Ana <amvargas@yahoo.com>; Public Comment <PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov>  
**Subject:** Support our Parade of Champions!

I am Skip Pearson and wanted to stay that 90 years ago, Gertrude Stein said of Oakland "there's no there there. For almost 60 years the same could be said of Santa Clara. All great American towns have an annual parade for its citizens to celebrate local heroes. 12,000 people participated in the rebirth of the Parade of Champions 2 years ago. As Downtown is resurrected, let's make sure that the Parade of Champions continues to demonstrate that there is a there there!

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RTC 21-926

## **Melissa Meslo**

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**From:** Public Comment  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 9:06 PM  
**To:** Melissa Meslo  
**Subject:** FW: Parade of Champions

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**From:** aratermann <aratermann@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:15 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov>  
**Subject:** Parade of Champions

I wish I could attend tonight's meeting. Santa Clara citizens have endured and prevailed a horrific pandemic. The Parade of Champions is a chance to celebrate our hero's, from the nurses and doctors, the public safety and the everyday citizen who wore thier mask, quarantined and supported our business during the difficult times. It is time to celebrate our hero's and ourselves. Please let the Parade of Champions shine a light on all the hero's in our community.

Thank you  
Andy Ratermann

Sent from my Galaxy

07-06-21

ITEM 8.C  
RTC 21-926

## Melissa Meslo

**From:** Public Comment  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 9:05 PM  
**To:** Melissa Meslo  
**Subject:** FW: Santa Clara Parade of Champions

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**From:** Taylor Amarante <taylor.amarante@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:53 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov>; ana Vargas-Smith <Avsmith2014@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Santa Clara Parade of Champions

Council Members & fellow citizens of Santa Clara,

I'm writing this letter today in support of the Santa Clara Parade of Champions, a very special, memorable & unifying yearly event that has played a major role in bringing Santa Clara together for a very long time. Many cities, like ours, continue to grow bigger and at times can feel less 'recognizable' - but it's yearly events like this parade that makes our town feel small again... or at least, have the close knit feel of a small town. This parade is special because it introduces us to our neighbors, our businesses, our schools, our ethnic groups, our athletes, front line workers, and heroes... the Parade of Champions shows you exactly what kind of people make up this great city. You may not see them every day, but they're out there and on this day in particular, they inspire all of us. From the hardworking people who organize it, to those rewarded with marching in it and all the way down to the little girl on the corner of Monroe & Benton watching the marching bands and thinking "one day I'll learn to play the clarinet and I'll march too". It's a special day.

As someone who marched in the parade with his PAL soccer team as a kid and now, 30 years later, has the honor of serving as parade emcee, I can tell you first hand that participating in this parade gives me immense pride for my city, a pride I reflect on & try hard to channel as I announce each group or individual that marches by on parade day. The feeling I get hasn't changed.

After the very challenging 16+ months that we all just experienced, it seems like a safely organized, outdoor event like this one would make for the perfect prescription.

Our city is about every last person... and with this event, there truly is something for each one of them.

Keep going, keep supporting, keep funding. Our community thanks you for it.

**POST MEETING MATERIAL**