



# George W. Patterson House Advisory Board Agenda and Report

## General Order of Business

1. Preliminary
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Salute to the Flag
  - C. Roll Call
2. Consent Calendar
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Communications
5. Staff Presentations/Ceremonial Items
6. Action Items
7. Board Referrals
8. Board and Staff Communications
9. Adjournment

## Order of Discussion

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by George W. Patterson House Advisory Board (Patterson House Advisory Board) questions or inquiries. The applicant, or their authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Patterson House Advisory Board and action taken.

## Consent Calendar

Items on the Consent Calendar (printed on separate sheet) are considered to be routine by the Patterson House Advisory Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board Member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

## Addressing the Patterson House Advisory Board

Any person may speak on any item under discussion by the Patterson House Advisory Board after receiving recognition by the Chair. Speaker cards will be available prior to and during the meeting. To address the Board, a card must be submitted to Staff indicating name, address, and the number of the item upon which a person wishes to speak. Speakers are required to line up to conserve time between speakers. When addressing the Patterson House Advisory Board, please, state your name and address. In order to ensure all persons have the opportunity to speak, a time limit may be set by the Chair for each speaker. In the interest of time, please limit your comments to new material; do not repeat what a prior speaker has said.

## Public Communications

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under the Oral Communications section. Please be aware provisions of California Government Code Section 54954.2(b) prohibit the Patterson House Advisory Board from taking any immediate action on an item which does not appear on the agenda, unless it meets stringent requirements. The Chair may limit the length of your presentation.

## Assistance

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting the Community Services Department at (510) 791-4196.

## Information

For Information on current agenda items please contact the Community Services Department at (510) 791-4196.

Copies of the Agenda and Report are available at the Patterson House office or at the Community Services Department, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B, and are available at each Board meeting. In addition, complete agenda packets will be available for review at the Board meeting or at the Community Services Department office three days prior to Board meetings.

Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda and Report may be referred to:

**Rena Kiehn, Recreation Supervisor II  
Community Services Department  
3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B  
Fremont, California 94538**

**Telephone: (510) 791 4196      [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov)**

Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.

### **Patterson House Advisory Board**

Laura Calvillo (Citizen at Large)  
Christopher Thomas (Citizen at Large)  
Eileen Juan (Citizen at Large)  
Patricia Lacy (Wash. Township)  
Al Minard (Mission Peak Heritage)

### **Department Staff**

Suzanne Wolf, Community Services Director  
Kim Beranek, Community Services Deputy Director  
Irene Jordahl, Recreation Superintendent I  
Rena Kiehn, Supervisor II

Recreation Commission Rep. – Elissa Winters

EBRPD Rep. – Sonja Gomez  
(East Bay Regional Park District)

2<sup>nd</sup> Rep. of Wash. Township - vacant  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rep. of Mission Peak Heritage- vacant

**GEORGE W. PATTERSON HOUSE  
ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Meeting Location: East Bay Regional Park District Office, Ardenwood Historic Farm  
Wednesday, April 12, 2023                      7:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE: The Patterson House will be open and available for review between 5:30 – 6:30 pm. You are welcome to park near the house to review it. It will be locked at 6:30 pm. If you haven't been to the house before, please let me know of your attendance – my email is [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov) .

Please park near the EBRPD office after 6:30 pm as the wooden single rail gate that is past the EBRPD office will get closed at that time (goats/sheep on the left, fields on the right).

The Main Gate off Ardenwood Blvd will remain open throughout the end of the meeting. The small entry gate / Arden Station and double wooden gate near the tank house will be closed after 5:00 pm.

**1.0 PRELIMINARY**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Salute to the Flag
- C. Roll Call

**2.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

**3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**4.0 PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**5.0 STAFF PRESENTATIONS / CEREMONIAL ITEMS**

**5.1 East Bay Regional Park District Report**

**Background:** The Ardenwood Farm Supervising Naturalist updates the Patterson House Advisory Board with past and upcoming activities/events/projects happening at the Farm.

**Recommendation:** Receive information.

**Contact Person:**

Name: Sonja Gomez                      Title: Supervising Naturalist  
Dept.: East Bay Regional Park District  
Phone: 510-544-3290                      E-mail: [sgomez@ebparks.org](mailto:sgomez@ebparks.org)

**5.2 Patterson House Manager Report**

**Background:** The Patterson House Manager updates the Patterson House Advisory Board with past and upcoming activities/events happening at the House.

**Recommendation:** Receive information.

**Contact Person:**

Name: Rena Kiehn                      Title: Recreation Supervisor II  
Dept.: Fremont Community Services  
Phone: 510-791-4196                      E-mail: [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov)

## 6.0 ACTION ITEMS

### 6.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the George W. Patterson House Advisory Board for Calendar Year 2023

**Contact Person:**

Name: Rena Kiehn                      Title: Recreation Supervisor II  
Dept.: Fremont Community Services  
Phone: 510-791-4196              E-mail: [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov)

**Background:** The Fremont Municipal Code, Section 2.20.030, Regulations for Subject Bodies, Section (o), states: "Each subject body shall, at its first regular meeting held for the transaction of business during a calendar year, elect a chairman and a vice-chairman for such calendar year."

**Recommendation:** Hold George W. Patterson House Advisory Board election of officers for calendar year 2023.

### 6.2 PATTERSON HOUSE BOOK COLLECTION

**Background:** Docent Chestnut expressed concerns about the Patterson House book collection in the following email (see attachment to agenda). It brings up important information to discuss further at this meeting.

**Recommendation:** Receive information and decide if further action is warranted.

**Contact Person:**

Name: Rena Kiehn                      Title: Recreation Supervisor II  
Dept.: Fremont Community Services  
Phone: 510-791-4196              E-mail: [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov)

### 6.3 GEORGE W. PATTERSON HOUSE ADVISORY BOARD CALENDAR YEAR 2023

**Contact Person:**

Name: Rena Kiehn                      Title: Recreation Supervisor II  
Dept.: Fremont Community Services  
Phone: 510-791-4196              E-mail: [rkiehn@fremont.gov](mailto:rkiehn@fremont.gov)

**Background:** Staff recommends the George W. Patterson House Advisory Board approve its meeting calendar from March through December 2023.

**Attachments:** Proposed calendar for the George W. Patterson House Advisory Board.

**Recommendation:** Approve proposed calendar from March through December 2023

## 7. BOARD REFERRALS

## 8. BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

8.1. Announcements - All

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

To Whom it May Concern,

I have finished cataloging the books in the Patterson House, including the Library, George's Office, the bookcase in the front parlor and several large repositories stored in closets and boxes. The total number of books in the database is 1344; each Title, Author and publication date has been entered into the PastPerfect archiving software.

In addition, other characteristics, when known, are included in each PastPerfect record. One of those is the names and dates printed on the inside cover or the first pages of the book. In particular, I recorded whether there were signatures of the Patterson family members who owned or used the book. The books range from novels to school books and date from the 1860s to the 1960s. Some are very fragile. I also discovered a large collection of very old books dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century; they appear to be donated books, not Patterson family books.

There are about 375 "Patterson" family books. They are not all in one location and some are in places readily available to the public. Many are in the Library on shelves that can be reached by adults and children alike. Some have been on display in special locations or for special exhibits.

Of the other books, there are over 500 books that are 100 years of age or older. This includes some very fragile books, of which many are in Latin or Greek from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

I am a bit concerned about both the integrity and security of the Patterson books. I have heard at least one story of a book opened by someone, possibly during a house tour, who pointed out there was a letter from one of the Patterson's inside. No-one knows the name of the book or where the letter is. Perhaps it has been archived, perhaps it has been lost.

I don't know if these books need special storage conditions, but it would seem that the books originally owned by the members of the Patterson family should be kept secure. Ideally, they should be kept in a central location, as opposed to scattered throughout the house. There has also been talk of sending books that may be rare or out of print to another location for scanning or archiving. If they are needed for a special exhibit or are to be off-site, a system to check them in and out would keep them from getting lost.

I hope this can be addressed in the upcoming months as I finalize the uploading of images of the Patterson-signed books into the database. I am available for consultation or discussions, if needed.

Sincerely,

Bill Chestnut  
Docent, Patterson House