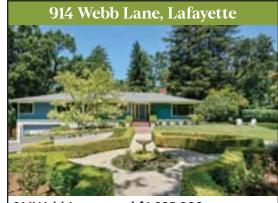
agendas, meeting notes and announcements City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us Phone: (925) 284-1968 **Chamber of Commerce:** www.lafayettechamber.org

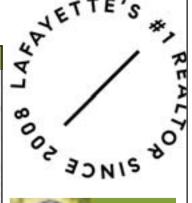
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# Council taps community members for final city manager interview process

By Pippa Fisher

As the time comes to make a decision on selecting one of the finalists among the applicants to fill the city manager vacancy, the Lafayette City Council is looking for five residents to serve on a community panel to assist in the final interview process. Those interested in serving must get their application in to the city by 5

p.m. on July 26.

Avery and Associates, the executive search firm hired by the city, has worked with the city and community to identify the best-suited candidates over the past several months, following former city manager Steve Falk's resignation at the end of last year.

Now it is up to the council to make the final decision. And, in the interest of transparency, the council decided

at a special meeting back in early June to include a random drawing of five residents.

The council is inviting Lafayette residents 18 years or older who will be available to serve on Aug. 2 from 9 a.m. until about 1 p.m. at the city offices. Residents will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement to protect the privacy of candidates, and must be able to provide proof of residency.

The city says that applicants will be divided into four geographical sections of the city – Happy Valley, Reliez Valley, Burton Valley, and downtown/Acalanes Valley. One member of the public will be randomly selected from each location with one further member being selected randomly

from all remaining appli-

The drawing will be done on July 29 and will be livestreamed on Facebook.

To apply, residents may fill out an online form (see below for link), or complete a form in person at the Lafayette city offices, 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

www.lovelafayette.org/city-hall/resident-panel-for-city-manager-selection#\_blank

## Boswell's shuts its doors after 22 years in Lafayette



Boswell's closed its doors July 3.

Photo Pippa Fisher

### By Pippa Fisher

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July 3 was the last day of business for the party supplies store, Boswell's. The announcement was made just a couple of weeks prior, surprising employees who said they were sad to hear the news.

The family-owned busis had all its remaining stock moved down to the Danville store by the July 15

deadline to vacate the premises. Longtime employees have been offered jobs in the Danville store.

"We have had a 20% increase in rent over the last three years," explains

storeowner Luke Boswell. He says that back in April he sent the long-term leaseholders Stuart Company an email suggesting that Boswell's would like to decrease their space by 20% in order to stay afloat financially.

Initially he says the Stuart Company seemed willing to entertain the idea.

But, says Boswell, when he raised practical questions about the cost involved in splitting the store into two units requiring dividing walls and another entrance, he heard nothing.

Boswell says that all the speculation last year about the location possibly being an ideal site for new city offices might be partially at play here. "That the landlord didn't want to negotiate tells me he felt empowered," he suggests. However, Bill Stuart of Stuart Company says merely that they are currently trying to lease the property out.

In an attempt to stay in Lafayette, Boswell says they did explore other possible locations, including Fiesta Square but, says Boswell, his broker told him as they looked into perhaps going into the old health food store, Fiesta Square management did not want a business such as Boswell's

Boswell has just renewed the lease on the Danville store.

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Lafayette **Public Meetings** 

**City Council** Monday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**School Board Meetings** Acalanes Union High School District

AUHSD Board Room 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

### Planning Commission

Monday, Aug. 5, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo

### **Design Review**

Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Arts & Science Discovery Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### **Lafayette School District**

TBA Regular Board Meeting District Office Board Room 3477 School St., Lafayette www.lafsd.k12.ca.us



# Lafayette Volunteer **Opportunities**

There are currently openings on the following Lafayette Commissions/Committees

- Capital Projects Assessment Committee
- CCCTA Advisory Committee-Lafayette Representative
- Creeks Committee
- Community Center Foundation
- Downtown Street Improvement Master Plan Implementation Committee (DSIMPIC)
- Planning Commission
- **Public Art Committee**

For additional information on these volunteer positions visit the city's website: www.lovelafayette.org

### **Hot Topics**

Or e-mail City Clerk Joanne Robbins, jrobbins@ lovelafayette.org.

Application deadline August 30, 2019. Positions open until filled.