



MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:
www.moraga.ca.us
Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:
www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:
www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



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COMPASS

Town of Moraga continues to explore possibilities for Hacienda

By Vera Kochan

In mid-January, the town of Moraga released request for proposals to lease a portion of the first floor for an on-site restaurant at the Hacienda de las Flores that could also serve as the lead caterer to any events held on the property. The RFP targeted 44 prospects and 398 retail brokers, but

garnered only one proposal: Hacienda Partners, LLC, a joint-partnership between Thomas Capital Investments and Pacific Meritage, a restaurant business based in Danville, proposed a public-private partnership with the town.

Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt explained to the town council during its April 22 meeting that while the



Photo Andy Scheck

Hacienda de la Flores

proposal didn't include an on-site restaurant, it did consider providing catering and alcohol service for events with a future exploration into accommodating larger rental events and possibly an on-site restaurant.

According to Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg, six or seven interested parties toured the property, but made note of the economic challenges involved with the Hacienda as a restaurant venue. It soon became clear that the property was preferable as an event space rather than a restaurant-only facility.

Based on the fact that only one proposal was received, town staff presented three options to

the council: Begin discussions with Hacienda Partners, LLC to form an investment partnership to find a balance between a private venture with public access, which would include the possibility of bringing catering and alcohol services to the Hacienda; work with Wedgewood, a wedding venue operator that was aware of the RFP but did not submit a proposal because they do not operate restaurants, but did show interest in partnering with the town to operate the Hacienda as an event venue; or re-release the Hacienda Restaurant Operator RFP after the county's shelter-in-place order is lifted, since the coronavirus outbreak may have had some bearing on the lack of responses to the RFP.


Wedgewood operates 28 venues in California and would offer an "all-inclusive" model for the

town to generate percentage sales revenue from food, beverage, invitations, accessories, DJ and MC services, chairs/linens, photography, lighting and ceremony officiate services.

Town staff recommended either the first or second option, and with that in mind, the council directed staff to continue preliminary discussions with Hacienda Partners, in addition to exploring other opportunities for the site, including event management possibilities. Meanwhile the Parks and Recreation Department will continue to utilize the Hacienda site for the town's After School Enrichment Program classes during the fall and winter, and the town will continue to book special events on the property for future dates.

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Kiwanis of Moraga Valley matches donations for three nonprofits



PARTNER WITH MORAGA KIWANIS
HELP FEED OUR COMMUNITY

Submitted by Marty Brinckerhoff

The Pandemic has terribly impacted our community for those already challenged in securing the basics of shelter, food and health care, and now so many previously self-supporting families and individuals have lost their source of income.

The Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley Foundation is committed to help, and is asking those who are able, to help too. Hunger must not be a casualty of this pandemic.

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano County, Monument Crisis Center in

Concord and Meals On Wheels of CC County are three local organizations with long successful records of fighting hunger by putting food on the table for children, adults and the elderly in need. These agencies are experiencing an unprecedented demand for food and support and need help to avoid turning away those in need.

The club will match tax-deductible donations up to a maximum of \$40,000, and accept non-matching donations beyond this amount, during its fundraiser through May 21. All donations will be distributed equally to these three outstanding nonprofit agencies.

Go to moragavalleykiwanis.org to learn more about this campaign and to donate. Thank you in advance for your generosity to help Feed The Need, by partnering with Kiwanis to help feed those in our community who are in peril, as we all step up to fight this pandemic, together.

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