

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5

DATE: March 25, 2014

SUBJECT: **COMMENDATION** - Approve and present a commendation recognizing Bruce Cosgrove for his 30 years of dedicated service to The Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the citizens of Placer County.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve and present a commendation recognizing Bruce Cosgrove for his 30 years of dedicated service to The Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the citizens of Placer County.

BACKGROUND

Bruce Cosgrove was born in Corning, New York and moved to the City of Auburn in 1973.

For the last 30 years, Bruce has served a vital leadership role as CEO of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, bringing business leaders together and has strived to build a strong Auburn Chamber that makes a positive difference.

Bruce helped develop community support for the establishment of a symphony orchestra. With a can-do attitude, Bruce worked to bring diverse music interests and business leaders together and in May 1987 the community of Auburn experienced the "Birth of an Orchestra" ~ The Auburn Symphony.

The City of Auburn reached out to Bruce and the Chamber to form a committee to identify a viable program to help revitalize Downtown Auburn. Bruce served as organizing Chairman of this committee, brought community leaders together representing Downtown and Old Town Businesses, the City and the Chamber, which resulted in the formation of the Auburn Main Street Program.

In 1987, Bruce led the effort for the Placer County Visitor Center relocation proposal to move from Newcastle to Auburn. He built a coalition and worked in conjunction with all the Chambers throughout Placer County. Bruce and the assembled Countywide team of Chamber CEOs established and originally managed the Placer County Visitor Center, now located in Downtown Auburn. In 1988, Bruce along with then Police Chief Nick Willick, and businessman Ralph Swann, were instrumental in the acquisition of the railroad depot building designated for demolition by the railroad. The Chamber of Commerce moved into the building in 1989. Bruce also negotiated the purchase and relocation of the Chinese railway worker statute, a tribute to the Chinese commitment to the building of the transcontinental railroad.

In 1991, two business owners, Sherry Gilbert and Sue Kusel, proposed the establishment of the Black & White Ball, an upscale community event to promote the City of Auburn, build community spirit and pride, and serve as an Annual fundraiser for the Chamber. Bruce wholeheartedly promoted the concept to the Chamber Board and in 1992 the first Black and White Ball was held in downtown Auburn.,

In 1998 Bruce established the formation of a leadership development program for the community. Bruce's believes that "leadership is a priceless resource for any community" Leadership Auburn saw its first graduates in 1999. Today, Leadership Auburn is in its 15th year and will soon surpass 300 graduating members.,

FISCAL IMPACT

None

MARCH 25, 2014 IN THE MATTER OF A COMMENDATION HONORING BRUCE COSGROVE FOR 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF AUBURN AND PLACER COUNTY

WHEREAS, Bruce Cosgrove was born in Corning, New York and moved to the City of Auburn in 1973; and

WHEREAS, for the last 30 years, Bruce has served a vital leadership role as CEO of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, bringing business leaders together and has strived to build a strong Auburn Chamber that makes a positive difference; and

WHEREAS, Bruce helped develop community support for the establishment of a symphony orchestra. With a can-do attitude, Bruce worked to bring diverse music interests and business leaders together and in May 1987 the community of Auburn experienced the "Birth of an Orchestra" ~ The Auburn Symphony; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn reached out to Bruce and the Chamber to form a committee to identify a viable program to help revitalize Downtown Auburn. Bruce served as organizing Chairman of this committee, brought community leaders together representing Downtown and Old Town Businesses, the City and the Chamber, which resulted in the formation of the Auburn Main Street Program; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Bruce led the effort for the Placer County Visitor Center relocation proposal to move from Newcastle to Auburn. He built a coalition and worked in conjunction with all the Chambers throughout Placer County. Bruce and the assembled Countywide team of Chamber CEOs established and originally managed the Placer County Visitor Center, now located in Downtown Auburn; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Bruce along with then Police Chief Nick Willick, and businessman Ralph Swann, were instrumental in the acquisition of the railroad depot building designated for demolition by the railroad. The Chamber of Commerce moved into the building in 1989. Bruce also negotiated the purchase and relocation of the Chinese railway worker statute, a tribute to the Chinese commitment to the building of the transcontinental railroad; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, two business owners, Sherry Gilbert and Sue Kusel, proposed the establishment of the Black & White Ball, an upscale community event to promote the City of Auburn, build community spirit and pride, and serve as an Annual fundraiser for the Chamber. Bruce wholeheartedly promoted the concept to the Chamber Board and in 1992 the first Black and White Ball was held in downtown Auburn; and,

WHEREAS, in 1998 Bruce established the formation of a leadership development program for the community. Bruce's believes that "leadership is a priceless resource for any community" Leadership Auburn saw its first graduates in 1999. Today, Leadership Auburn is in its 15th year and will soon surpass 300 graduating members; and,

WHEREAS, Bruce's invaluable accomplishments are far more than can be expressed,

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, the Placer County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, hereby take great pride in recognizing Bruce Cosgrove for his 30 years of dedicated service to the Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the citizens of Placer County.

Jack Duran, Supervisor District 1,
Chairman 2014

Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2
Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3
Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4
Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5