



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL

COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 6:00 PM

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the video recording for said meeting is a matter of public record and is available to be viewed at the City Clerk's office during normal business hours or viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/alpharettagov>.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. *Note the votes were placed by hand and not computer during the meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

- **Cultural Arts Commission Members - Present**
 - Melody Cookson (Chair)
 - Sumita Patel
 - Dianna Smeal
 - Shital Foster
 - Sabine Genet
- **Staff**
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Sarah Bausano, Administrative Office Coordinator – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Lara Haddadin, Cultural Services Staff – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - David Palmieri, Cultural Services Staff – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from August 26, 2025

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the August 26, 2025, Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.
 - Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on Procedural Protocol – Director Rodgers

- ❖ Director Rodgers came forward to explain to the Commission that the Ordinance for the Cultural Arts Commission only applies to City property. Any non-City property and private development the Cultural Arts Commission has final vote.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Public Art Application – Alpharetta Greenway Manhole Murals

- Kim Zane gave a background of the project. City of Alpharetta is partnering with the Rotary Club of North Fulton.
- Thomas Nolfi, with Rotary Club of North Fulton came forward to do the presentation of the 14 different manhole murals.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

Q How many more murals are there? (Foster)

A We thought we would do 8-10 murals per year. We are going to test our resources to see if we can keep it going. (Nolfi)

C Totally excited, thank you for going out of your way to educate the kids. (Genet)

C Blown away at how you are running this program. (Cookson)

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the Public Art Application, Alpharetta Greenway Manhole Murals.
 - Commissioner Patel offered a motion to approve the Public Art Application, Alpharetta Greenway Manhole Murals.
 - Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

b. Public Art Application – Alpha Loop Bridge Mural 3 – Rainwater Location

- Nancy Murphy came forward to present on behalf of Arts Alpharetta. Also, Kim announced Nancy's retirement.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

C Really lovely, like the location. (Smeal)

C I think it's great. (Cookson)

Q Curious with the other two on bridge murals, how is the maintenance. (Genet)

A No, we haven't had to do anything yet. The paints that are selected are meant to last. (Zane)

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to recommend the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Bridge Mural 3 – Rainwater Location.
 - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to recommend the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Bridge Mural 3 – Rainwater Location.
 - Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was recommended unanimously (5-0).

VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

a. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – September 2025

- Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

- Director Rodgers came forward to give Kim Zane a shout out on all of her hard work on the Alpharetta Arts & Culture Master Plan. He also notified the Commission that Wacky World is closing on Monday, September 29th and the last day to play is Sunday, September 28th. With the closing of Wacky World, there will be approximately 50 trees that will need to come down for the new playground, stormwater, and restroom. Director Rodgers stated that he is trying to make the community aware of the amount of trees and the fact that only 3 are healthy specimen trees, the rest of the trees are either not specimen or in decline and in need of coming down.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

RE: Staff Presentation

Q Is there an update on the sculpture tree on Thompson? (Smeal)

A No, I will get one. (Zane)

VIII. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Chairwoman Cookson mentioned that moving forward the Cultural Arts Commission will meet at 5:30 pm to keep in line with the rest of the Boards and Commissions. She also stated that there will be a Proclamation taking place at the October 6th City Council meeting and she would really like for the Commission to come to the meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

X. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- ❖ Commissioner Patel made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).
- ❖ With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairwoman Cookson adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano
Administrative Office Coordinator
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services