



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
MEETING  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
AUGUST 26, 2025

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 6:00 PM

OFFICIAL MINUTES

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 6:06 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

• Cultural Arts Commission Members - Present

- Melody Cookson (Chair)
- Sumita Patel
- Dianna Smeal
- Luis Gonzalez (arrived at 6:24 pm)
- 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

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENT

a. Code of Ordinance Announcement

- Director Rodgers came forward to announce that there was a review of the Code of Ordinance for the Cultural Arts Commission. The Code states that the Cultural Arts Commission is a reviewing and recommending body for all art in the City of Alpharetta. Once the Cultural Arts Commission has reviewed and recommended a piece of art, then the art must go to a City Council work session for City Council to give their opinion on whether the art should be approved.

**CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A**

- C This really slows down the process. (Smeal)
- C Yes, it will add approximately 10 days. (Rodgers)
- C Surprised to find this out now since we have a plan in front of Council. (Genet)
- C City Council would be the one to change the code. (Rodgers)

Q The code states purchased, gifted, or otherwise. Does that include private developers? (Smeal)

A Yes, that is included in the code. (Rodgers)

Q Can we get clarification on the private developers from Council? (Cookson)

A Yes, we can do that. (Rodgers)

## V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

### a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from June 24, 2025

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the minutes.
  - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the June 24, 2025, Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.
  - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Public Art Application – Alpha Loop Sculpture, Life Wheel

- Kim Zane gave a background of the project. City of Alpharetta is partnering with the Alpha Loop Foundation.
- Karen Richards, the Vice President of the Alpha Loop Foundation, came forward to present the Life Wheel sculpture. Karen gave the Commission the information on size, location on the loop, what the sculpture is made of, and the artist. She stated how thankful she was of this partnership and Kim thanked her as well.

#### CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

Q Karen, you stated that you changed the sculpture to steel from black, I'm afraid it will fade into the background. Why not do black? (Smeal)

A The donor would like to keep the natural look, this will also keep the maintenance low, not having to paint. (Karen)

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to recommend the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Sculpture, Life Wheel.
  - Commissioner Patel offered a motion to recommend the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Sculpture, Life Wheel.
  - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was recommended unanimously (4-0).
- ❖ Luis arrived at 6:24 pm and did not vote for Life Wheel.

### b. Public Art Application – Alpha Loop Sculpture, Completion

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to recommended the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Sculpture, Completion.
  - Commissioner Genet offered a motion to recommend the Public Art Application, Alpha Loop Sculpture, Completion.
  - Vice Chair Barsky seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was recommended unanimously (5-0).

#### CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

Q The foundation of the sculpture, is it anchored? (Gonzalez)

A It is brown in the picture because it has patinaed. The installer is the same person that has done almost all of our installation in the City and he will have it anchored into the ground. (Zane)

Q Is the Alpha Loop Foundation looking to place more along the loop? (Genet)

A Yes, we are. We have some wonderful opportunities. We are looking for funding for the tunnel mural. (Karen)

Q Any thought of having a more kid friendly or more interactive sculpture? (Genet)

A We are open to that. (Karen)

Q Bridge mural? What about a more interactive one? (Genet)

A We could look into that. (Zane)

## VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

### a. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – August 2025

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

#### CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

##### RE: Staff Presentation

C Love the Eclectic Lawn Series. (Genet)

C Thank you, Kim, for all your work on the Master Plan. (Cookson)

## VIII. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Chairwoman Cookson mentioned that ACT1 is not going away, just scaling back.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

## X. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- ❖ Commissioner Smeal made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
  - Commissioner Patel 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 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sarah Bausano*

Sarah Bausano  
Administrative Office Coordinator

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services