



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

MARCH 24, 2026

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 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 5:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

• Cultural Arts Commission Members - Present

- Melody Cookson (Chair)
- Susan Hanna
- Dianna Smeal
- Sabine Genet
- Michael Barsky (Vice Chair)
- Luis Gonzalez

• Staff

- Morgan Rodgers, Director – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Lara Haddadin, Cultural Services Staff – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from January 27, 2026

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Vice Chair Barsky offered a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the January 27, 2026, Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.
 - Commissioner Hanna seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (5-0-2).

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Public Art Application – 555 Windward Parkway | Continuum Alpharetta

- Kim Zane came forward to introduce Ben Dance with NW Value Properties. Then Mr. Dance introduced the artist, Deanna Sirlin. The artist came forward with a sample of the artwork that will be installed at Continuum.
- There was a lot of discussion regarding the artwork being installed due to its uniqueness.
- The Artist explained that the artwork should not fade a lot, it will some because it will be in the window of the complex. She also explained that the artwork will be placed on the inside of the glass and there is overnight security at the building.
- The Commissioners were excited to see a developer and local artist collaborate.
- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the Public Art Application for Continuum Alpharetta.
 - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to approve the Public Art Application for Continuum Alpharetta.
 - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (6-0-1).

b. Public Art Application – Wacky World Mural | Wills Park

- Kim Zane came forward to present this item.
- Kim explained that the artist would be Alice Stone Collins, she has completed a few murals for the City.
- Kim also explained that the mural would be a Community Style paint project to coincide with the Wacky World Community build.
- Kim stated that the cost of paint and supplies would be approximately \$4,500.00.
- There were a lot of questions on scale, overhead view, context, whether the mural was eye catching enough, and the standards the City has for public art.
- Kim Zane and Morgan Rodgers stated that the wall was not on the original renderings and was placed there to retain soil. Kim also explained that the goal of the mural was to make it a Community Painted mural.
- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to recommend the Public Art Application for the Wacky World Mural.
 - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to deny the Public Art Application for the Wacky World Mural.
 - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was denied unanimously (6-0-1).

c. Public Art Application – Lamp Post Gallery

- Kim Zane came forward to present this item.
- Kim introduced Nancy Murphy and Liz Alzona with Arts Alpharetta.
- Arts Alpharetta presented 2 proposals for Lamp Post Gallery, stating that the banners can go on every other pole or every 3rd pole.
- Nancy stated that is this approved, then Arts Alpharetta would like to this every year and test out other corridors on the East side of the City. Nancy also stated that Arts Alpharetta decided to name this Gallery East and eventually add more artwork on the East Side of the City within this Gallery. For artwork to fall under Gallery East Arts Alpharetta would need to be involved in the acquisition.
- The decision to do every other pole was made because it made the gallery look complete, the every 3rd pole made it look like something was missing.

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the Public Art Application for Lamp Post Gallery.
 - Commissioner Hanna offered a motion to approve the Public Art Application for Lamp Post Gallery with a friendly amendment to make this a pilot gallery.
 - Commissioner Gonzalez seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved (4-2-1).

VI. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

a. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – March 2026

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

VII. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Chairwoman Cookson stated that ACT1 Theater raised \$8,500.00 and that the Cotton Patch Auditions were coming soon.
- Commissioner Hanna stated that the Symphony has a show this coming Friday night.
- Commissioner Gonzalez stated that the Ballet is going through a lot of changes.
- Commissioner Genet stated that she was approached by a dance group that would like to use Union Hill Park and Kim stated that the City rents the facility.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- ❖ Vice Chair Barsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Commissioner Hanna seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (6-0-1).
- ❖ With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairwoman Cookson adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano
Administrative Office Coordinator
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services