



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

OFFICIAL MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2024

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

❖ Vice Chairwoman Cookson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

• Cultural Arts Commission Members - Present

- Melody Cookson (Chair)
- Sabine Genet
- Shital Foster
- Dianna Smeal
- Sumita Patel

• Cultural Arts Commission Members - Absent

- Michael Barsky (Vice Chair)

• Staff

- James Drinkard, Assistant City Administrator
- Morgan Rodgers, Director – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Kim Manning, Cultural Services Division Manager – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Sarah Bausano, Administrative Office Coordinator – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from April 23, 2024

❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the minutes.

- Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the April 23, 2024, Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.
- Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

❖ The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. Iveybrooke Townhomes HOA, Frog Sculpture – Eco District

- Jackson Stephens with the Providence Group came forward to present the item.
- Mr. Stephens reported that Iveybrooke Townhomes is a new construction community in Alpharetta. He presented pictures of the Frog Sculpture and what materials will be used. He stated that the sculpture will be on an eighteen-inch platform that will match the neighborhood sign and will incorporate the Eco District. The sculpture itself will be a humanoid frog with a dragonfly and will be approximately 5 feet 4 inches tall plus the 18-inch platform. The sculpture will be located at the corner of the community and will be at pedestrian level.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

RE: Iveybrooke Townhomes HOA, Frog Sculpture – Eco District

Q How did the design come about and how did you pick the artist? (Genet)

A We wanted a majestic outdoor piece and the frog stood out but we wanted more from the artist. We wanted to keep the nature aspect and he designed this piece for us. (Stephens)

Q Incorporating Art into life, can kids touch it? (Genet)

A There are no sharp edges, but it should not be climbed upon. It is to be observed. (Stephens)

Q Who is responsible for the maintenance of the sculpture? (Cookson)

A The Iveybrooke Townhomes HOA will maintain the sculpture. (Stephens)

Q What materials are being used? Is it solid? (Foster)

A It is made of molded steel, finished to give it an old look. (Stephens)

❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion on the item.

○ Commissioner Patel offered a motion to approve, as presented, the Iveybrooke Townhomes HOA, Frog Sculpture.

○ Commissioner Smeal seconded the motion to approve, as presented, the Iveybrooke Townhomes HOA, Frog Sculpture.

❖ The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

b. Park Walke, Thompson Street Flats HOA – Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture

- Jackson Stephens with the Providence Group came forward to present this item.
- Mr. Stephens presented The Providence Group is putting the art piece in with partnership from Thompson Street Flats. The piece is not a zoning requirement. The Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture is a reimagination of a piece the artist has made in the past. The Providence Group asked for the piece with modifications to make it different from the other sculpture the artist did. The artist is not a production artist, and he uses reclaimed metals for his sculptures. The board and the communities HOA has approved the piece, they stated they wanted something unique. There is only one other sculpture in the US. The maintenance will be taken care of by the Thompson Street Flats HOA.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSON Q & A:

RE: Park Walke, Thompson Street Flats HOA – Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture

Q What materials are used in making the sculpture? (Patel)

A Reclaimed Steel. (Stephens)

Q This is a premium street for Alpharetta. This is sort of an off the shelf sculpture. Would love to see something more unique. Would that be possible? (Smeal)

A We wanted to do a native to Georgia flower. Everything is custom cut. (Stephens)

C It is a template, struggling with it due to the location of the piece. (Smeal)

Q Impressed with the thought, is there something that can be done to make it more unique? (Genet)

A The artist can only do the one here in Alpharetta. He would only use the colors he and flower here. (Stephens)

❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion on the item.

- Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to defer the Park Walke, Thompson Street Flats HOA – Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture to the next regular meeting.

- Commissioner Foster seconded the motion to defer the Park Walke, Thompson Street Flats HOA – Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture to the next regular meeting.

❖ Chairwoman Cookson opened the item up for discussion.

DISCUSSION:

- Chairwoman Cookson asked if there is an agreement in place with the HOA and the maintenance of the sculpture. Stephens stated that he would need to check. He knows that the HOA approved the sculpture.
- Commissioner Foster commented that the sculpture is too static, it needs to move, it needs to be more interesting. She also asked if the artist had been chosen and Stephens stated that the artist had been chosen and paid. Foster continued to state that the piece needs to be more unique and there should have been some line drawings or mockups. Stephens stated that they started the process with the artist before approval. Foster stated that the butterfly is too generic and wanted to know if we could suggest a different animal or insect. Stephens stated that the wings have already been cut. Foster suggested additional pieces to make it more dynamic.
- Commissioner Genet suggested using a dogwood as opposed to a coneflower to bring it more to Georgia. She also suggested to angle the piece. Stephens stated that angling the piece would be easy, redesign would be difficult. Genet stated that the pad was already in place, then she asked how they were going to incorporate it into the landscaping? She stated it looks like an afterthought.
- Commissioner Smeal stated that she is struggling most with the location due to it being a high traffic area in Alpharetta.
- Kim Manning came forward and stated that the Cultural Arts Division will work with The Providence Group to get something more unique and have them present it at the next regular meeting.

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a vote on the motion to defer the Park Walke, Thompson Street Flats HOA – Butterfly Coneflower Sculpture to the next regular meeting.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

c. The 1858, Integrated Architectural Piece with Historical Plaque

- Pat Corkill and Patti Huxford presented the architectural piece.
- Corkill stated that the inspiration for the piece is from the founding of Alpharetta in 1858. The piece will be mounted with a granite veneer wall to match the gates for the homes. The material will be an aluminum water wheel with a plaque. The plaque will be assisted with the historical society. The piece will have a light so it can be visible at night. The HOA will do the maintenance of the piece.
- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion.
 - Commissioner Smeal offered a motion to approve, as presented, The 1858, Integrated Architectural Piece with Historical Plaque.
 - Commissioner Foster seconded the motion to approve, as presented, The 1858, Integrated Architectural Piece with Historical Plaque.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

V. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

a. Overview & Initiatives

- Kim Manning, Cultural Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Manning stated the Juneteenth celebration was a success with over 400 people in attendance.
- Manning stated that Liquid Sunshine has been installed.
- Manning stated that Summer Camps are in full force and the kids are having a great time.
- Manning stated that Art on the Go-Go is very busy.

b. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – June 2024

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

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Cultural Arts Master Plan / Stakeholder Roundtables
- Celebrating Juneteenth presented by AKA / Alpharetta Arts Center
- Liquid Sunshine / Alpha Loop Grand Opening

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- Summer Camps – Camp Creative, Fashion Camp, Country Living Arts & Crafts at the Log Cabin
- Art Studio on the Go-Go

- Galleries – Alpharetta Arts Center & Art Garden
- Outdoor Art On-Loan Exhibit / Arts Alpharetta
- Play Me Again Pianos – Webb Bridge Park New Piano Unveiling
- The Spotlight Community Stage – Update
- Music Match & Park Performance Permit – Updates

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

- Arts & Culture Online Calendar
<https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreationparks/cultural-services>
- Alpharetta Music City – Live Music Calendar
<https://www.awesomealpharetta.com/calendar/category/alpharetta-music-city-live-music/>
- Take Me Away Gallery Exhibit Reception / Alpharetta Arts Center / Exhibit runs June 12 through August 3rd
- Quilt Guild In-Service Meeting by Chattahoochee Evening Stars Quilt Guild at the Adult Activity Center July 1st at 6:00 p.m.
- Eclectic Lawn Concert Series featuring The Illustrated Band on the Alpharetta Arts Center Lawn on July 12th at 7:00 p.m. This event is free

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

Q How did Plein Air do? (Smeal)

A Really well. (Manning)

C The show was wonderful. (Foster)

Q Shows at Spotlight? Movie screening? (Genet)

A We are in the 1st draft of the application, as of right now it is for comedy shows, children's theater, home school groups. There will not be movie screenings because AMC is located in the mall. (Manning)

Q Concessions? (Patel)

A Catering possible, possible list of vendor later. (Manning)

VI. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Genet stated that there is an event on August 16th at the Metropolitan Club. She has a flyer with all the information.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Commissioner Foster made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Commissioner Patel seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion approved unanimously 5-0.

- ❖ With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairwoman Cookson adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano

Administrative Office Coordinator

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services