



Arts Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
City Hall – Briefing Room
203 E. Wheatland Rd., Duncanville, TX 75116
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
6:30 PM

City of Duncanville Arts Commission meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. The Duncanville City Hall is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call (972) 780-5000 or email city.secretary@duncanvilletx.gov at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting to request an accommodation.

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purposes of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any item on the agenda at any time during the meeting.

The City of Duncanville and Arts Commission reserves the right to reconvene, recess or align the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment. Persons may participate by live broadcast via Swagit. To view the live meeting or previous meetings click on the following link:
<https://duncanvilletx.new.swagit.com/views/454/>

1. Call to Order
2. Receive public comments, limit 2 minutes per individual speaker

To submit a comment via email and for your comments to be read, the following information is required:

- Submit a comment by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, March 25, 2025
- Email alex.hamby@duncanvilletx.gov
- Email Title: Arts Commission Public Comment — March 25, 2025
- First and last name; and home address

The staff liaison will set a two-minute time limit on comments as they are read. All comments will be included in the meeting minutes.

3. The Arts Commission to consider the following Minutes:
 - a. 2025-02-24 – Arts Commission – Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. 2025-02-11 – Community Engagement Advisory Board and Arts Commission – Joint Meeting Minutes
4. Commissioners Reports (limit to 2 minutes each)
 - a. Arts Calendar
5. Arts Fund Briefing with Richard Jackson, Managing Director of Fiscal Services, CFO
6. Basketball Court Mural Briefing with Tyler Agee, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

7. Arts Commission Events

- a. Briefing on *Concerts and Movies in the Park* events.
- b. Juneteenth 2025
 - Branding
 - Marketing materials
 - Promotion
 - Community Calendar
 - Social Media
 - Other
- c. Hispanic Heritage Month arts activation discussion.

8. Arts Funding Policy discussion.

9. Cultural Plan discussion.

10. Fiscal Year 2026 budget planning discussion.

- a. Percentage/Amount for Grants: _____
- b. Percentage/Amount for Sponsorships: _____
- c. Percentage/Amount for Arts Commission Hosted Events: _____
- d. Percentage/Amount for the Armstrong Park Cultural District: _____
- e. Basketball Court Mural: _____
- f. Percentage/Amount for _____

11. Adjournment

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted in accordance with the regulations of the Texas Open Meetings Act to the digital kiosk located at the entrance to the City of Duncanville, Texas City Hall, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public, as well as to the City's website www.DuncanvilleTX.gov and said Notice was posted by Friday, March 21, 2025, at 5:00 PM and remained posted for at least two hours after said meeting was convened.

Alex Hamby

Communications and Marketing Administrator

Non-Action Items

- MacMillan Institute Reception
- Olden Year Museum Tour Sponsorship
- Duncanville Fieldhouse Mural
- Call for Artists: Who Are Our Neighbors? Art Project
- Ellafair/Fall Arts Event
- Arts Support, Incubation, and Sustainability



**Arts
Commission**
Regular Meeting
Minutes

<https://youtube.com/live/WikBxMJBqV8>

A meeting of the Duncanville Arts Commission was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at Duncanville City Hall and called to order 6:29 PM, with a quorum present to wit:

Ron Thompson, Chair
Donald "Mac" Browning, Vice-Chair
Sarah Macias
Timothy Perry
Anne Perry
Angela Thorpe-Harris
Tiffiney Wyatt
Amy Jackson
Mary Ann Taylor

DeMonica Gooden, Councilmember At-Large served as Council Liaison
Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator, served as Staff Liaison
Devon Handley, Events Planner, was also in attendance.

1. Call to Order

Commission Chair Ron Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM.

2. Receive public comments, limit 2 minutes per individual speaker

No email comments were received. No in-person comments were made.

3. The Arts Commission to consider the following Minutes:

Vice-Chair Mac Browning made a motion to adopt the January 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Mary Ann Taylor seconded the motion. All voted in favor. None voted in opposition. The motion passed and the minutes were adopted.

4. Commissioners Reports (limit to 2 minutes each)

i. Arts Calendar

Chair Ron Thompson shared updates on various activities, including a drawing club, a new gallery coming to Duncanville, and his presentation to the Community Engagement Advisory Board. He also briefly discussed City Council-adopted Resolution No. 2025-423, which established the Armstrong Park Cultural District on February 4, 2025.

Angela Thorpe-Harris reported on her attendance at the February 4, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting. She also recounted attending the Irving Black Arts Council's February exhibit accompanied by Dr. Anne Perry. She also attended a performance of *Outside Mullingar* at the Duncanville Community Theatre. She concluded with praise for the City's Black History Month Fireside Chat, held on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at the D.L. Hopkins Jr. Senior Center.

Dr. Anne Perry shared that she attended the Fireside Chat with Angela Thorpe-Harris. She also mentioned that she had met an art collector and had a number of positive interactions people. She also attended the Duncanville Community Theatre's presentation of *Outside Mullingar*. She closed with a mention of coordinating a writer's retreat in Pensacola, Florida.

Tim Perry had no report.

Mary Ann Taylor reported that the long-standing writer's group in DeSoto, Texas had dissolved. She contacted that group's members to inform them of the writer's group in Duncanville. In February, she plans to attend a teacher's conference in San Antonio, Texas. She recalled a fall event at the MacMillan Institute where she met Lori Feathers, co-founder of Interabang Books, who started a national book award called the *Inside Prize*. This prize went to five incarcerated persons from around the country. She corrected a point made by Ms. Feathers regarding libraries in Texas Prisons. She closed by discussing a group in Austin, Texas called the Women's Storybook Project – whose work is connecting children with their incarcerated moms through the joy of literature -- and her intention to start a prize connected to their work.

Sarah Macias had no report.

Amy Jackson had no report.

Vice-Chair Mac Browning reported on attending the Drawing Club with his wife. He mentioned how it had grown and how the group – that included several children – was learning to work with negative space in drawing. This inspired him to write a poem, which he read to the Commission.

Sketch What's Not

Begin with what is nothing,
void and black and shapeless
yet in blocks and chips of what isn't
light is tint to block
where light displaced
and layered deeply in
with every pass
each stroke repeated
from void in darkness to image raised up
with contrasting tints
and shades
and blocks

until with shifting of light
from darkness passed
to focus light
a picture sketched

Tiffiney Wyatt briefed the Commission on the upcoming Best Southwest Juneteenth Celebration, scheduled for June 19, 2025, and hosted by the City of DeSoto. She suggested that the Commission might have a presence at the event with a booth. She then discussed the need for the Arts Commission to have policies that created procedures for their future work.

Dr. Anne Perry shared a local arts events calendar that she has been curating and maintaining. A request that this be made a part of the Arts Commission's online presence.

5. Arts Commission Events

- i. **The Arts Commission to consider planning and hosting the inaugural *Arts Commission's Spring Arts Festival* May 2, 2025.**
 - **Planning meetings (to be held via Teams) schedule discussion.**
- ii. **The Arts Commission to consider recommending City Council fund the *Arts Commission's Spring Arts Festival* in the amount of \$60,000.**
 - **Expenses**
 - **Revenue from sponsorships and vendors**
 - **Marketing and promotion**
 - **Featured Armstrong Park Cultural District**
 - **Council presentation**

Devon Handley, the City's Event Planner, began a presentation on the proposed *Spring Arts Festival*. This led to a discussion and a motion.

Tiffiney Wyatt made a motion to table the item. Sarah Macias seconded the motion. Mac Browning, Angela Thorpe-Harris, Mary Ann Taylor, Tiffiney Wyatt, Sarah Macias, and Ron Thompson voted in favor. Amy Jackson and Tim Perry voted against. The motion passed.

- iii. **The Arts Commission to consider recommending City Council fund two Arts Mixers in the amount \$5,000 per event.**
 - **Council presentation**

Tiffiney Wyatt motioned to table the item. Tim Perry seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. None voted in opposition. The motion passed.

- iv. ***Concerts in the Park* and *Movies in the Parks*: report, finalization of dates, films, and musical groups.**

Dr. Anne Perry briefed the commission on meetings held with Parks and Recreation staff regarding *Concerts in the Park* and *Movies in the Park*. She spoke to wanting to present films that showcase diversity.

A consensus was reached allowing a smaller group of the Arts Commission's membership to lead this project. No action was taken on this item.

v. **Juneteenth 2025**

No action was taken on this item pending a funding policy adoption.

vi. **Hispanic Heritage Month arts activation discussion.**

This year the Hispanic Heritage Festival comes to Duncanville on September 20, 2025, in Armstrong Park. Commissioner Sarah Macias briefed the Commission on the early planning for the arts activation to happen that week and during the event.

Devon Handley, Event Planner, stated that she would be involving the Arts Commission in the Festival.

No action was taken on this item.

6. **Cultural Plan discussion.**

i. **Cultural asset inventory (people, places, and events)**

Commission Chair Thompson led the discussion regarding a Cultural Plan. He noted that the City of Duncanville currently lacks a Cultural Plan.

The first step should be an inventory of cultural assets, which include people, places, and events.

He then described the need for a professionally created Cultural Plan.

Commissioner Mary Ann Taylor inquired about databases of artists and performers. Devon Handley recommended the database located at <https://www.arts.texas.gov/>,

7. **Fiscal Year 2026 budget planning discussion.**

Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator, liaison for the Arts Commission, recommended the Commission begin to create their Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Commissioner Tiffiney Wyatt recommended working on the budget over the following 30 to 60 days.

8. **March 18, 2025, Board Report to City Council March 18, 2024**

Chair Ron Thompson briefed the Commission on the upcoming Arts Commission annual report to the Duncanville City Council on March 18, 2025. He invited the Commission to attend. He asked others to collaborate with him on the presentation.

9. **Availability for joint meeting with the Community Engagement Advisory Board.**

Most of the Arts Commission indicated their availability to attend a meeting held on the Community Engagement Advisory Board's next scheduled regular meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM by Chair Thompson.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

RON THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

ALEX HAMBY, STAFF



Community Engagement Advisory Board and Arts Commission

Joint Meeting Minutes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eiff25_V47w

A joint meeting of the Community Engagement Advisory Board and Duncanville Arts Commission was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 103 E. Wheatland Rd., Duncanville, TX 75116. The Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) was called to order at 6:01 PM by Board Chair Gianni LaBarba. The Arts Commission meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair Ron Thompson. Quorums present to wit:

CEAB

Gianni LaBarba, Chair
Toby Lackey, Vice Chair
Bridget Nevels
Ruben Medina
Linda Lydia
Amy Macias
Mari Vega – ABSENT

AC

Ron Thompson, Chair
Donald "Mac" Browning, Vice-Chair
Sarah Macias
Timothy Perry
Angela Thorpe-Harris
Amy Jackson
Mary Ann Taylor
Anne Perry - ABSENT
Tiffiney Wyatt - ABSENT

DeMonica Gooden, Councilmember At-Large, Council Liaison, attended via phone
Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator, served as Staff Liaison

Also in attendance:

- Don McBurnett, Councilmember, District 2
- Bart Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation
- Nichelle Sullivan, Public Affairs Manager, H-E-B

1. Receive public comments, limit 2 minutes per individual speaker.

No public comments were received ahead of the 4:00 PM deadline.

2. Joe V's sponsorship briefing

The Community Engagement Advisory Board and Arts Commission were briefed on the Joe V's Smart Shop sponsorship of the splash pad and pavilion at Armstrong Park by Bart Stevenson and Nichelle Sullivan. Resolution no. 2025-434 was later approved by City Council during their March 18, 2025, regular meeting.

No action was

3. Arts Calendar

This item was tabled due to the absence of Dr. Anne Perry.

4. **Events**

- **Community Event**

The Community Engagement Advisory Board and Arts Commission discussed potential ideas for community-centered events.

No action was taken on this item.

- **Juneteenth**

The Arts Commission briefed the Community Engagement Advisory Board on their plans for Juneteenth 2025 and encouraged their participation in their plans.

No action was taken on this item.

5. **City Games**

- **Turning Litter into Art**

This item was tabled due to the absence of Mari Vega.

6. **Engagement Dashboard discussion**

An open discussion was held on the topic of the Engagement Dashboard. Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator, advised that he work with the Community Calendar vendor to determine if there were capabilities on the city's new platform that might assist with collection of pre and post-event data.

A publicly accessible dashboard was discussed.

No action was taken on this item.

7. **Discuss the Armstrong Park Cultural District.**

- **Collaboration**

- **Community outreach**

Chair Ron Thompson briefed both boards on the Armstrong Park Cultural District, background, and requirements for being designated by the Texas Commission on the Arts.

No action was taken on this item.

8. **Discuss collaboration between the Community Engagement Advisory Board and Arts Commission.**

The Arts Commission and Community Engagement Advisory Board discussed the Armstrong Park Cultural District and the potential for collaboration between the two boards to promote it.

No action was taken on this item.

The Community Engagement Advisory Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM

The Arts Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

RON THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

ALEX HAMBY, STAFF