

GROVE CITY HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2025

Agenda Item A: Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Andrews called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

Proper public notice has been given.

Members in Attendance: CJ Andrews, Chair; Janet Shailer, Vice Chair; John Maxson, Member; Linda Hall, Member; Lisa Napier-Garcia, Member and Jeff Warner, Member.

Members Absent: Chloe Dickson. Chair Andrews made a motion to excuse Ms. Dickson's absence; seconded by Ms. Hall. Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Others in Attendance: Kelly Sutherland, Charles Boso, Jim Hale, Olivia Piper and Brian Courtney

Agenda Item B: Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Note that Ms. Dickson arrived at 9:09 A.M.

Agenda Item C: Approval of Minutes

Reviewed minutes from the February 13, 2025 regular meeting. Mr. Warner made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. Hall. Vote Taken - Motion Approved.

Agenda Item D: New Items:

- 1. Town Center Park Renaming Request** – Jim Hale requested renaming the Town Center Park to “William Foster Breck Park” to ensure that the Breck Family is not forgotten. He further stated that the Grant Family is an important part of the City's history, but the Breck Family should be recognized in a significant location and not just a dog park. Discussed process to rename parks. Ms. Sutherland will notify Commission members of the next Park Board meeting where this can be discussed.
- 2. Finance Report** – Ms. Sutherland reported that the purchase order for the mural on the Columbus Running Club building has been opened, and the artist will begin creating the mural. Ms. Sutherland also noted that the Commission has approximately \$18,000 available in the budget. Chair Andrews made a motion to accept the report. Vice Chair Shailer seconded. Vote Taken – Motion Approved
- 3. Proposed Expenditures** – nothing to report
- 4. Museum Update** – Ms. Sutherland reported that staff is getting ready for tours to start picking up. TVs and monitors have been installed, and they are working on getting PowerPoints/visuals created to display on the monitors.
- 5. LTOB Update** – Ms. Napier-Garcia announced the new season of shows. Opening in August with “The Play That Goes Wrong”. Ms. Napier-Garcia says the Theater plans to do major renovations at the end of the upcoming season. The Theater opens again next weekend for “Jane Eyre”. Ms. Napier-Garcia will send out a draft of historical women who are to be featured in a 2026 production for Women's History month.

6. **LTOB Legislative Grant Application Request for Assistance/Director** – Ms. Napier-Garcia asked for suggestions on grants for theater renovation. Mr. Boso suggested a State Capital Grant and stated that the City will submit the application after being given information from Ms. Napier-Garcia.
7. **Community Art Project Funding Request** – Ms. Napier-Garcia reported that there are two students wanting to compose a piece of music that represents their hometown of Grove City. They are requesting access to historical sites and funding for the project. Discussed whether the Commission was able to provide the funding and if it would be a grant, donation or something else. Mr. Boso noted they could be “independent contractors”, but the City would retain the rights to the product. Ms. Sutherland suggested expanding their project to include teaching music to kids attending the City’s summer camps and/or Rec School. Ms. Sutherland requested that the students reach out to her so she can direct them to those who can help.
8. **SWFCHS Update** – Mr. Maxson reported that their brochure has been updated to add the correct website. Mr. Maxson also reported that crews have been making repairs in the Village and getting ready for the busy season. On April 12th, the Visitors Bureau will host an event at the Village where different organizations and groups can promote their work. The supply of docents and volunteers is decreasing, and they are always looking for more people to volunteer.
9. **2025 Commission Goals** – Ms. Sutherland stated that a letter will be going out asking recipients to join the committee for planning and organizing events for celebrating America 250 in 2026.

Vice Chair Shailer reminded the Commission that the historical plaque for 3980 Broadway is still not up, and they should work on trying to get it up before alumni weekend.

10. Proposed Commission Projects – no report

Agenda Item E: Open Discussion – Mr. Brian Courtney shared his opinion about the old Brookpark Middle School building. He suggested preserving the building’s history by using it for various community programs and activities. Mr. Boso stated that the City currently leases the building and City Council does not want to invest any funds at this time. Additionally, SWCS is in discussions to move their enrollment center to Brookpark.

Discussed the importance of recording oral histories of the those who have been with the City for a long time (specifically Chuck Boso) in order to preserve the history for future generations.

Next meeting is May 8, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:39 a.m.

Olivia Piper, Secretary

CJ Andrews Chair