

GROVE CITY HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2025

Agenda Item A: Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Andrews called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Proper public notice has been given.

Members in Attendance: CJ Andrews, Chair; Janet Shailer, Vice Chair; John Maxson, Member; Linda Hall, Member; and Chloe Dickson, Member.

Members Absent: Lisa Napier-Garica and Jeff Warner. Chair Andrews made a motion to excuse their absence; seconded by Ms. Hall. Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Others in Attendance: Kelly Sutherland, Frances Morrow (Daughters of the American Revolution – John Hoover Chapter), Don Walters, Jim Hale, Leanne Watkins, and Mayor Stage.

Agenda Item B: Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item C: New Items:

- 1. Grove City History Book** – Mr. Jim Hale presented a draft copy of a book he wrote regarding the history of Grove City along with a single page of highlights. Discussed process to have the book published. Mr. Hale stated that he would have ownership of the product, but would sign rights over to the City and any royalties would be donated. The books are published “on-demand.” Discussed possibility of allocating \$2500 for publishing with excess funds being used to purchase books. Vice Chair Shailer agreed the Commission should pursue this project and will research publishers.
- 2. 200-Year-Old Dress Found at Grant-Sawyer House** - A dress believed to have belonged to Leah Diemer over 200 years ago was recently discovered. Ms. Leanne Watkins reported that the dress has been inspected by a retired member of the OSU Department of Historical Textiles, Costume Division. Discussed preservation and reproduction of the dress with the possibility of making two reproductions, one to display and one to be worn by a reenactor. Ms. Watkins explained how moths have a thread preference and only ate the wool thread, stating that carpet beetles are very picky. Mayor Stage suggested that the Commission could give a grant to the Society as they are the owner of all the artifacts. Mr. Maxson made a motion to give the Society a grant not to exceed \$5,000 for the reproduction and archival storage of the dress; seconded by Chair Andrews. Vote Taken – Motion Approved
- 3. Mural on the Columbus Running Club Building** – Mayor Stage distributed an updated depiction of the mural along with a copy of the plaque which explains the significance of the mural, which replicates a historic site. Chair Andrews made a motion to accept the mural as presented; seconded by Vice Chair Shailer. Vote Taken – Motion Approved.
- 4. America 250** – Mayor Stage stated he would like to see an event/activity every month. Ms. Sutherland indicated a meeting with the America 250 Committee was on the schedule for today. Ms. Sutherland needs an update on the play and will connect with Ms. Napier-Garcia. Ms. Frances Morrow with the John Hoover Chapter of the DAR stated her group would like to be involved. There is currently a push to locate graves of soldiers that have not been located.

5. **Town Center Park** – Mr. Maxson noted this a moot point as “Broadway Live” will possibly have “Breck Plaza” incorporated into that project.
6. **History Hike** – Mr. Don Walters presented an update to this project, which will be completed in phases with eventually 20+ locations. Viewed the pilot on the website. Ms. Dickson suggested that the talking portion of the video be capped at one minute, thirty seconds and include a transcript. Also requested is the ability to click on a picture to pause and open/expand it.

Agenda Item D: Approval of Minutes

Reviewed minutes from the April 10, 2025 regular meeting. Mr. Maxson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. Hall. Vote Taken - Motion Approved.

Agenda Item E: Finance Report – Discussed the Finance Report distributed by Ms. Sutherland.

Agenda Item F: Proposed Expenditures - Discussed proposed expenses to repair damage that occurred recently at the Gold Star Family Memorial site.

Agenda Item G: Museum Update – Ms. Watkins reported that a professor from Massachusetts is writing a book on Frances Harper, a free, black woman who owned land, purchased with her own money on S.R. 62 just north of Beatty Road. The professor intends on mentioning the museum. Ms. Sutherland suggested getting that information to Jeremy Sony to incorporate into the new play.

Agenda Item H: SWFCHS Update: Mr. Maxson reported many field trips visiting the Village and Grant-Sawyer Home. The Village open houses have started and the Heritage Celebration in June and garage sale in July were both highly successful. He expressed appreciation for Linda Rosine for scheduling VIPs to help with both events and is looking forward to the carriage house project as well as America 250.

Agenda Item I: LTOB Update – No update at this time.

Agenda Item J: Proposed Commission Projects: No update at this time.

Agenda Item K: Active/Approved Project: Ms. Dickson reported that the oral history CD’s have been digitized, and now working on the ones at the museum to make digitally preserved. The Mag Scott collection of Grove City families contains five boxes donated to the museum. Ms. Dickson and Vice Chair Shailer will work on. Also, will need binder money soon.

Agenda Item L: Active Community Projects – No update at this time.

Agenda Item M: Open Discussion

Next meeting is August 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:30 a.m.

Jennifer Uhrin, Secretary

CJ Andrews Chair