



Cultural and Scientific Commission **MINUTES**

May 19, 2026
5:30pm - PACE Center

- I. Call to Order - Bethany called the meeting to order at 5:31pm
- II. Roll Call and Introduce Annie Day
 - a. Commissioners: Katie Milazzo, Irene Bonham, Robert Sanchez, Bethany Wood, Terri Tilliss, Anita Linker, Scott Palmer, Nick Geraci, Annie Day
 - b. Absent, Excused: Allen Rosen, Tom O'Malley
 - c. Staff: Carrie Glassburn, Suzanne Velasquez, Sydney Mahnken
- III. Approval of Minutes from March 17, 2026
 - a. A couple additions/changes
 - i. Filled in the name of one Science Fair award winner (Amy Zhang)
 - ii. Changed the spelling of the other winner's name (Evelyn Seevers)
 - b. Robert motioned to approve, Anita seconded which passed unanimously
- IV. Staff Spotlight, Sydney Mahnken, Outreach Specialist
 - a. Oversee volunteer program - education, patron services, Discovery Park (~12,000 volunteer hours logged)
 - b. Almost 15 years on staff
 - c. Outreach - booths and senior outreach
 - d. Build relationships in the community
 - e. Support events
 - f. Attend school events like career fairs
 - g. Looking to implement a new volunteer platform in fall 2026
- V. Farmers Market Assignments (Terri and Sydney)
 - a. Can sign up to volunteer today or reach out to Sydney or sign up on the google doc that Syd will send out
- VI. Art Walk Discussion (Bethany)
 - a. July 21st shortened meeting - 45-minute walk after meeting
- VII. 15-Year Celebration – Discovery Park (Suzanne)
 - a. Commissioners' booth (Cultural and Public Art) at the July 16th - Discovery Park Concert event (July 23rd rain back up date)
- VIII. Committee Updates
 - a. Parker Arts Lecture Series (Terri) - sessions are planned; marketing promoting soon

- b. History Committee (Bethany) –
 - i. Working on content to support the mural, there will be a QR code, rough draft due by June 12th;
 - ii. Bethany met with representatives from the Douglas County Department of Community Development at the Reuter House. Brittany Cassell took a few small items and took photos of larger items. Not sure what she will end up deciding is worth the effort to transport, but there was a lot of old farm equipment.
 - iii. May 1 - kickoff with multiple parties involved in the renovations for the Heritage Center. A plan for the space will be completed in late July, work with company to create actual exhibits will begin in the fall of 2026. The reopening will most likely occur in the fall of 2027.
- c. Honey Festival Committee (Anita) - vendors nearly set (35), kids' activities planned
- d. Science Committee (Robert) - starting to plan format for next Science Night
- e. Strategic Planning Committee (Katie) - internal staff focus for first phase, research and outreach this first year, the committee will become more involved in later phases of the plan

IX. Director's Report – Carrie Glassburn

- a. Soft sales but sales tax revenue up - family sales specifically down
- b. Art update:
 - i. Garage mural starting in next two weeks, finished mid-July
 - ii. Welcome to Downtown Parker mural - first private/public partnership
 - iii. New art going into new wing of Town Hall and two sculptures going outside - opening in July
 - iv. Two new pieces in Salisbury Park
- c. Strategic Plan Update: internal review including - cultivating larger donors, looking into dynamic pricing, long term facilities' needs, software, space usage, programming. Shared breakdown of how programs are all reliant on each other.
- d. Season Announcement

Adjournment - Bethany declared us adjourned at 7:02pm

Next Meeting: July 21st – Location PACE Center

Some upcoming events:

- Back to Our Roots: 250/150/45 Celebrations
- May 22nd – Celebrating America, Parker Symphony
- June 4th – Discovery Park Concert Series – The Elegant Plums
- June 26th-July 19th – All Shook Up