

Approved
**MINUTES OF THE ARTS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
MEETING AGENDA - JUNE 11, 2026**

6/11/2026 - Arts Development Commission Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum

Meeting called to order by Chair Trey Click at 1:33 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: Nellie Cornett, Brita Blesi, Tony Lyle, Russ Mullins, Trey Click, Sherrill Hilton (arrived at 1:38 p.m.), Jonathan Crummett, Alex Porretto (City Council)

Absent: Sandra Tetley, Lacey White

3. Consider Approval Of Meeting Minutes

3.A Draft Minutes - May 14, 2026

Approval of the meeting minutes was deferred.

4. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Committee. Speakers will be limited to three minutes.

Kathy Fetcher, senior producer of American Revival, which is a traveling festival of hope. Antoinnette will be providing the commissioners with additional material from Kathy.

5. Conflict of Interest

N/A

6. Discussion of 2026 Planning Commission Awards and identification of potential nominees for the Cultural Arts award category – Catherine Gorman

Catherine Gorman, Assistant Director of Development Services and Historic Preservation Officer, presented an overview of the Planning Commission's annual Planning & Design Awards Program. She explained the Commission's role as a recommending body on development matters and noted that the awards, established in 2019, recognize projects that positively benefit the City.

She reviewed past award recipients, including several cultural arts projects recognized prior to Cultural Arts becoming a formal award category in 2025. She noted that last year's Cultural Arts Commission nominations resulted in multiple award selections across various categories. Two previously submitted cultural arts nominations remain active on this year's slate. The board is asked to provide additional new nominations for 2026. Nominations open to the public on August 1 and close in September. The Planning Commission will workshop selections in September, with awards presented at City Council on November 12.

Required nomination information includes project details, photos, funding source (if applicable), and brief statements addressing evaluation criteria. Staff will distribute the

presentation to board members.

7. Financial Update – amount of FY26 funding available for public art grants

Approx. \$550K available for FY26 Public Art. Arts & Historic Preservation faces a \$410K two-year shortfall due to ordinance changes. Board will later determine whether to cover the gap or allow prorated reductions.

8. Update on SMU DataArts – timeline and resources available FY26

Staff reported that the SMU DataArts contract is complete, but finance requested an additional item this morning that may slightly affect the timeline. Updated timeline will be emailed to the Board once confirmed. Staff noted upcoming departmental restructuring and potential support for onboarding. A future request will be brought to use Marketing & Maintenance funds for training materials and customized instructional videos.

9. Discussion of Software Needs for grant applications including needs and potential costs

Staff presented the draft scope for an RFP for a grant-management software platform that will integrate with SMU DataArts and the City's finance system. Desired features include streamlined applications, automated reporting, and reduced staff workload. The estimated annual cost ranges from \$40K–\$100K, depending on volume and integration needs. Board members may submit additional requirements or share the document with local organizations for input. Implementation is not feasible for FY26, so this year's grants will use the current manual process.

10. Discuss and consider adoption of grant structure, amounts, frequency, target opening, and software needs

The Commission discussed options for FY26 public art grant allocations. Staff recommended issuing one immediate call using last year's manual process due to ongoing software implementation. After discussion, the Commission unanimously approved allocating \$150,000 as follows: \$75,000 for a major Public Art call, \$25,000 for an additional Public Art call, and \$50,000 for a micro-grant initiative potentially administered through a local nonprofit, with Tony Lyle making the motion, seconded by Sherill Hilton. Staff will return with proposed guidelines and parameters for each call.

11. Future Agenda Items

N/A

12. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned by Chair Trey Click at 2:43 p.m.

Martha Alvarez

Executive Assistant to City Secretary

Date Approved: July 9, 2026

