



**Duncanville Arts Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda**
City Hall, Briefing Room
203 E. Wheatland Road
Duncanville, TX 75116

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026
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 accommodation.

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, February 24, 2026

Email alex.hamby@duncanvilletx.gov

Email title: Arts Commission Public Comment – February 24, 2026

First and Last Name; and address.

3. The Arts Commission to consider the following Minutes:
 - A. Consider the December 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
 - B. Consider the January 12, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes
4. Commissioners Reports (limit to 2 minutes each)
During this time, members of the Arts Commission will present brief reports, each limited to two minutes.
5. Briefings and Presentations
 - A. Arts and Business Mixers in collaboration with the Duncanville Community and Economic Development Corporation, presented by Interim Director of Economic Development Marlon Goff.
 - B. Neighborhood Town Halls on the Arts presented by Community Engagment Advisory Board member Ron Thompson

- C. Ellafair at BloomFest 2026
 - D. Cockrell Hill and Danieldale Mural
 - E. Danieldale and Cockrell Hill Mural
 - F. Second quarter grant applications, policy revisions, and third quarter application cycle briefing.
6. Items for Individual Consideration
- A. Xela Bistro Mural Reconsideration
 - B. Consider Recommending a Permit for the Xela Bistro Mural
7. 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 on the bulletin board located outside the entrance to the City of Duncanville City Hall, next to the entryway doors, 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 the following date and time: Tuesday, February 17, 2026, by 5:00 PM and remained posted for at least two hours after said meeting was convened.

Alex Hamby
Communications and Marketing Administrator



STAFF REPORT

MEETING: - February 24, 2026

TITLE:

Consider the December 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Vision Statement:

“Duncanville, a City of Champions, is a safe, vibrant, diverse community committed to excellence in education, business, and good governance.”

Pillar:

STAFF RESPONSIBLE:

Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

POLICY EXPLANATION:

FUNDING SOURCE:

ORG and Object Number

N/A

Available Budget

N/A

Purchase Amount

N/A

After Encumber

N/A

ACTION ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve.
2. Disapprove
3. Other actions as directed by Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

2025-12-15 - Arts Commission Regular Meeting - Minutes



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 15, 2025

A meeting of the Duncanville Arts Commission was held on Monday, December 15, 2025, in the Briefing Room at City Hall (203 East Wheatland Road, Duncanville, Texas 75116) with a quorum to wit: Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris, Vice Chair Mac Browning, Julio Avila, Linda Lydia, Patricia Coleman, Amy Jackson, and Luke Durmon. Mary Ann Taylor and Council Liaison, Mayor Pro Tem DeMonica Gooden, joined the meeting on Microsoft Teams.

Devon Handley, Event Coordinator, served as Staff Liaison.

Alex Hamby, Marketing and Communications Administrator, was absent.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

2. Receive Public Comments, limit 2-minutes per individual speaker.

No public comments were received.

3. Commissioners Reports (limit to 2 minutes each)

Luke Durmon stated that he graduated the previous Friday. The Commissioners congratulated him on his achievement.

Amy Jackson recounted the sold-out play *Harvey*, which was held at the Duncanville Community Theater. She stated that there will be auditions for the next show she is directing, and rehearsals will start at the beginning of January 2026.

Chair Mac Browning recited a poem.

Beauty

When you create,
When you endeavor

To be clever
With word or brush
Or cut and clay,

When you in boldness
Give that beauty way
To become, to portray,

Then beauty is enough,

No matter if you dare
To share it with a beloved,
Or Keep it gently hidden,
It is still beauty created,

And it is enough.

Linda Lydia recounted going to a new gallery that opened on Main Street in Duncanville. She met with the gallery owner to discuss upcoming events, including potential showings.

Mary Ann Taylor stated she had no comments.

Julio Avila stated that he went to the Olden Year Museum in Duncanville. He added that he performed at the newest comedy club, The Punchline, in Irving on the first day it opened. He also spoke with several muralists about the Duncanville Fieldhouse project. Mr. Avila worked on creating a form that allows you to scan a QR code to collect applicants' information. He spoke to the owner of Gilda's Cigars about a cigar festival and about incorporating art into it.

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris asked Council liaison, Mayor Pro Tem DeMonica Gooden, if she would like to speak. Mayor Pro Tem but declined saying she had no.

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris stated that she attended the *Harvey* play. She attended one of the grant recipients' Master's Voice event. She also participated in the Duncanville *Holiday Lights* Christmas event. Chair Thorpe-Harris attended the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast and had the opportunity to speak about the Duncanville Arts Commission. She reminded other commissioners that grant recipient Candice Y. Johnson's *Fixin' His Plate* was taking place on December 27, 2025, at the Duncanville Fieldhouse. She also asked for volunteers for BloomFest on Saturday, May 9, 2026.

4. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Reconsider the October 10, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes.

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris made a motion to reconsider the October 10, 2025,

Special Meeting Minutes. Moved by Mac Browning and seconded by Amy Jackson. All present voted in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.

B. Consider the November 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris made a motion to accept the November 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Moved by Amy Jackson and seconded by Linda Lydia. All present voted in favor. None opposed. The motion passed

C. Consider a Special Meeting date, time, and location to occur no later than January 16, 2026, to review second-quarter grant applications.

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris asked commissioners to meet to review grant applicants on January 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

5. Non Action Items:

A. Review and discuss recommended changes to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Arts Funding Policy and Grant Guidelines. Provide feedback and recommendations that will be included in a version for the Arts Commission to consider during their January regular meeting.

The Arts Commission reviewed changes to the 2025–2026 arts funding rules. They discussed who can apply, what applications need, project deadlines, and report requirements. They also talked about unfinished projects, including communication, flexibility for problems, returning funds, and future eligibility, agreeing these should be handled case by case. Deadlines for final reports and project locations were also reviewed. Feedback will be added to a new draft for further review.

B. Staff to brief the Arts Commission on recommendations for the proposed Midnight Murals program.

C. Duncanville Fieldhouse Mural Call for Artists plan.

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris shared an update on the Midnight Murals program, noting it is still under discussion due to concerns about security, lighting, and police overtime costs. Because of these delays, staff recommended moving forward with the Duncanville Fieldhouse mural, which already has funding and is ready to begin. It was suggested that local artist Mr. Ferguson complete the Duncanville Fieldhouse mural to avoid further delays. Commissioners supported this approach while continuing to plan for future murals and the Midnight Murals program.

D. Q2 Grant Application Update

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris gave an update on the Quarter 2 grant application. The application period is open, and so far, only one application has been received. More applications can still come in before the end of the month. The Duncanville Arts

Commission was told that the next meeting might be longer or shorter, depending on how many applications are received.

E. Podcast

The Arts Commission talked about creating a podcast to share information, highlight local artists, promote events, and reach the community. They discussed using city equipment to keep costs low and making sure the podcast continues even if board members change. Topics included who would host, guests, content, and how to reach listeners. Commissioners liked the idea but said costs, hosting, staffing, funding, and a formal proposal should be clarified before going to city council.

F. Olden Year Museum

The Arts Commission got an update on the Olden Year Museum. Some members have toured it, and staff are planning another tour so more commissioners can see it. A proposal is being developed, and the City and partners are looking at ways to preserve the museum and its exhibit. Commissioners appreciated the exhibit, and staff will share more information and tour opportunities when available.

G. Review Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Awards' statuses

Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris provided an update on the Fiscal Year 2025 grant awards and reporting status. Commissioners discussed the success of the grant program and interest in highlighting yearly accomplishments and growing funding in the future. The Commission also discussed the possible creation of a Duncanville Poet Laureate position to promote spoken word art and support city events. Further details and a proposal will be needed.

H. Discuss a Duncanville Poet Laureate

The Arts Commission agreed to move forward by exploring the creation of a Duncanville Poet Laureate position. Members expressed support and interest in helping develop the idea, with staff and commissioners volunteering to work together on next steps.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Angela Thorpe - Harris,
Arts Commission Chair

Alex Hamby, Staff Liaison



STAFF REPORT

MEETING: - February 24, 2026

TITLE:

Consider the January 12, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes

Vision Statement:

“Duncanville, a City of Champions, is a safe, vibrant, diverse community committed to excellence in education, business, and good governance.”

Pillar:

STAFF RESPONSIBLE:

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

POLICY EXPLANATION:

FUNDING SOURCE:

ORG and Object Number

N/A

Available Budget

N/A

Purchase Amount

N/A

After Encumber

N/A

ACTION ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve.
2. Disapprove
3. Other actions as directed by Council.

ATTACHMENTS:



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 12, 2026

A special meeting of the Duncanville Arts Commission was held on Monday, January 12, 2026, in the Briefing Room at City Hall (203 East Wheatland Road, Duncanville, Texas 75116) with a quorum to wit: Chair Angela Thorpe-Harris, Vice Chair Mac Browning, Mary Ann Taylor, Linda Lydia, Patricia Coleman, and Julio Avila, Luke Durmon.

Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator, served as staff liaison.

Devon Handley, Event Coordinator, served as staff co-liaison. (left early)

Councilmember Jeremy Koontz. (left at 7:21 PM)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

2. Receive Public Comments, limit 2-minutes per individual speaker.

I had attended Duncanville Writes at the Duncanville Library since Oct. 2025.

This group had enriched my writing skills:

Sincere critiques

Enjoyed hearing other writers stories.

Mary Ann Taylor, coordinator taught us a lot.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lee Lee Lee

3430 S Edelweiss Dr. Grand Prairie. Tx. 75052

Dear Arts Commission (Public comment),

I would like to have a place available for Duncanville artist and craft persons to display and sell their creations. This should be set up at no cost but when item sold, a 10 to 15% commission could be paid to location. This allows the artists/crafter to have an ability to show/sell items without major cost (starving artist types included). There could be a revolving period as 60 days or specific time period that changes out the items and creators. The idea is to have numerous creators showing at same time and limits to their items can be also allocated, ie less than 10, to allow more people to display. I would limit to only Duncanville residents as I think we have many such here and we should not be limited because of non residents. We can always revisit these ideas as needed if implemented.

Sincerely,
Linda Stern
415 Shorewood Dr.
Duncanville 75116

Where Have all the Poets Gone
In days of old and Knights were bold
Poets seemed to be everywhere
Some were great and memorable
Every profession had their of poets
There was even a lawyer who wrote one you all know it
Don't believe me later
The problem is poems don't sell well
When was the last time you saw a book of poems on the best seller list
Poets seem to have been reduced
So what happened
I believe they followed the money
You can still hear them even now
Lyrics of songs You may think this is something new
Nope remember that Lawyer his name was Francis Scott Key
Not familiar? The title was "In Defense of Fort Machenry"
You don't know it
They changed the title and added a tune from an English drinking song
Still confused? We call It "The Star Spangled Banner"

Ron Sonnier
1314 Elsmere Dr Duncanville 75116

3. Final Project Reports

Grant recipients are required to submit a Final Project Report within 45 days of project completion. The report must include documentation of project outcomes, financial details, attendance and public engagement, and tourism or hotel impact, if applicable. Failure to submit a complete and timely report will result in ineligibility for the next four (4) grant cycles.

A. Rhythm of Heartbeat Dance Experience

Reviewed and discussed. No action was taken on this item.

B. Musical Performance

Reviewed and discussed. No action was taken on this item.

C. SupaFly

Reviewed and discussed. No action was taken on this item.

D. 2025 Winter Showcase

Reviewed and discussed. No action was taken on this item

4. The Arts Commission to Consider Grant Applications

A. City of Duncanville Arts Commission Podcast.

Mac Browning made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Linda Lydia seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

B. Derby Hat Bar Party

Mary Ann Taylor made a motion to recommend City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$1,500.00. Patricia Coleman seconded the motion. Mary Ann Taylor, Patricia Coleman, Luke Durmon, Julio Avila, Mac Browning, and Angela Thorpe-Harris voted in favor. Linda Lydia opposed. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

C. DSO Principal Cellist Christopher Adkins in 'Once Upon a Time'

Mac Browning made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Mary Ann Taylor seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

D. Duncanville Poet Laureate

Linda Lydia made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,500. Julio Avila seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

E. Empowerment Through Ballet

Julio Avila made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$5,000. Mac Browning seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

F. He That Finds A Wife...FIND ME!

Julio Avila made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$8,000. Lyndia Lydia seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

G. Lettering Art and Design Workshops

Julio Avila made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$2,100. Lyndia Lydia seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

H. Maya Angelou Literary Festival

Lyndia Lydia made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Mary Ann Taylor seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

I. Pieces of Us: A Duncanville Community Mosaic

Mac Browning made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Julio Avila seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

J. Spring Main Street Shopping & Music Experience

Mac Browning made a motion to recommend City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000.00 contingent on selection of a new date that does not conflict with BloomFest. Mary Ann Taylor seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

K. SupaFly

Julio Avila made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$2,000. Luke Durmon seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

L. The City in Motion

Julio Avila made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Patricia Coleman seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

M. VIDA IMPACT LAB

Mary Ann Taylor made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the grant request in the amount of \$3,000. Luke Durmon seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. Amy Jackson was absent. The motion passed.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Angela Thorpe-Harris, Chair

Alex Hamby, Staff Liaison



STAFF REPORT

MEETING: - February 24, 2026

TITLE:

Neighborhood Town Halls on the Arts presented by Community Engagment Advisory Board member Ron Thompson

Vision Statement:

“Duncanville, a City of Champions, is a safe, vibrant, diverse community committed to excellence in education, business, and good governance.”

Pillar:

STAFF RESPONSIBLE:

Alex Hamby, Communications and Marketing Administrator

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

POLICY EXPLANATION:

FUNDING SOURCE:

ACTION ALTERNATIVES:

ATTACHMENTS:

Duncanville Forum

Duncanville Forum

A Community Engagement Platform

Presented by Ron Thompson
City of Duncanville Community Engagement Advisory Board

January 2026

Overview

Duncanville Forum is a proposed community engagement platform designed to strengthen communication among City boards and commissions, City Council representatives, and the community.

- **Structure:** A permanent, scalable system for public dialogue.
- **Flexibility:** Provides a framework to host various formats across civic issues, including:
 - District-based town halls
 - Panel discussions and guest speakers
 - Listening sessions
 - Working conversations
- **Pilot:** The Arts Commission will launch the first edition, **Duncanville Forum on Arts and Culture**, to test the model before expansion to other areas (e.g., parks, planning and zoning, special projects, community development).

Why the Forum is Needed

Community input is currently fragmented, inconsistently documented, and vulnerable to loss during leadership changes. It often lacks visibility and can rely too heavily on individual personalities.

Duncanville Forum addresses this by establishing a consistent structure for:

- Dialogue and documentation.
- Follow-through on commitments.
- Creating a predictable civic space for residents, boards, and elected officials to exchange ideas and set priorities.
- Building long-term community memory.

Why the Arts Commission is the Pilot

The Arts Commission is an ideal test case due to its broad reach and low-risk nature for piloting the model:

- **Wide Impact:** Arts and culture affect every district, connecting to youth, schools, public spaces, seniors, neighborhoods, and small businesses.
- **Accessibility:** Cultural initiatives are highly visible and accessible to residents.
- **Engagement-Ready:** The Commission already relies on community input and produces measurable, observable outcomes.
- **Low-Risk Environment:** The pilot allows for high learning before expanding citywide.

What Duncanville Forum Is

The Forum is a community engagement system, not a single event. It is the City's institutionalized platform for predictable, documented, and actionable community decision-making.

Each session is designed to achieve the following core objectives:

- Center district-level voices.
- Clarify community priorities.
- Improve communication between boards and City Council.
- Create documented public records of community input.
- Build long-term institutional memory.
- Generate actionable next steps.

The Forum can be adapted to multiple formats, including:

- town halls
- panel discussions
- guest lectures
- community workshops
- listening sessions

Pilot Structure: Duncanville Forum on Arts and Culture

Phase 1: At-Large Forum Session

- A citywide introductory session.
- Clarifies how input is collected, documented, and used to inform City processes.

Phase 2: District-Level Forum Sessions

- Arts and culture forums co-hosted with district representatives.
- Each session will include:
 - A district snapshot
 - Community dialogue
 - Priority identification
 - Action commitments
 - Documentation for long-term reference

What This Produces (Benefits)

For the Arts Commission

- Clear, community-informed priorities.
- Transparent public input.
- Stronger resident trust.
- A repeatable engagement framework.

For City Council

- District-specific insight.
- Better alignment with boards and commissions.
- Documented community priorities.
- Stronger constituent relationships.

For Residents

- Direct access to decision-makers.
- Transparency about how input is used.
- Neighborhood ownership of priorities.
- Greater civic participation.

For the City

- A scalable engagement infrastructure.
- Reduced fragmentation of input.
- Improved cross-board/commission communication.
- Long-term knowledge retention.

Low-Cost Outreach and Community Access Strategy

Duncanville Forum is designed to be accessible, low-cost, and replicable. Outreach will prioritize existing City communication channels, community networks, and simple, high-impact tools rather than expensive marketing campaigns.

Core outreach methods include:

City and Board Channels

- City website event calendar and announcements
- City social media platforms
- Board and commission email lists
- Mentions during City Council, board and commission meetings
- Agenda postings and public notices

Digital and Social Media

- Shareable graphics for social platforms
- Short explainer posts and videos
- District-specific event listings
- Cross-posting by City departments and partners

Print and In-Person

- Simple, flyers/postcards
- Posting at libraries, recreation centers, City Hall, and local businesses
- Table tents or half-sheet handouts
- Inclusion in existing City mailings when possible

Community Partners

- Schools and parent networks
- Faith communities
- Neighborhood associations
- Local businesses
- Cultural and nonprofit organizations
- Youth and senior-serving organizations

Peer-to-Peer Amplification

- Commissioner and Councilmember outreach
- Word-of-mouth through trusted community leaders
- “Bring-a-neighbor” invitations

This approach emphasizes trust, repetition, and accessibility rather than volume or advertising spend.

Long-Term Vision

Once refined through the Arts Commission pilot, Duncanville Forum will become a citywide engagement framework adaptable to other focus areas:

- Parks and recreation
- Planning and zoning
- Economic development
- Environmental initiatives
- ADA and age-related issues
- Language silos
- Public safety

The ultimate goal is a permanent civic engagement system that grows with Duncanville.



PERMIT DETAILED REPORT (SIGN-2026-00043) FOR CITY OF DUNCANVILLE

Permit Type: BLD - Sign (Not Illuminated)	Project:	App Date: 01/26/2026
Work Class: Mural	District: (Blank)	Issue Date: NOT ISSUED
Status: In Review	Square Feet: 0.00	Exp Date: NOT AVAILABLE
Description: art Mural on the side of building	Valuation: \$0.00	Final Date: NOT FINALED

Address: 1117 S Main St S Duncanville, TX 75137	Main
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Applicant

Frances Villagran
1117 S. Main Street
Duncanville, TX 75137
Home:
Business:
Mobile: (214) 336-4614



