

Arts and Beautification Commission

Work Session Minutes

City of Huber Heights

May 18, 2026

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Sarah Chapman called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30pm

II. Roll Call

Present: Cheryl Brandenburg, Wendy Knapp, Sarah Chapman, Greg Fox, Melissa Gwinn, Sade Hedgcorth, and Joe Nocera.

Absent: Mason Knickerbocker

Staff Present: Sarah Forsythe, City of Huber Heights Parks and Recreation.

III. Opening Remarks

Sarah Chapman welcomed Sade Hedgcorth into the Arts and Beautification Commission and administered the oath of office. She also briefly acknowledges the great pleasure in the Commission's Art Show improvements from year to year.

IV. Citizen's Comments

None.

V. Old Business

a. Art Show Review

Sarah Chapman addresses new member Joe Nocera and thanks him for stepping up to the plate for a connection for concessions last minute. Joe follows up by stating he was glad that the Scouting America troop was able to come out and that the program helped them reach their service hours goals.

Sarah Forsythe then gives the board members a breakdown of number comparisons from last year compared to this year's Art Show. Sarah mentioned that comparing the number of counted visitors between the years may not be as accurate as thought because the way in

which the visitors were counted changed. It was also mentioned that the art sales vendors thought the program was worth their time. An area of improvement given by Sarah Forsythe was to possibly find more youth vendors by starting to reach out earlier next year, which might in turn increase attendance numbers.

Melissa Gwinn thanks the board members for all their hard work and day of attendance. The board then opens the floor to lessons learned from this year, where Melissa mentioned the possibility of shortening the length of the show, wanting more school participants (possibility changing the date), and how great the reception and marketing with Molly Gross came out.

Cheryl agrees with some of the points made by Melissa and adds that the layout of the show could potentially benefit from flipping the location of the vendors and artists. Wendy Knap brings in the idea of reserving more of the senior center next year to improve program layout and to support the growth of the Art Show. Sarah Chapman recognizes the great contributions from parks staff member Molly Gross for her work leading up to the art show and during the show. Sarah Chapman also mentioned that the program could be improved with the addition of some sort of auditory element, whether it be live or background music, performances, poetry or author readings, etc.

Joe Nocera reiterates the importance of reaching out to schools earlier next year to get the art show program on their curriculum. Grey Fox mentioned the positive feedback the commission got from moving the show from February to May this year. He also throws out the idea behind separating the show into two different events; one earlier in the school year for the students, and one later for adults.

b. Shark Tank Expectations

Sarah Chapman explains that the Shark Tank style event is used to help weight out where the commission should allot their time and budget for the upcoming year. The commission plans to host the shark tank event at their next meeting on June 15th and invite citizens and members across other commissions to participate. Sarah Chapman also mentions she would like to give this meeting the time it deserves and make the meeting into 2 hours. The board agrees to this extension. Mrs. Chapman also notes that the project proposal form is an outline to get people started, not a limitation.

c. Yard Beautification Award Recruitment

The champion of the Yard Beautification Awards, Cheryl Brandenburg, opens the discussion on what she noticed last year to improve nomination sign drop off and get the name and number of the homeowners. The board will close the nominations on June 30th, vote on winners during the July meeting, then hold the award ceremony during the August meeting.

VI. **New Business**

None.

VII. **Additional Business and Announcements**

Greg mentions upcoming events such as the youth fishing derby and the 250th Homecoming Picnic, where the time capsule will be buried, the Lego contest at the library, the Longest Table (pre-registration required), and the Star-Spangled Heights Parade. Cheryl also mentions that at the 4th of July festival, the time capsule will be loaded.

Joe nominates himself to Liaison with the school districts, and the motion was then carried. Wendy Knap provided the board with information on the Kiwanis group and brought in book handouts that were left over after a America's 250th event.

VIII. **Approval of Minutes – Minutes Approved**

IX. **Upcoming Meetings**

The next meeting will be held on June 15th at 6:30 pm.

X. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 pm.