

BURLESON PUBLIC SPACES & CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD
JULY 14, 2026
MINUTES
DRAFT

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Vaughn Schlegel, Chair
Payton Byrd, Vice Chair
John Weeks
Joy Larabell
Vanessa Shimek
Steve Ann Richie
John Zamaripa

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Staff Present

Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation
Alex Philips, Economic Development Director
Sarah Heath, Senior Administrative Specialist/Recording Secretary

Guests

None.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Time 6:00 p.m.

Vaughn Schlegel, Chair, called the meeting to order. **Time: 6:00 p.m.**

2. **CITIZEN APPEARANCES**

None.

3. **GENERAL**

A. **Consider the minutes from the June 23, 2026 meeting. (Staff Contact: Sarah Heath, Senior Administrative Specialist)**

Motion made by John Zamaripa and seconded by Payton Byrd to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion passed 6-0 with Vanessa Shimek absent.

4. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide direction on incorporating public art on new and existing opportunities within the City as well as future Economic Development projects. (Staff Contact: Alex Philips, Economic Development Director)**

Alex Philips introduced himself to the Board and presented a report regarding the connection of the Economic Development Department and the role of public art in recruiting new businesses to the community as well as supporting the existing business community. The presentation included the mission and vision of the department, demographics in Burleson and Johnson County, and an overview of the new Paris Baguette manufacturing plant, the Tallgrass master-planned community, and Old Town Burleson. The report summarized current, planned, and opportunities for proposed public art within current and future economic development projects, such as Depot on Main, the former City Market, Old Town, and the Tallgrass and Chisholm Summit master-planned communities. He clarified that public art may be incorporated into discussions as part of the planning process with businesses, as well as into agreements with businesses.

Vanessa Shimek entered the Board meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Board discussion reflected the potential opportunity to incorporate public art or local history in updated or new benches. The Board inquired whether a pathway exists to work with property owners on updating existing murals, such as the John Wayne mural (facing West Ellison Street at Pandan Thai Street Eats, located at 114 South Main Street). Staff clarified that any request to update or change the John Wayne mural could be directed to the Baker Foundation of Burleson through Jeff Rasco.

B. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff feedback regarding the survey of public art in Burleson in the development of a public art inventory. (Staff Contact: Sarah Heath, Senior Administrative Specialist)

Sarah Heath presented a report on the progress towards developing a public art inventory. The presentation included:

- The process of surveying current items for consideration, verifying information for entry into the public art inventory, and long-term notation in the inventory record.
- A review of the definition of public space and guidelines for existing murals on private property, as outlined by the Burleson Public Art Policy.
- A review of items in Burleson for the Board to consider as meeting or not meeting the definition of public art.
- Surveyed items excluded from consideration, as they clearly do not meet the definition of public art.
- Next steps for the items identified as meeting the definition of public art.
- A review of other areas to be surveyed, which will be brought to the Board in the future for consideration.

The Board identified the following as meeting the definition of public art:

- "Bailey Lake Park" mural

- "Just Right" with Three Bears mural at Roasted Beanery Coffee Bar at the drive-thru
- Mural at KC & Kasey's
- "Thank You for Your Service" mural at Tex Tech Environmental, Inc.
- Interior mural at Burleson Senior Activity Center
- "Our Place" interior mural at Our Place Restaurant
- "Burleson Child Development Center" mural
- "History of Burleson, Texas" mural at Family Toyota of Burleson

The Board identified the following as not meeting the definition of public art:

- "Just Right" mural at Roasted Beanery Coffee Bar behind the building, due to creative and commercial signage including commercial advertising
- "Our Place" exterior mural at Our Place Restaurant, due to creative and commercial signage including commercial advertising
- "Western Place" mural, due to the current condition

The Board recommended that staff survey the statue at the entrance of Shenandoah Townhomes (1151 Remington Circle) for consideration as meeting the definition of public art.

5. **REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND REPORTS**

None.

6. **ADJOURN**

Motion made by Payton Byrd and seconded by John Weeks to adjourn the meeting.

Vaughn Schlegel, Chair, adjourned the meeting. **Time: 7:02 p.m.**

Sarah Heath
Recording Secretary