

**Georgetown Recreation, Education, and Arts Trust Fund
Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 4, 2025 – 3:30 PM**

Attendees:

- Adam Buczkowski
- Linda Dennis
- Renee Hickman
- Jon Peterson

- Gene Dvornick

- Angela Townsend (Absent)

Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Approval of August 18, 2025, Minutes
- Discussion of Applications & Recommendation for Council
- Discussion of Excess and Reverted Funds & Recommendation for Council
- Discussion of Suggested Code Revisions
- Adjournment

Call to Order:

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Linda Dennis at 3:30 PM followed by an introduction by each member of the committee

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Jon Peterson; Second: Adam Buczkowski to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2025 meeting as presented – ***Motion Carried***

Discussion of Applications & Recommendation for Council:

Discussion started with what course of action the committee felt would be most appropriate when an organization applies and fails to show up for the Organization Presentation meeting. Potential alternatives, including reducing the award amount or reallocating the requested amount among other applicants, were discussed. The committee felt firm action needed and likened this to the handling of applications received after the published deadline.

Motion: Jon Peterson; Second: Adam Buczkowski to eliminate from grant eligibility, any organization that fails to appear for the Organization Presentation Meeting – ***Motion Carried***

It was suggested this also be added to potential code revision recommendations.

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The committee discussed the applications and recommended the following awards:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>2025 Request</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Asha Animal Welfare, Inc.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Clothing Our Kids	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,452.00
Easter Seals	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Everlasting Hope Ministries	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
First State Community Action Agency	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Georgetown Public Library	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Historic Georgetown Association	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
La Esperanza	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Sussex Post No. 8 American Legion	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 5,000.00
	<u>\$ 66,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 60,952.00</u>

In addition to the award recommendations, the Committee requested the following:

- Asha Animal Welfare, Inc. funding be used for a feasibility study, subject to:
 - The need for a dog park within the corporate limits of the Town
 - Outside agency (DNREC, Tax Ditch Association, others) requirements (if the proposed site were to be used)
 - Completion within three (3) months
- Reiteration to GREAT Fund Applicants that ***“Ineligible funding under this program includes, but is not limited to, capital improvements, salaries or fundraising.”***
(Georgetown Code §98-6.2 B (2))

Discussion of Excess and Reverted Funds & Recommendation for Council:

The Committee discussed three (3) potential projects:

1. Sculpture – New Police/Public Works Building (\$50,000) – ***Consensus to defer consideration and action until the new building is constructed***
2. Art – New Police/Public Works Building (\$25,000) – ***Consensus to defer consideration and action until the new building is constructed***
3. Amenities – Parsons Lane Trailhead/Parking Area (\$75,000) – ***Motion: Jon Peterson; Second: Renee Hickman to recommend award of \$75,000 for the Town project – Motion Carried***

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Discussion of Suggested Code Revisions:

The committee recommends, based on this year's process, incorporate the following modifications to the existing Town Code:

1. ADD under § 98-6.2 B Funding **(c) Applications received after the published deadline shall not be considered,**
2. ADD under § 98-6.2 B Funding **(d) Applicants that fail to attend and present their application and request shall be disqualified from the granting cycle.**

Adjournment:

- Motion: Adam Buczkowski; Second: Jon Peterson to close the committee and adjourn at 4:36 PM – ***Motion Carried***