

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS
BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – JANUARY 27, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Beautification Advisory Board was held on **January 27, 2026**, at 8:00 a.m. at the Gonzales Main Street / Economic Development Building located at 305 St. Lawrence Street. This was an OPEN MEETING, open to the public, subject to the open meeting laws of the State of Texas and, as required by law, was duly posted at the Gonzales Municipal Building giving notice of time, date, place, and agenda thereof. The meeting notice, agenda and agenda packet were posted online at www.gonzales.texas.gov.

CALL TO ORDER

Staff liaison Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. and a quorum was certified.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Connie Dolezal	Board Member	Present
Jessica McKinney	Board Member	Present
Pat Anders-Ryan	Board Member	Present
Luz Moreno	Board Member	Absent
Dee Sengelmann	Board Member	Present
Debbie Ticken	Board Member	Present
Jennifer Gibbons	Board Member	Absent
Jean Burns	Board Member	Present
Jessica Barnett	Board Member	Present

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

Tiffany Padilla – Main Street Director

GUESTS

Isaac Anzaldúa – Mayor

Susan Sankey – GEDC Director

Misti King – Tourism Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action approving the October 21, 2025, meeting minutes
Action: Item 1.1 **Approved**
Board Member Barnett corrected that she was present at the October 21, 2025 meeting. Staff made the correction. Board Member Burns moved to accept the minutes with the correction for the October 21, 2025, meeting. Board Member Sengelmann seconded the motion. Board Liaison Padilla called for a vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

- 1.2 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action regarding City warehouse clean out and Christmas Decorations
Action: Item 1.2 (Christmas Décor Committee) **Approved**
The board discussed a major Christmas decoration refresh, noting that the Main Street decorations fund currently holds roughly \$15,000 (including prior unspent donations and a new \$7,000 Dixie Stearns Foundation gift restricted to Christmas décor), plus a small separate City decorations fund, and reviewed catalogs with the possibility of forming a side committee to create a cohesive theme and avoid a piecemeal look; to meet delivery timelines, the board wants the design finalized by June and orders placed by early June/July, while also pursuing additional support from BYK (for a new tree) and GVEC. Board Member McKinney made a motion to create a Christmas Décor

committee consisting of Board Members, Tieken, Dolezal, Burns, and McKinney. Board member Anders-Ryan seconded the motion. Board Liaison Padilla called for a vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

Action: Item 1.2 (Warehouse cleanout dates)

Approved

The board discussed moving forward with a warehouse cleanout with board members first sorting what to keep using the inventory spreadsheet and City/Parks staff assisting with disposal, following rules that allow broken items to be discarded, City-owned usable items to be sold via GovDeals, and Main Street 501(c)(3)-owned decorations to be disposed of directly. A motion was made by Board Member McKinney to approve the dates of March 5–6 (8 AM–5 PM). Board Member Burns seconded the motion. Board Liaison Padilla called for a vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

Action: Item 1.2 (Partnership and plan for Christmas Décor)

Approved

Board Member Burns made a motion to write a letter to GVEC about cooperation for 2026 including possible funding and June 6 is deadline for ordering Christmas decorations. Board Member Dolezal seconded the motion. Board Liaison Padilla called for a vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

- 1.3 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action regarding promoting Kerr Creek Bridge as a destination

Action: Item 1.3

Discussion Only

The board revisited ideas to promote Kerr Creek Bridge as a destination, including an earlier concept for a “flowering bridge,” but agreed that a large planting project is not practical at this time because ongoing irrigation and, especially, reliable weekly maintenance would be difficult without a dedicated partner organization. Members noted the City has already improved the area by clearing weeds and adding a small locked fence to prevent unauthorized vehicle access, and the discussion shifted toward finding an outside group—such as FFA, 4-H, Scouts, a horticulture class, or Leo’s Club—to adopt the project, with the board helping connect partners and encouraging Tourism to incorporate the cleaned bridge into city assets; members may reach out to potential groups and bring an update to the next meeting.

- 1.4 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action regarding Jim Price Clean Up date and proposed locations for bulk waste drop off

Action: Item 1.4

Approved

The board discussed additional options instead of crossing 183 to the Independence Park location. Options favored the airport as the best site because of safety, traffic flow, and liability concerns, rejecting the initial suggestion near the Independence Park softball field due to the risks of crossing Highway 183 and trucks navigating a curve; other possible locations included Victoria College, the Lutheran church grass area, the closed Tractor Supply, and the high school parking lot, but members noted that using private property like Tractor Supply would require permission and could create city liability for damages, making city-owned property preferable. The board also selected April 18 as its recommended cleanup date—avoiding conflicts with Easter, the Master Gardeners plant sale/Cattle Country Music Festival weekend, and a golf tournament on April 25. Staff will speak with City Manager about alternate location options (Airport, Tractor Supply, High School) for a final decision. Board Member McKinney made a motion to recommend April 18, 2026 as the Jim Price Cleanup day at a place to be determined by the City Manager. Board Member Barnett seconded the motion. Board Liaison Padilla called for a vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

STAFF/BOARD REPORTS

- 2.1 Report by Board Member Dolezal or Tieken on Market Square revitalizations.

The board received a status update on the Market Square revitalization project, noting progress with dirt work and also discussing several beautification details, including a suggestion to paint the returned light poles black to match newer poles installed elsewhere in town and the possibility

of reusing some red rocks for future projects such as the butterfly garden after current work is completed. Members also discussed moving the stars donated by the Spade and Trowel Club forward for better visibility from the road and adding a plaque for donor recognition, while raising concerns about high-speed traffic around the nearby curve and emphasizing that the soil must be repeatedly worked and packed before the site is ready, with John eager to begin once conditions allow.

2.2 Report by Staff Liaison Hutchinson-Padilla on upcoming events

The board received a report on upcoming community events, including Chamber Chatter on February 6 at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber Banquet “Black and White Gala” on February 12, the Maker’s Market on February 21 at Hero Square, and the State of the City address this Thursday. The mayor then gave a detailed overview of the City’s first biannual State of the City address, scheduled for Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the Expo Center, explaining that it is intended to improve transparency and accountability by publicly reviewing 2025 accomplishments, budget performance, and planned 2026 projects through presentations from the Mayor, City Manager, and EDC Director; the event will run about 1 hour and 15 minutes, be held twice a year (January and July), include project and financial updates (with budget line-item detail), and be livestreamed on the City of Gonzales page for public access, while the EDC also plans a quarterly “Monitoring Your Business” public update event for ongoing communication.

2.3 Requests by board members for items on a future Beautification Board Meeting agenda

- Courthouse exterior lighting proposal: A future agenda item was requested to discuss adding permanent, professionally installed ground-based lighting to illuminate the courthouse (without attaching fixtures to the historic structure), with the goal of improving downtown nighttime aesthetics while preserving the courthouse’s historic character and coordinating with county officials on feasibility, design, and funding.
- Museum landscaping / bluebonnet planting: A future agenda item was requested to discuss landscaping at the museum, including planting wildflowers/bluebonnets, reviewing seeding timing (with October identified as ideal), possible seed or plant sourcing, and coordination with the museum and Parks Department on the best planting locations and maintenance approach.
- Fencing bids: A future agenda item was requested to bring back the fencing project for review, as two local companies have been contacted to present bids.
- Pet dog station item: A future agenda item was requested to place the pet dog station topic back on the agenda for follow-up discussion. Staff advised that the Parks Department currently has the dog waste stations and have been instructed where to install them.

2.4 Set date and time for next meeting.

February 17, 2026 @ 8:00 am

ADJOURN

A motion by Board Member Barnett to adjourn and seconded by Board Member Sengelmann, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 am. Staff liaison called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 7 to 0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Approved this 27th day of January 2026

Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla
Main Street Director, City of Gonzales