

**Members**

Heather Conklin, *Chair*  
Rosie Ayala, *Vice Chair*  
John Hines, *City Council Liaison*  
Keith Blocker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
Olivia Allison  
Michelle Douglas  
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares  
Anna Holcomb  
Paula Jacobson  
Michael Kula  
Benjamin Maestas III  
Elizabeth Pew  
James Stowe  
MaryMikel Stump  
Wanda Thompson  
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem  
Sarah Woodson

**Staff**

Amy McBride, *Tacoma Arts Administrator*  
Chevi Chung, *Community Programs Specialist*  
Clarissa Gines, *Tacoma Creates Coordinator*  
Lisa Jaret, *Tacoma Creates Program Manager*  
Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*  
Naomi Strom-Avila, *Funding & Cultural Programs Manager*

# Summary Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

### Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

### Tacoma Venues & Events

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at [www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes).

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Date: July 13, 2020

Location: Virtually via Zoom

Time: 5:00 pm

***Commission Members in Attendance:***

Heather Conklin, Chair  
Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair  
Olivia Allison  
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares  
Anna Holcomb  
Michael Kula  
Benjamin Maestas III  
Elizabeth Pew  
James Stowe  
MaryMikel Stump  
Wanda Thompson  
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem  
Sarah Woodson

***Council Members in Attendance:***

John Hines, Council Liaison

***Staff Present:***

Amy McBride  
Naomi Strom-Avila  
Lisa Jaret

***Guests Present:***

Kendon Shaw  
Lance Kagey  
Adam Auter  
Don Lacky

***Commission Members Excused Absence:***

Michelle Douglas

***Commission Members Unexcused Absence:***

Paula Jacobson

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**1. Call to Order**

**5:07 pm (00:01)**

Chair Conklin called the meeting to order. Chair Conklin recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiif ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiif puyaləpabš dxʷəsłəłlils gʷəl ʔutxʷəlšucidəbs həlgʷəʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

**2. Consent Agenda**

**5:07 pm (00:21)**

Commissioner Douglas had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Ayala asked for a motion to approve the agenda as well as minutes from the February meeting.

There was a motion: “I so move.”

Motion: Sarah Woodson

Motion: Carried

**3. Chair’s Report/Housekeeping**

**5:08 pm (01:02)**

Chair Conklin welcomed MaryMikel Stump to the Commission. Commissioners introduced themselves.

Chair Conklin reminded Commissioners to complete the required Open Public Meetings Act online training.

**4. Action Items**

**a. Port Centennial Public Art Proposal**

**5:34 pm (27:17)**

Staff introduced the Port of Tacoma’s Port Centennial public art project and artist team Rotator, who was selected for this opportunity. Rotator presented their final design proposal including research and inspiration. Commissioners asked questions and provided feedback. Design proposal will be presented to the City’s ADA coordinator for review.

There was a motion: “I make a motion to accept the artwork as presented.”

Motion: Heather Conklin

Second: Wanda Thompson

Motion: Carried



**b. Tacoma Arts Month Modifications for 2020****6:17 pm (1:10:20)**

Chair Conklin and staff presented a proposal to cancel all 2020 in-person Tacoma Arts Month programming that the Commission typically produces including the Kaleidoscope opening party, AMOCAT Arts Awards, and Tacoma Studio Tours. Staff will explore alternative programming including video artist highlights to replace the Tacoma Studio Tour. Arts Month will continue to promote community-produced programming. Commissioners provided feedback and asked questions.

Chair Conklin, Vice Chair Ayala, and Commissioners Woodson, Stump, Allison, Fernandez-Llamazares, and Stowe volunteered to sit on a subcommittee to focus on what is feasible in 2020.

There was a motion: "I make a motion to change the 2020 year of Tacoma Arts Month to better fit our current Covid life and do something virtual in whatever way we can possibly get by October."

Motion: Heather Conklin

Second: James Stowe

Motion: Carried

**5. Discussion/Updates****a. 2019 Annual Report and Future Planning/Retreat/Arts Projects and TAIP Funding****6:43 pm (1:36:20)**

Because an annual retreat is not an option in 2020, staff suggested that Commissioners host a series of 2-hour content-based focus meetings to plan for things like funding programs and guidelines, and developing an equity, diversity, and inclusion strategy for the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality. Commissioners discussed options and suggested setting up a special meeting of Commission to talk about funding. Commissioners discussed the need to gather new input and review existing input from the community about what support is needed.

**b. DEI Subcommittee****7:02 pm (1:55:50)**

The Commission's DEI subcommittee met in March and will meet again in September.

**6. Staff Check-In****a. Tacoma Creates****7:03 pm (1:56:54)**

Staff gave an overview of Tacoma Creates updates including funding, Expanded Learning Opportunities programming, Tacoma Public Library partnership, new logo and website, capacity building and engagement work, and the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board.



- b. Staff Projects Overview and Updates** **7:07 pm (2:00:36)**  
Staff gave updates including temporary staff furloughs and current Arts Projects and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program funding contracts.

- c. Public Art Updates** **7:11 pm (2:04:10)**  
Staff shared about the following projects: art wraps on recycling bins, repair of Neon for the Tacoma Dome and Nexus artworks, Pierce Transit's Waterwall, Port of Tacoma Centennial, Tacoma Housing Authority's The Rise at 19<sup>th</sup>, Metro Parks Tacoma's Public Art Reaching Community (PARC) artist training program, Metro Parks Tacoma's Eastside Community Center Youth Memorial and Billy Ray Memorial, and Metro Parks Tacoma's Dickman Mill.

**7. Report Back**

- a. Advocacy Reports** **7:14 pm (2:07:49)**  
There were no items.

- b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended** **7:15 pm (2:08:00)**  
Commissioners shared arts events and venues they attended, upcoming events, or events they have been involved with including: a zine created by Anique Zimmer, a zine created by the Mayor's Youth Commission, and the Juneteenth event produced by Tacoma Association of Colored Women's Clubs.

- c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration** **7:17 pm (2:10:28)**  
There were no items.

**Meeting adjourned at 07:17 pm**

