

Members

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heather Conklin
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Chevi Chung, Community Programs Specialist
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality
Tacoma Venues and Events Department

Date: September 13, 2021

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.



Commission Members in Attendance:

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heather Conklin
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson
John Hines, City Council Liaison

City Staff Present:

Chevi Chung
Naomi Strom-Avila
Lisa Jaret
Jerrol Anonuevo
Tammi Bryant

Commission Members Excused Absence:

James Stowe

1. Call to Order

5:07 pm (00:00)

Chair Ayala called the meeting to order. Chair Ayala 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

(00:42)

There was one excused absence: Commissioner Stowe.

Vice Chair Maestas III asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda and the minutes from the August 9, 2021 meeting.

There was a motion: "I move to approve the agenda."

Motion: Commissioner Holcomb

Seconded: Commissioner Scott

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping

(01:50)

Chair Ayala welcomed Council Member Hines, who gave an update about the importance of the arts in our community. Chair Ayala led a personal check-in where Commissioners gave personal updates.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items

(16:50)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Action Items

a. Statement of Commitment

(17:55)

Staff gave an update about the DEI Subcommittee's work to update the Commission's Equity and Inclusion Statement. Commissioner Sanchez gave an update about how the workgroup reevaluated the 2017 Equity and Inclusion Statement and made adjustments to come up with a Statement of Commitment, which reads: "The Tacoma Arts Commission is striving toward social justice. We are committed to supporting equitable opportunities to broaden artistic expression while encouraging inter-sectional communities through inclusive relationships and outreach. Arts and culture are uniquely positioned to touch every person and every part of Tacoma. We are committed to supporting the entirety of our community." Commissioners discussed the Statement of Commitment.

There was a motion: "I make a motion to adopt this statement of commitment."

Motion: Commissioner Alison

Seconded: Commissioner Brown

Motion: Carried

b. 2022 Community Arts Projects Funding Guidelines

(27:20)

Staff gave an overview of the 2022 Community Arts Projects Funding Guidelines noting the inclusion of the newly-approved Statement of Commitment in the funding guidelines. Commissioners discussed the guidelines. Staff gave an update about launching the funding application, press release, and getting the word out about the funding guidelines. Staff asked for volunteers to serve on the virtual funding panel to review funding applications and asked for recommendations of community members to serve on the funding panel as well.

There was a motion: "I would like to make a motion to approve the 2022 Community Arts Projects Funding Guidelines."

Motion: Commissioner Vice Chair Maestas III

Seconded: Commissioner Stump

Motion: Carried

6. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Updates and Sign-ups

(37:37)

Chair Ayala gave an update about Tacoma Arts Month and asked for volunteer signups. Staff gave an update about the self-service materials pickup station in the Customer Support Center of the Tacoma Municipal Building and asked for volunteer signups for materials distribution and Arts at the Armory event staffing. Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Arts Month website and respective aspects including: Events, Arts at the Armory, 20th Anniversary TV special, 2021 AMOCAT Arts Awards, and the press release. Commissioners discussed the volunteer signups and materials distribution.

b. DEI Subcommittee

(01:00:00)

Commissioner Sanchez gave an update about the DEI subcommittee meeting including discussion of some shared operating agreements. Commissioners discussed the DEI subcommittee meeting schedule.

7. Staff Check-In

(01:03:54)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave updates about demographic data in collection since 2017, a presentation to Rotary 8, and the upcoming open seats on the Tacoma Arts Commission. Commissioner Sanchez gave an update about meeting with Tacoma Artist Initiative Program funded artist Adrian Milano.

b. Public Art Updates

(01:10:55)

Staff gave an update on the Black Lives Matter mural that Dionne Bonner was selected for. The mural will most likely begin in spring 2022 and is supported by Tacoma Art Museum, the Human Rights Commission, the Mayor's Office, and the Tacoma Arts Commission. Commissioners Alison and Brown were on the selection panel for the mural and shared about their experience.

Staff shared about the storm drain murals, managed in partnership with the Environmental Services Department, which are part of "If it hits the ground, it hits the Sound" campaign. One mural is at 6th Ave and Oakes and the other is located at McKinley and East Morton. This mural is by Saiyare Refaei and Gloria Muhammad and includes the campaign wording in Lushootseed, Khmer, Vietnamese, Spanish, and English.

Staff and Commissioner Brown gave an update on the Billy Ray sculpture installation at the Eastside Community Center around October 15. Staff gave an update about maintenance on the Welcome Figure.

c. Tacoma Creates

(01:20:00)

Staff gave an update about 'Beyond the Bell', an afterschool program in collaboration with various community partners like Tacoma Public Schools, Greentrike, and others. Tacoma Creates funding is supporting 'Beyond the Bell'.

8. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(01:22:20)

There were no advocacy reports.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(01:22:50)

Commissioner Conklin, Commissioner Woodson, and Vice Chair Maestas gave an update about Clay Day. Commissioner Sanchez attended Spaceworks' Star Bazaar. Commissioner Scott attended the Ruston Way Night Market at Dune Peninsula. Commissioner Stump shared about the In the Spirit Native Art Festival.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(01:25:55)

There were no items for consideration.

Adjourn

6:33 (01:26:11)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm, venue to be determined based on health regulations. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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