

Members

Kenya Shakoor, Chair
Jasmine Brown, Vice Chair
Aleks Aurelion
Connie Behe
Katie Dean
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Hannah-Clarke Gilmore
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Michael Kula
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jeanette Sanchez
Jes Takla
Heidi Wygle
Jamika Scott, City Council Liaison
Olgy Diaz, City Council Liaison Alternate

Staff

Daniel Garcia, Community Programs Specialist
Rebecca Solverson, Division Manager
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manage

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Arts & Cultural Vitality Division

Community & Economic Development Dept.



Date: October 14, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual and in-person

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at

www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes

Commission Members in Attendance:

Kenya Shakoor, Chair
Jasmine Brown, Vice Chair
Connie Behe
Katie Dean
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Michael Kula
Jes Takla
Heidi Wygle

City Staff Present:

Daniel Garcia
Rebecca Solverson
Naomi Strom-Avila
Lisa Jaret

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Hannah-Clarke Gilmore
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jeanette Sanchez

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Aleks Aurelion

1. Call to Order

5:07 pm (00:06)

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

ʔuk'wədiitəb ʔuhigwətəb čəł txwəl tiif ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxwixwtxwəd ʔə tiif puyaləpabš dxwəstəłlils 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.”

Commissioners Gilmore, Neal, Nunn, and Sanchez had an excused absence.

2. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (01:28)

Vice Chair Brown shared that she accepted the Tacoma Arts Month proclamation from City Council on October 1; she invited Commissioners to attend in the future so the proclamation can be accepted as a group. She shared about her experiences at Kaleidoscope and the Tacoma Studio Tour and shared a reminder about Arts at the Armory.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items (04:25)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

4. Consent Agenda (05:29)

Vice Chair Brown asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda for the October 14 meeting as well as the minutes from the September 9 meeting.

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

Motion: Commissioner Hoppe

Seconded: Commissioner Kula

Motion: Carried

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Division Manager Position (06:53)

Rebecca Solverson shared about her appointment as the Division Manager of the Arts & Cultural Vitality Division and acknowledged the hiring process. She shared her top priorities which are staffing the public art program and Tacoma Creates reauthorization. She shared that she is also working on other long-term issues, the 2025-26 biennial budget, and helping onboard the incoming director of Community and Economic Development. Rebecca can do a more formal presentation at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioners shared comments and questions. The job announcement for the Public Art Program Manager position will be launching in the next few weeks.

b. Tacoma Arts Month - Updates and Feedback (17:48)

Staff gave an overview of the Kaleidoscope opening party event and programming and the Tacoma Studio Tour, sharing photos and talking about what worked well and things to work on for next year. Staff shared about the upcoming Arts at the Armory on December 7 & 8.

Commissioners provided feedback and reflection about Kaleidoscope and the Tacoma Studio Tour including ideas for how to improve functionality of maps and materials, ways for the participating artists to network, and increasing shared studio spaces.

6. Staff Check-In (40:24)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- 27 applications were received from community members who are interested in serving on the Tacoma Arts Commission. The Economic Development Committee of Council will conduct interviews on November 21.
- The next Commission meeting will be on November 18 at 5 pm
- Chair Shakoor will present about the Commission to the Economic Development Committee of Council on October 22, 10 am

- Community Arts Projects funding application workshop was held on October 9 and applications are due October 28

b. Public Art Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- Lighting will soon be reinstalled on the Bridge of Glass
- Environmental Services Artist in Residence, Teruko Nimura, will be having open studio hours at the recycling center
- Dedication event for the Larchmont Elementary artwork will be held for students and their families
- Metro Parks Tacoma is launching a call for the community history project at the Eastside Community Center

c. Tacoma Creates

The annual report covering Tacoma Creates funding year 2023-24 will be released soon. There will be a presentation of the findings to the Economic Development Committee of Council on October 29, 10 am.

7. Discussion/Updates

a. Commission Executive Committee Nominations

(54:31)

Staff shared that the Commission will be nominating and then voting in November on who will serve as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission in 2025. Chair Shakoor and Vice Chair Brown provided an overview of the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Commissioners asked questions. Commissioner Takla was nominated for the Vice Chair position. Commissioners were invited to submit additional nominations to staff by October 31. Staff will check with all nominees to determine if they want to be considered for the positions.

8. Report Back

(01:05:52)

a. Advocacy Reports

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/ Upcoming Arts Events/Arts Events Attended

Commissioners shared about events they have attended or been involved with including:

- ArtCity delegation presentation at Tacoma Art Museum
- Teruko Nimura’s Wasteland Dreams event on October 18
- Northwest Sinfonietta’s Frankenstein performance on October 27
- Trick or treating on Antiques Row and International District
- T-Town Expo November 1 & 2
- Arts at the Armory on December 7 & 8
- Upcoming projects funded through Community Arts Projects and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

There were no items.

9. Community Comment

(01:14:54)

There were no items.

10. Adjourn

6:22 pm (01:15:18)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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