

**Members**

Traci Kelly, *Chair*  
 Dane Meyer, *Vice Chair*  
 David Boe, *City Council Liaison*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Scott Campbell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Joel Chang  
 Heather Conklin  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Halley Knigge  
 Donald Lacky  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Paul Throne  
 Katrina Toft  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

# Summary Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

### Community & Economic Development

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

**Staff**

Amy McBride, *Tacoma Arts Administrator*  
 Naomi Strom-Avila, *Cultural Arts Specialist*  
 Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*

Date: October 12, 2015

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Traci Kelly, Chair  
 Dane Meyer, Vice Chair  
 Scott Campbell  
 Joel Chang  
 Heather Conklin  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Halley Knigge  
 Don Lacky  
 Mike Sweney  
 Paul Throne  
 Katrina Toft  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

*Council Members in Attendance:*

David Boe

*Staff Present:*

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator  
 Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist  
 Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist  
 Martha Anderson, Assistant Director, CEDD

*Guests:*

Katie Johnston  
 Jessica Knickerbocker

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Rachel Cardwell

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Wanda Thompson

- |                          |                        |                         |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1. Call to Order</b>  | <b>5:04 pm (00:01)</b> | <b>Chair Kelly</b>      |
| <b>2. Consent Agenda</b> | <b>5:04 pm (00:10)</b> | <b>Vice Chair Meyer</b> |
- Commissioner Cardwell had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Meyer asked if there was a motion to accept the agenda and minutes.

There was a motion: "So moved."



Motion: Mike Sweney  
 Second: Paul Throne  
 Motion: Carried

**3. Chair's Report** **5:04 pm (00:33)** **Chair Kelly**  
 Chair Kelly shared the Tacoma Arts Month proclamation.

**4. Presentations**

**A. Public Art Program Continuous Improvement 5:06 pm (02:30)**

Katie Johnston and Jessica Knickerbocker presented on how the City's Continuous Improvement program is looking into issues with the City's 1% for Art Program. The team met with City engineers to see what has worked well and where there are challenges. The main finding is that clarity is needed in the City's code for when the Percent for Art program applies to capital construction projects.

Ms. Johnston and Ms. Knickerbocker asked if the Commission wants to proceed with looking at the Percent for Art program policies at this time or if it wants to wait until the 5-Year Art Plan is complete before moving forward. Commissioners discussed and voiced a desire to proceed with looking at the Percent for Art program policies concurrently with the 5-Year Art Plan.

Chair Kelly and Commissioners Sweney and Chang volunteered to sit on a Percent for Art policy work group

**5. Discussion/Updates**

**A. Tacoma Arts Month – Updates and Feedback 5:29 pm (25:50)**

Commissioners were encouraged to attend and promote the Tacoma Studio Tour as well as use the #TacomaArts on social media to help promote the Tacoma Arts Month Challenge.

Commissioners gave feedback about the Tacoma Arts Month Opening Party including positive feedback about the Armory venue, a desire to see better communication with City Council in advance of the event, holding the awards earlier in the evening, promoting the Studio Tour at the welcome table, a need to improve the sound system and acoustics to better fill the Armory space, and gathering people together before the awards are presented.

**B. Art Plan Updates 5:48 pm (44:17)**

3 Square Blocks conducted information gathering at the Tacoma Arts Month Opening Party as well as running two small focus groups. They will have an additional focus group with the Arts & Culture Coalition of Pierce County. 3 Square Blocks will be invited to return and present to the Commission at an upcoming meeting.

**C. Public Art Updates 5:51 pm (47:19)**

Thea Foss Waterway Esplanade – Ed Kroupa's artwork has been installed and will be dedicated on October 15.



Prairie Line Trail Spur – Susan Zoccola will have a project orientation on October 22.

Water Forest Task Force – The task force met to discuss the future of the artwork. Staff will contact Howard Ben Tre about the artwork and will gather additional bids for artwork repair.

Lincoln District Revitalization – Four finalists were selected for the project. They are Diane Hansen & Jennifer Weddermann, Perri Howard, Horatio Law, and WLLS.

Traffic Box Wrap Project – Wrap installation will begin in the next month.

Bay Terrace/Tacoma Housing Authority – Christopher Jordan and Kenji Stoll will present their initial concept at the end of October.

Commissioners discussed projects and asked clarifying questions.

**D. Commission Executive Committee** **6:07 pm (01:03:54)**

Commissioners made nominations to the Executive Committee as follows:

Scott Campbell – nominated by Dane Meyer

Mike Sweney – nominated by Traci Kelly

Rachel Cardwell – nominated by Mike Sweney

Additional nominations can be made to staff before the next Commission meeting. Elections will be conducted at the November meeting.

**6. Staff Check-In** **6:10 pm (01:06:14)**

Ms. McBride has been working on an NEA Our Town grant application for creative placemaking in the park next to Theater on the Square. If funded, the project would strengthen the connection between the transit users and cultural users. Pierce Transit is providing a \$50,000 cash match.

Spaceworks Tacoma received a \$100,000 grant from Chase to conduct a strategic plan and develop next-step business training.

Arts Projects funding projects applications are available. Vice Chair Meyer and Commissioners Lucky, Campbell, Knigge, Thompson, Wilmot-Stenehjem, and Hudgins volunteered to sit on the panel.

The application to volunteer for the Commission is available through October 19.

The City sponsored the display of a portion of the AIDS quilt, on display now at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center.



## **7. Report Back**

### **A. Advocacy Reports**

**6:21 pm (01:17:54)**

Commissioner Hudgins attended the Teen Tix gala. Teen Tix is moving forward with a feasibility study in Tacoma.

### **B. Arts Events Attended**

**6:22 pm (01:18:41)**

Commissioners shared art events they had attended or have been involved with including Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, Tacoma Concert Band, Classical Tuesdays in Old Town, the Warehouse, Museum of Glass, Patti LaBelle at the Washington State Fair, Stadium Art & Wine Walk, Tacoma Jazz Association, and Tacoma Arts Group.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm**

