

Members

Michael Kula, Chair
Jeanette Sanchez, Vice Chair
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Marissa Kall
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jamika Scott
Kenya Shakoor
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Joe Williams
Ton Williams
Heidi Wygle
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate

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

Community & Economic Development Dept.



Date: January 9, 2023

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:

Michael Kula, Chair
Jeanette Sanchez, Vice Chair
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Marissa Kall
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jamika Scott
Kenya Shakoor
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Joe Williams

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
Chevi Chung
Naomi Strom-Avila
Rebecca Solverson
Lisa Jaret

Guest Presenters:

Chris Duenas

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Ton Williams
Heidi Wygle

1. Call to Order

5:05 pm (00:00)

Chair Kula called the meeting to order. Chair Kula 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 dxwəstəłiils 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 (00:34)

Commissioners Ton Williams and Heidi Wygle had an excused absence.

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

There was a motion: "I so move that we adopt the consent agenda and the meeting minutes from December."

Motion: Commissioner Stump

Seconded: Commissioner Scott

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (01:43)

Chair Kula welcomed new Arts Commissioners Sarah Jane Hoppe, Marissa Kall, Derek Nunn, Kenya Shakoor, Ton Williams, and Heidi Wygle. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

4. Public Comment (23:43)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Subcommittee Sign-ups: (25:35)

Staff gave an overview of each subcommittee and their relationship to the Commission.

1. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

This is an ongoing Commissioner-led subcommittee that meets monthly. Staff gave an overview of some of the projects the subcommittee has worked on including reviewing funding guidelines and providing input on funding priorities and eligibility, revising the Commission's Statement of Commitment, making recommendations around the Commission retreat, and discussing the Commission's public art gift policy. Commissioners shared about their experiences serving on the DEI subcommittee. Commissioners Kall, Sanchez, Villeda, Shakoor, Fernandez-Llamazares, Stump, and Neal volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

2. Tacoma Arts Month

This is a short-term subcommittee that meets roughly once a month for part of the year. The subcommittee discusses and helps shape Tacoma Arts Month programming including Kaleidoscope, Tacoma Studio Tour, and Arts at the Armory; discusses marketing plans; and reviews applications for Tacoma Studio Tour and Arts at the Armory. Meetings will be scheduled based on subcommittee members' schedules. Commissioners Hoppe and Kula volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

6. Presentations (36:47)

a. Fawcett Avenue Concrete Stamping Project

Staff introduced Chris Duenas of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who works with the Puyallup Language Department and speaks Lushootseed. Staff shared images of Chris' Lushootseed stamp designs. Chris shared about his experience with the project and the importance of Lushootseed being visible in Tacoma. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

7. Discussion/Updates

a. Arts Commission Annual Retreat (1:01:53)

Staff introduced the Commission's annual retreat, which is held in spring. Most recently, the retreat has been split in to two sessions where session one is focused on teambuilding and session two is about digging in deeper around initiatives. Commissioners shared how they appreciated the teambuilding session in

previous years and would like to do it again in 2023. Commissioners discussed options for a hybrid format to the meetings. Staff and Commissioners shared topic ideas for the second session including: discussing the meaning of “cultural Vitality”; a continuation of Colemon & Associates’ 2021 work with the Commission about diversity, equity, and inclusion; cross-departmental collaborations and discussions such as affordable housing and space for artists and creatives; and outreach to help build awareness of and applicants to opportunities. Commissioner Brown volunteered to help plan the retreat.

8. Staff Check-In

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

(1:24:29)

Staff gave an update about the Community Arts Projects funding and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program (TAIP) funding programs, the Arts & Economic Prosperity study, Arts at the Armory artist survey feedback, the call for Tacoma Poet Laureate applications, and current pieces being filmed for the artTown TV show.

b. Public Art Updates

(1:35:00)

Staff gave an update about Jorge Garcia’s mural project located at SR-7 & E 38th Street, the call for artists for the Mural Artist Roster, the call for artists for the Traffic Box Wraps, the Wishing Tree project, and the call for applicants for the Tacoma Mall Area Art Plan. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

c. Tacoma Creates

(1:45:20)

Staff gave an update about the upcoming Tacoma Creates funding guidelines and applications for the July 2023 – June 2024 period. Commissioners were asked to help get the word out to arts, culture, heritage, and science nonprofit organizations in Tacoma.

9. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(1:46:45)

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(1:46:45)

Commissioner Fernandez-Llamazares and Chair Kula gave an update about attending the Tacoma Light Trail. Commissioner Williams shared about the upcoming MLK Day celebration on January 16. Staff gave an update about the Vietnamese Lunar New Year Festival on January 15 at the Eastside Community Center.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(1:49:55)

There were no items.

10. Adjourn

6:58 pm (1:53:55)

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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