

**Members**

Traci Kelly, *Chair*  
 J.D. Elquist, *Vice Chair*  
 David Boe, *City Council Liaison*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Donald Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Scott Ramsey  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Jana Wennstrom

# 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*

Date: May 12, 2014

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Traci Kelly, Chair  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Don Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Scott Ramsey  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Jana Wennstrom

*City Council Liaison in Attendance:*

David Boe

*Staff Present:*

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator  
 Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist  
 Martha Anderson

*Guests:*

Stephanie Stebich, Alyce McNeil, Rock Hushka, David Bailey, Karen Langley, Jenifer Davis, Molly Wilmoth, Mylinda Sneed, Barbara Luecke, Claudia Riedener

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

J.D. Elquist, Vice Chair

**1. Call to Order**

**5:05 pm (00:18)**

**Chair Kelly**

**2. Consent Agenda**

**5:05 pm (00:24)**

**Chair Kelly**

There were no excused absences.

Chair Kelly asked if commissioners had a chance to review the minutes from the last meeting and the agenda for this meeting and stated, "If there are no adjustments to the agenda we can proceed."

**3. Chair's Report**

**5:05 pm (00:44)**

**Chair Kelly**

Chair Kelly and Commissioners Sweney, Brazzell, and Lacky attended the Washington State Arts Commission's Regional Arts Forum on May 5. Chair Kelly attended a presentation given by Kim Bedier to the Economic Development Committee on the Warhol for the Tacoma Dome. She also attended Wayzgoose.



#### 4. Action Items

##### **A. Siting of Tacoma Art Museum Artwork on Right of Way 5:07 pm (2:25)**

Stephanie Stebich, Rock Hushka, and Alyce McNeil presented on the Street Occupancy Permit request to place artwork on public Right of Way in front of Tacoma Art Museum.

The two pieces that are proposed for siting on Right of Way are:

- Marie Watt - “Blanket Stories: Transportation Object, Generous Ones, and Trek”, two bronze arches cast from blankets.
- Scott Fife - “Explorers”, a 5’ tall bronze bear and 3’ tall bronze eaglet on a raft, to be sited where the current café patio is located.

Three additional pieces that are under development but will not be sited on Right of Way are:

- Julie Speidel – “Kinetic Repose”, ten stainless steel elements to be sited at the parking lot entry below the Museum.
- Jim Hodges – A sculpture playing with a camouflage pattern to be sited outside of the Pacific Avenue entrance.
- Sharon Nelson - A Coast Salish basket weaving design for the roof of the new building wing.

Risks that the Tacoma Art Museum is addressing and will assume include liability of climbing public artworks (attractive nuisance) and conservation/maintenance.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

Amy McBride asked, “Anybody want to make a motion to recommend the Street Occupancy Permit?”

There was a motion “So moved.” The motion covered the artwork of Scott Fife and Marie Watt.

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Jana Wennstrom

Motion: Carried (Mike Sweney abstained)

#### 5. Presentation

##### **A. Sound Transit 66<sup>th</sup> Street Public Art Project 5:40 pm (35:42)**

Claudia Riedener, Christopher Jordan, and Kenji Stoll presented their proposed public artwork for Sound Transit’s 66<sup>th</sup> Street Trestle. The artwork will be a combination of ceramic relief tile and latex and aerosol paint mural with a design that helps reflect the diverse community needs of many generations of residents. The proposal is inspired by topographical maps, textures, layers of history, historic buildings, and flora of the area. Some of the tiles on the north and south walls will contain



stamped quotes that will be gathered from community members. The mural will be composed of bright and vibrant colors in a warm palette. The project should be completed by the end of summer.

Commissioners talked about the proposal and asked clarifying questions.

**6. Staff Check-In**

**6:22 pm (1:17:24)**

The PAVE Bell sculpture has be reinstalled along Ruston Way.

Sun King is scheduled to be installed by the end of the week. The artist, Thomas Morandi, will attend the dedication on June 25.

Work is under way to get the Water Forest up and running again back to its original repaired condition.

Artspace will come to Tacoma the week of June 23 to work with local developers who have viable artist live/work projects.

Metal-Urge planning is under way and venues will begin reviewing artist submissions tomorrow.

The Arts Program is managing a public art project for Tacoma Housing Authority’s Bay Terrace development. Finalist artists will be interviewed for the project.

Work is under way to submit a Heritage Grant to create interpretive work for the Prairie Line Trail.

Metro Parks is potentially looking to implement a Percent for Art policy and looking at how that would be managed.

ArtsWA’s Regional Arts Forum to welcome Karen Hanan was held in Tacoma on May 5.

Kim Bedier presented on the Warhol for the Tacoma Dome to the Economic Development Committee. The Dome will test out a 6’ sample of the proposed product to see how it wears over time.

Commissioners volunteered to attend and evaluate the following programs that were funded by the Commission:

<b>date</b>	<b>organization</b>	<b>event</b>	<b>volunteer</b>
5/30/14	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	La Cage Aux Follies	Don Lacky
6/4/14	Hilltop Artists	Arts Connect Showcase	Rachel Cardwell
6/6/14	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	La Cage Aux Follies	Matt Hudgins



06/19/14	Washington State Historical Society	In the Spirit 2014 exhibit and awards ceremony	Don Lacky
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## 7. Discussion/Updates

### A. Tacoma Murals Project

**6:31 pm (1:26:28)**

Staff showed images of the six sites that were selected for the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project and work by the 16 artists who are part of the Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster. Each community will select their top three artists from this roster and staff will work to pair artists with communities based on these selections.

### B. Tacoma Arts Month

**6:37 pm (1:32:50)**

The Tacoma Arts Month Opening Party will be held on Thursday, October 2, 2014. The new logo for Tacoma Arts Month was presented. Applications are now being accepted for the Tacoma Studio Tour, to be held October 11 & 12. A Call for Activities will be released in a few weeks.

### C. Arts Commission Annual Retreat Wrap-up

**6:42 pm (1:37:28)**

Commissioners and staff discussed the Strategic Objective of the Commission to “broaden community engagement in the arts.”

Goals of this initiative are:

- Increase participation, attendance, and pride by the general public in art events and activities offered in Tacoma.
- Maintain and increase access to participation in art-making and production by a diverse and broad cross-section of our community
- Increase financial support for the arts

Strategies to accomplish these goals include:

- Employ existing communications to their highest and best use:
  - Traditional press releases
  - City of Tacoma website
  - Facebook
  - Arts blog
  - TV Tacoma
- Actively connect with a wide variety of people/organizations
- Raise visibility through partnerships
- Align with the City’s overall vision and insure that the Arts are integrated into appropriate policy and planning



- Commissioner ambassadors/advocacy
- Continue to support and develop programs that are effective and of interest and value
- Infuse arts into the City's identity and incorporate into the City's branding
- Build on STAR Communities findings

A second Strategic Objective could be to make arts part of Tacoma's identity.

It was suggested to use the Marketing Committee to work through objectives, goals, and strategies.

## **8. Report Back**

**6:57 pm (01:52:09)**

### **A. Landmarks Preservation Commission**

Vice Chair Elquist was not present to report back.

### **B. Advocacy Reports**

There was nothing to report.

### **C. Arts Events Attended**

David Bailey noted that he is helping produce a fashion show at LeMay - America's Car Museum on June 28, 7 pm.

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or have been involved with including Wayzgoose and Harvey Felder's farewell concert at Tacoma Symphony Orchestra.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm

