

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: December 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
James Stowe
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

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

Commission Members Excused Absence:

MaryMikel Stump

1. Call to Order

5:05 pm (00:13)

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.

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.”

2. Consent Agenda (01:06)

Commissioner Stump had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Maestas asked for a motion to approve the December agenda as well as the minutes from the November 8, 2021 meeting.

There was a motion: "I so move."

Motion: Commissioner Woodson
Seconded: Commissioner Holcomb
Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (02:40)

Vice Chair Maestas, Commissioners, and staff recognized the service and contributions of Chair Ayala and Commissioners Holcomb, Stowe, and Woodson.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (11:45)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Action Items

a. 2022 Community Arts Projects Funding Recommendations (12:53)

Staff shared an overview of the 2022 Community Arts Projects funding application review process. There were six panelists including Commissioners Fernandez-Llamazares and Scott, Herschel Wilson, Ann Meersman, Anamaria Guerzon, and Sasha LaPointe. Forty-one applications were received with a total request of \$231,000. The panel had \$114,000 available for distribution. Staff shared the panel's recommendation on screen while Commissioners Scott and Fernandez-Llamazares spoke about their experience on the panel. There were questions and discussion from Commissioners and staff about the recommendations.

There was a motion: "I would move that we accept the recommendations of our hard working Commissioners who spent a lot of time working on this. I was there last year so I know what that's like. I would recommend that we accept their recommendations."

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez
Seconded: Commissioner Conklin
Motion: Carried

b. Gift of Artwork to Municipal Art Collection (30:10)

Staff gave an update about the proposed gift of the "Indenture" artwork from the Levy family. Members of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee raised discussion points from their last subcommittee meeting regarding the artwork and the Commission's Gift Policy. Vice Chair Maestas and Commissioners Allison and Fernandez-Llamazares discussed resources, public art, and equity with respect to art that is gifted to the Arts Commission. Staff shared the Commission's Gift Policy and Accession Policy. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

There was a motion: “I make a motion that we not accept the piece into the collection.”

Motion: Commissioner Kula

Second: Commissioner Sanchez

There was further discussion including appreciation for the thoughtfulness of considerations from the DEI Subcommittee, the agency of being able to give a gift, the financial independence to gift art, the resources and space to share art, and potential places the piece could be offered for donation.

Motion: Carried

6. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Recap and Feedback

(01:00:45)

Staff gave a recap of Tacoma Arts Month 2021 including the newly redesigned website and events calendar with statistics inclusive of 67 event submissions, 1,031 calendar page views, and 558 calendar users. Staff gave a recap of the 20th Anniversary Special Program in collaboration with TV Tacoma, which included a blessing from the Puyallup Tribe, performances by Tacoma Poet Laureate Lydia K. Valentine, Asia Pacific Cultural Center, Tacoma Refugee Choir, Write253, Trio Guadalevin, and Northwest Sinfonietta in collaboration with Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center. Staff gave a report on the Arts at the Armory event including that close to 90 artists participated; event was sponsored by Tacoma Arts Live; live music from the Kareem Kandi World Orchestra was sponsored by KNKX; and that there were 1,029 people in attendance on Saturday and 1,255 people in attendance on Sunday for a total of 2,284 people, not including artists, staff, and volunteers. Staff shared high-level takeaways from the artist survey including items that need attention for a future the event at the Armory. Staff gave a recap of the AMOCAT Arts Awards honorees as well as community partners and sponsorships. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

7. Staff Check-In

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

(1:17:56)

Staff shared that four new Tacoma Arts Commission members will be appointed at the City Council meeting on December 14. The appointees are Angela Weaver, Wade Neal, Joe Williams, and Natasha Lane. Staff will be meeting with the new Arts Commissioners in January for an orientation.

Staff gave an update about the 2021 Community Arts Projects funding program including that 14 projects are complete and the remaining 13 projects are waiting on final report or invoice or are very close to being complete. Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program (TAIP) quarterly cohort meetings.

Staff gave an update about rebooting the artTown TV show. Staff is figuring out new segments and will start filming content in January.

Staff gave an update on Professional Development workshops in the works for 2022 including Building Credit and a Budget for Creatives, presented by Sound Outreach on January 13. Other workshops in development include Marketing for Creatives, Taxes for Creatives, Licenses, and Intellectual Property for Creatives. Staff asked Commissioners for recommendations for future professional development topics.

b. Public Art Updates

(1:27:16)

Staff gave an update about the Public Art Reaching Community (PARC) program including the dedication of Teruko Nimura’s “Wind Circle” temporary public art installation at Wright Park on December 14. Staff gave an update about the dedication event for “In Loving Memory”, at the Eastside Community Center on January 8.

c. Tacoma Creates

(1:32:36)

Staff shared that Tacoma Creates is preparing to launch their first Annual Report and gave a broad overview of the report findings.

8. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(1:36:40)

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(1:36:56)

There were no items.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(1:37:11)

There were no items.

9. Adjourn

6:43 pm (1:37:35)

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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