

Members

Heather Conklin, *Chair*
 Rosie Ayala, *Vice Chair*
 John Hines, *City Council Liaison*
 Keith Blocker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*
 Olivia Allison
 Michelle Douglas
 Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
 Anna Holcomb
 Paula Jacobson
 Michael Kula
 Benjamin Maestas III
 Elizabeth Pew
 James Stowe
 Wanda Thompson
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
 Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, *Tacoma Arts Administrator*
 Chevi Chung, *Community Programs Specialist*
 Clarissa Gines, *Tacoma Creates Coordinator*
 Lisa Jaret, *Tacoma Creates Program Manager*
 Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*
 Naomi Strom-Avila, *Funding & Cultural Programs Manager*

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

Tacoma Venues & Events

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Date: February 10, 2020
 Location: 747 Market Street, Room 248
 Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Heather Conklin, Chair
 Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair
 Olivia Allison
 Michelle Douglas
 Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
 Anna Holcomb
 Paula Jacobson
 Michael Kula
 Benjamin Maestas III
 Elizabeth Pew
 James Stowe
 Sarah Woodson

Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Will Suarez
 Dierdre Patterson
 Don Lacky

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Wanda Thompson
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

None

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1. Call to Order **5:06 pm (00:14)**

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

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəʔ txʷəl tiit ʔa čəʔ ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš dxʷəsʔəʔliis 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 **5:06 pm (00:31)**

Commissioner Wilmot-Stenehjem and Thompson had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Ayala asked for a motion to approve the updated agenda as well as minutes from the January meeting.

Motion: Carried

3. Chair’s Report **5:07 pm (01:09)**

Hilltop Artists was named Washington Organization of the Year. Proposition 1 is on the ballot.

4. Presentations

a. Revolving Loan Fund and Microloan Program for Small Businesses **5:09 pm (02:05)**

Will Suarez and Dierdre Patterson of the City’s Community & Economic Development Department gave an overview of the City’s loan programs – small business loans and micro-loans – which can be for existing and start-up businesses, for profit and non-profit organizations located in Tacoma. Consideration raised to roll into Professional Development Series for Financial Management.

5. Staff Check-In

a. Tacoma Creates **5:27 pm (21:34)**

Staff shared that the Tacoma Creates 2020 funding applications and guidelines are now available to the public. Application deadline for Comprehensive Organizational Support is February 28, 2020 and the Impact Funding deadline is March 18, 2020. Application support workshops are ongoing in February.

The City received 48 applications for the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board. The Economic Development Committee will conduct interviews with the goal of the first advisory board meeting in May 2020.



6. Discussion/Updates

a. Arts Commission Annual Retreat

5:32 pm (26:32)

The Commission's annual retreat will be on Saturday, May 9 at 10 AM – 3 PM, location to be determined. Planned retreat topics include work around developing an equity, diversity, and inclusion strategy for the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality; priority focuses for Tacoma Arts Commission funding allocations and areas where the Commission can advocate for structural changes across the City.

b. Council Coffee Role Playing and Sign-ups

5:40pm (34:37)

Staff gave an overview of what a Council Coffee meeting is like and when they will happen. Commissioner Douglas shared how she prepares for her Council Coffee meetings. Commissioner Douglas and Amy McBride presented a mock sample of a Council Coffee meeting. Staff will create a 2020 Year in Review document and one-pager about Tacoma Creates to help Commissioners prepare for their Council Coffee meeting. Commissioners discussed, asked questions, and signed up for Council Coffee meetings.

c. Literary Laureate Subcommittee Update

6:04 pm (57:53)

Commissioners Kula, Stowe, and Fernandez-Llamazares shared an update on the subcommittee's research on the prior Poet Laureate responses and kinds of laureate formats in various cities. The subcommittee is considering moving in the direction of recommending a transition to a Literary Laureate or an even broader title as well as considering a youth laureate position. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

7. Staff Check-In

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

6:10 pm (1:04:45)

Staff shared about the Whipsmart Creative Economy study and focus groups, and potential event on March 5 at Alma Mater. Asia Tail has transition out of the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality and is now staff at Native Action Network. Contracts are in progress for Arts Projects funding.

b. Public Art Updates

6:17 pm (1:11:03)

Staff shared about the following projects: Public Art Reaching Community (PARC) application deadline is February 10, 2020; temporary art installation at the Tacoma Emergency Micro Shelter site; update on the Water Wall project with Pierce Transit; traffic box wraps near the casino for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians; maintenance on the neon in the Tacoma Dome the week of February 17; and an art exhibit by Dionne Bonner at the Spaceworks gallery.



8. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

6:26 pm (1:20:32)

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

6:26 pm (1:20:37)

Commissioners shared arts events and venues they attended, upcoming events, or events they have been involved with including: the Seattle Asian Art Museum opening and Monkeyshines.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

6:29 pm (1:23:00)

A Commissioner asked for clarification on how to respond to people who want feedback on their funding applications. Commissioners are encouraged to point such inquiries to staff.

Meeting adjourned at 06:30 pm (1:24:35)

