

Members

Heather Conklin, Chair
Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Paula Jacobson
Michael Kula
Benjamin Maestas III
Elizabeth Pew
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: January 11, 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
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
MaryMikel Stump
James Stowe
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
Naomi Strom-Avila
Chevi Chung
Lisa Jaret
Kim Bedier

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Heather Conklin

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Jamika Scott

1. Call to Order

5:07 pm (00:00)

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.

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiif ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiif puyaləpabš dxʷəsłəłlils 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.”

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2. Consent Agenda (00:34)

There was one excused absence: Commissioner Conklin.

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

There was a motion: "I so move."

Motion: Commissioner Woodson

Seconded: Commissioner Holcomb

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (01:30)

Chair Ayala welcomed the new Commissioners, led an icebreaker activity, and introduced Council Member John Hines.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (30:04)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Council Coffee (31:33)

Chair Ayala called on staff to discuss the purpose and format of Council Coffee meetings and spoke to Council Member Hines' attendance at the meeting. Council Member Hines provided an overview of City Council and spoke to the importance of Council Coffee meetings from his perspective. Staff offered help if Commissioners need it to identify their district for alignment with future Council Coffee meetings.

b. Arts Commission Annual Retreat (45:52)

Chair Ayala shared how the 2020 Annual Retreat was placed on hold due to health and safety regulations and how the 2021 retreat may be in a virtual setting. Staff asked the Commission about ideas, topics, priorities, and areas of interest for the retreat. Commissioners discussed the structure of the retreat, design of a virtual meeting platform, topics of interest, and ideas.

c. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Subcommittee (1:02:52)

Chair Ayala gave an overview and history of the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) subcommittee. Staff provided an update that there was no DEI subcommittee meeting in January with Commissioners and the goal is to have monthly meetings to discuss strategy and priorities. Commissioners discussed being on the subcommittee.

6. Staff Check-In

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates (1:11:52)

Staff gave an update about the Community Arts Project funding contracts and reminded the Commission about the deadline for Tacoma Artists Initiative Program (TAIP) applications. Staff reported on the progress of communications with the Poet Laureate program, reminded the Commission about the Public Art Reaching Community (PARC) celebration and the responses received on the 2020 Tacoma Arts Month Community Engagement survey.

b. Public Art Updates (1:19:50)

Staff gave an update on the Totem Pole Deaccession committee.

- c. Tacoma Creates** **(1:24:10)**
Staff gave an overview about Tacoma Creates, the current funding cycle, the planned release of the 2021 funding application forms, the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board, and about Tacoma Creates panel information on the website. Commissioners asked questions.

7. Report Back

- a. Advocacy Reports** **(1:32:59)**
Chair Ayala gave an overview about the purpose of the Advocacy Reports standing agenda item and staff added to the overview. Commissioner Kula gave an update about revising the Arts Major at University of Washington Tacoma.
- b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended** **(1:35:15)**
Commissioners and staff gave an update on the Tacoma Light Trail.
- c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration** **(1:36:36)**
There were no future agenda items for consideration.

8. Adjourn **6:44 pm (1:36:58)**

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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