

**Members**

Robin Echtle, *Chair*  
Sarah Idstrom, *Vice Chair*  
Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison*  
Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
Jan Brazzell  
Rachel Cardwell  
Antonio Edwards, Jr.  
Janice Karroll  
Traci Kelly  
Donald Lacky  
Bill La Vergne  
Janet Matzke  
Aimee Mell  
Dane Meyer  
Jacqueline Peterson  
Mike Sweney  
Jana Wennstrom

# Summary Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

### Community & Economic Development

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which are available at [www.tacomaculture.org/arts/tac.asp](http://www.tacomaculture.org/arts/tac.asp).

**Staff**

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

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Date: May 10, 2010  
Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16  
Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Robin Echtle, Chair  
Sarah Idstrom, Vice-Chair  
Jan Brazzell  
Antonio Edwards, Jr.  
Traci Kelly  
Don Lacky  
Bill La Vergne  
Janet Matzke  
Aimee Mell  
Dane Meyer  
Mike Sweney  
Jana Wennstrom

*City Council Members Present:*

Lauren Walker

*City Council Members Absent:*

Marty Campbell

*Staff Present*

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

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Rachel Cardwell  
Janice Karroll  
Jacqueline Peterson

- |  |                        |                           |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>1. Call to Order</b>  | <b>5:02 pm (00:05)</b> | <b>Chair Echtle</b>       |
| <b>2. Excusal of Absences</b>  | <b>5:02 pm (00:15)</b> | <b>Vice Chair Idstrom</b> |
| Commissioners Cardwell, Karroll and Peterson had an excused absence. |                        |                           |
| <b>3. Approval of Agenda</b>   | <b>5:02 pm (00:35)</b> | <b>Vice Chair Idstrom</b> |

Motion: Bill La Vergne  
Second: Traci Kelly  
Motion: Carried

**4. Approval of Minutes****5:02 pm (00:55)****Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Jana Wennstrom

Second: Traci Kelly

Motion: Carried

**5. Chair's Report:****5:03 pm (01:09)****Chair Echtle**

Vice Chair Idstrom shared a letter from the CEO of ArtsFund stating that they will not have an allocations committee this year due to low funding. As a result, non-sustaining member arts organizations of ArtsFund likely will not be receiving funding, while member organizations will be at about 80% level of funding from previous years.

The Arts Commissioners received an invitation to Congressman Norm Dicks' reception for announcing the winner of the Congressional Art Competition. NEA Chair Rocco Landesman will be present at the reception.

**6. Staff Check-In****5:08 pm (6:01)**

Staff is working on the Safe and Clean murals program and has several available calls to artists, including calls for community groups, teaching artists, and participating artists.

Amy McBride gave an update about progress on Spaceworks Tacoma. A community meeting was held to answer questions and provide information. The Artscapes call to artists is in progress as well.

Arts Commissioners were offered the option to have Arts Commission business cards.

Commissioners volunteered to attend and evaluate Arts Projects and Anchor Fund events as follows:

<b>date</b>	<b>organization</b>	<b>event</b>	<b>volunteer</b>
May 29, 2010	Proctor Farmers Market	Music at the Proctor Farmers Market	Sarah Idstrom
June 3, 2010	Tacoma Farmers Market	Music at the Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Sarah Idstrom
June 5, 2010	Proctor Farmers Market	Music at the Proctor Farmers Market	Bill La Vergne
June 10, 2010	Tacoma Farmers Market	Music at the Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Dane Meyer
June 12, 2010	Proctor Farmers Market	Music at the Proctor Farmers Market	Sarah Idstrom
June 12, 2010	Museum of Glass	Family Day	Mike Sweney
June 12, 13, 15, 19, 20	Tacoma Children's Musical Theater	Peter & the Wolf	Traci Kelly
June 19, 2010	Proctor Farmers Market	Music at the Proctor Farmers Market	Bill La Vergne
June 20, 2010	Tacoma Farmers Market	Music at the South Tacoma Farmers Market	Janet Matzke

**7. Discussion Items****A. Commission 2009/10 Year in Review/Preview & Council Meetings****5:25 pm (23:31)**

Commissioners Kelly and Meyer spoke of their Council meeting with City Council Member Walker. It was suggested that the Commission visually show how it serves a diverse population. The Commission discussed the idea of taking photographs during events and using these photos in publications and online to better publicize the presence of the arts community.

## **B. Public Convening**

**5:40 pm (38:51)**

Aimee Mell presented the idea of the Commission hosting regular social convenings for people in the arts or who support the arts. Meetings could be hosted by one or two Commissioners, possibly partnering with Anchor Fund organizations, and held at different locations (restaurant or bar) for each meeting. Meetings could dovetail with Artwalk or Love Tacoma.

A subcommittee was formed, consisting of Commissioners Mell, Sweney, Edwards, and Meyer to explore this idea further. They will be report back at next month's meeting.

## **8. Action Items**

### **A. Anchor Fund Guidelines**

**5:46 pm (44:24)**

Commissioners reviewed the Anchor Fund guideline policies and application form. It was suggested that applicants should be required to submit photos of their programming as part of the deliverables in their contracts. Photos will be expected after the awards. Language detailing such will be added to the application.

There was a motion: "I make a move that we accept these as written"

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Antonio Edwards

Motion: Passed

The Commission discussed and decided that there should not be a correlation between funding amounts and the size of the organization, that previous biennium's funding levels should not be the basis for determining current funding levels, that organizations should not be funded conditionally, and that, if outside funding was available, there Commission could consider adding several Excellence Awards on top of regular funding.

### **B. Arts Projects Guidelines**

**6:03 pm (1:01:14)**

Commissioners discussed funding issues facing organizations whose governance are themselves taxing authorities or organizations whose primary purpose is fundraising for taxing authorities, whether school groups should be eligible, and whether or not there should be a one-to-one or in-kind match required from the organizations for money received from the City. Commissioners also discussed the funding role of the Arts Commission in projects.

It was recommended that "organizations whose governance are themselves taxing authorities or organizations whose primary purpose is fundraising for such taxing authorities" be eligible to apply for funding.

It was recommended that "Projects, programs or special events sponsored by schools or school-based auxiliary organizations (e.g., PTSAs)" be eligible to apply for funding.

It was recommended to require a \$1: \$1 cash or in-kind match for Arts Projects funding.

It was recommended to require a \$1:\$1 cash only match from schools and taxing authorities.

There was a motion to “accept the changes made in the Arts Projects guidelines as amended in regards to taxing authorities and schools and to the matching funds of all organizations applying.”

Motion: Traci Kelly

Second: Bill La Vergne

Motion: Passed

Further discussion was had regarding access and whether the contracts could be extended from an end date of December 15 to December 31.

There was a motion: “I’ll motion to accept the Arts Projects guidelines amendments as presented, except for the research into the final dates.”

Motion: Traci Kelly

Second: Bill La Vergne

Motion: Passed

### **C. Municipal Art Plan**

**6:22 pm (1:20:48)**

Amy presented a report on the Municipal Art Plan. Commissioners Sweney, Mell and Lacky volunteered to sit on the selection panel for the Cheney Stadium project. Other projects included Stewart Heights, Elks on Broadway, Pacific Plaza, the Murray Morgan Bridge, and the Puyallup River Bridge.

The Commission discussed the level of community involvement.

Amy presented her recommendations on a Public Art Training Program, which would allow for emerging artists to graduate from a training program and then apply and interview for public art commissions at specific target sites associated with the program. The goal of the program would be to help local artists become more competitive in the realm of public art.

Chair Echtle asked “Do we have a motion to approve the direction of the Municipal Art Plan as it has been presented here this evening?”

There was a motion: “So moved. With the change of “civil” to “human.”

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Aimee Mell

Motion: Passed

## **9. Report Back**

### **A. Mouths and Mics**

**6:45 pm (1:43:57)**

Commissioner Edwards reported on the Mouths & Mics poetry event. He noted that the event seemed to spark interest for similar programs in the future, especially for poetry to collaborate with other art forms on stage. He is working on plans to hold a national poetry convention in Tacoma in April 2011.

### **B. Events Attended**

**6:55 pm (1:53:40)**

Commissioners reported back about their attendance at the following events: Simply Symphonic, Wayzgoose at King’s Books, Flower Drum Song at Tacoma Musical Playhouse, and the 72-Hour Film Festival

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm