

**Members**

Robin Echte, *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: June 14, 2010  
Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16  
Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Sarah Idstrom, Vice-Chair  
Jan Brazzell  
Rachel Cardwell  
Antonio Edwards, Jr.  
Janice Karroll  
Traci Kelly  
Don Lacky  
Janet Matzke  
Aimee Mell  
Dane Meyer  
Mike Sweney  
Jana Wennstrom

*City Council Members Present:*

Lauren Walker  
Marty Campbell

*Staff Present:*

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

*Guests Present:*

Kristi Lynett

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Robin Echte, Chair  
Jacqueline Peterson

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Bill La Vergne

**1. Call to Order** **5:06 pm (00:09)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

**2. Excusal of Absences** **5:06 pm (00:24)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

Chair Echte and Commissioner Peterson had an excused absence. Commissioner La Vergne had an unexcused absence.

**3. Approval of Minutes** **5:06 pm (00:38)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Jan Brazzell

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Second: Jan Karroll

Motion: Carried

**4. Approval of Agenda** **5:07 pm (01:10)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Traci Kelly

Second: Don Lacky

Motion: Carried

**5. Chair’s Report:** **5:07 pm (01:19)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

Vice Chair Idstrom attended the National Arts Program reception. Commissioners Edwards and Meyer helped jury the artwork.

Vice Chair Idstrom gave a reminder that there will be no Arts Commission meeting in July.

Council member Campbell has been working on a project to allow street vending and food carts in downtown Tacoma; he shared the summary of the ordinance that includes changes regarding more opportunities for vendors selling arts and crafts. Rules and guidelines regarding busking were also discussed.

**6. Staff Check-In** **5:17 pm (11:50)**

Staff met with Environmental Services leadership to discuss their participation in the Percent for Art program. They were most interested in projects that would involve education or recycling as a theme (encouragement of recycling or usage of recycled materials in artwork). They were also interested in dovetailing with community gardens.

Amy McBride met with Sean Peterson about the Welcome Figure. His current deadline to finish is July 31. Staff from Streets and Grounds and from the Tacoma Art Museum were present to discuss installation and handling of artwork. The predicted final install date will be at the end of August or in September.

Commissioners Sweney and Mell were both present for the first stakeholder meeting for the Cheney Stadium percent for art project. Commissioner Sweney gave a brief breakdown of the art budget and the plan for the two calls to artists. The artwork should be completed by opening day of the season, in spring 2011.

Amy sent out an article titled From Creative Economy to Creative Society that relates the arts to community and economic development. It talks about the necessity of the arts to building communities and the benefit of providing networking for artists.

There is a possibility that the Goddess of Commerce could come back to the Commission for review for placement in a new location. Commissioners discussed their previous review of the proposal and whether it is necessary to review the piece again.

(Starting at 59:14)

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

<b>date</b>	<b>organization</b>	<b>event</b>	<b>volunteer</b>
July 11, 2010	6th Avenue Business District	Art on the Ave	Don Lacky, Traci Kelly, Antonio Edwards, Lauren Walker

July 15, 2010 -  
August 14, 2010 Fulcrum Gallery

Here and Now  
exhibit

Rachel Cardwell, Aimee Mell,  
Lauren Walker

Naomi Strom-Avila briefly described Arts Crush, which is basically a regional version of Art at Work Month, taking place in October. Theater Puget Sound is organizing the event and is looking for unique events that draw in new crowds that normally would not attend “traditional” arts programming.

Commissioners volunteered to sit on four committees for Art at Work Month planning as follows:

**Opening Party Committee**

- 1 Sarah Idstrom
- 2 Jan Karroll
- 3 Aimee Mell
- 4 Jan Brazzell

**Studio Tour Committee**

- 1 Sarah Idstrom
- 2 Mike Sweney
- 3 Dane Meyer
- 4 Jana Wennstrom

**Symposium Committee**

- 1 Rachel Cardwell
- 2 Traci Kelly
- 3 Mike Sweney
- 4 Jane Matzke
- 5 Antonio Edwards

**Art Slam Committee**

- 1 Jan Karroll
- 2 Aimee Mell
- 3 Antonio Edwards

Three AMOCAT awards are given out by the Commission each year: Community Outreach by an Artist, Community Outreach by an Organization, and Arts Patron. Commissioners made nominations; they will continue making nominations and then vote in September.

**7. Presentation**

**A. Sustainable Tacoma**

**5:33 pm (27:06)**

Guest Kristi Lynett from the Office of Sustainability gave a presentation on the history of sustainability in Tacoma and the City’s encouragement of sustainability. The Office of Sustainability and the Sustainable Tacoma Commission were created in 2009. The Sustainable Tacoma Commission’s role is to provide oversight and transparency toward the implementation of the City’s climate action plan. Kristi emphasized the culture aspect of sustainability – making people want to live where they do in order to create a healthier environment.

The Commission discussed using visual art to increase the walkability of Tacoma. Ideas for getting art and sustainability out to businesses and out to greater Tacoma were also discussed, including funding.

## **8. Reports/Updates**

### **A. Artscapes/Spaceworks Tacoma**

**6:20 pm (1:14:43)**

Amy discussed the Artscapes component of Spaceworks Tacoma and presented the selected artists' proposals for Tollefson Plaza and for the storefront windows. Selected artists include: Ben Hirschkoff; Michelle Acuff; Tory Franklin; Andrew Peterson, Angel Brain and Snake Puddin'; Joseph Songco; Gretchen Bennett; Lisa Kinoshita; June Sekiguchi, Mary Coss & Pamela Hom; Barbara De Pirro; Sisy Anderson & Scott Huette; Holly Senn; Alexandra Opie; Ruth Marie Tomlinson, Jessica Bender, Tania Kupczak & Craig Snyder; Alice Di Certo; Kyle Dillehay; and Alyson Piskorowski.

### **B. Click!**

**6:32 pm (1:26:48)**

Naomi briefly discussed the open call to the public for arts content to be put on the TacomaArt&Culture channel on Click! ON Demand. Staff is looking into hosting a workshop held in the fall to educate interested artists about how to format and create content for television.

### **C. Community Based Mural Program**

**6:37 pm (1:31:46)**

Amy gave an update on the Community Based Mural Program. Five teaching artists (Chris Sharp, Joni Joachims, Kelda Martensen, Jeremy Gregory, and Rachel Dotson) were selected and they will be teaching participating student artists how to paint murals. The artist teams will then work with community groups to paint murals around Tacoma.

### **D. Council Coffee Feedback**

**6:40 pm (1:34:40)**

Commissioner Meyer met with Council Member Lonergan. Commissioners Meyer and Brazzell met with City Council member Fey who recommended that a special project that might involve youth or might attract more tourism to Tacoma be presented to Council to be considered for funding. The Commission discussed various events that have brought or could bring more visibility to Tacoma and stimulate its economic development. Commissioners Kelly and Edwards met with Council Member Woodards. Vice-Chair Idstrom met with Council Member Mello who inquired about the City's percent for art program. Chair Echte, Vice-Chair Idstrom, and Commissioner Sweney met with the Mayor, who stated that her priority is focused on arts in education, particularly K-12. Commissioners were encouraged to keep in touch with Council.

### **E. Public Convening**

**6:54 pm (1:48:20)**

The public convening subcommittee needed more time before making a recommendation to the Commission. Their idea is to hold social events around the arts with Commissioners, arts leaders, and arts organizations (particularly Anchor organizations). Commissioners discussed the possibility of dovetailing with organizations currently holding similar social events.

## **9. Good of the Order**

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm