

**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  
MaryMikel Stump  
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](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes).

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Date: August 10, 2020

Location: Virtually via Zoom

Time: 5:00 pm

***Commission Members in Attendance:***

Heather Conklin, Chair  
Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair  
Michelle Douglas  
Anna Holcomb  
Michael Kula  
Benjamin Maestas III  
Elizabeth Pew  
James Stowe  
MaryMikel Stump  
Wanda Thompson  
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem  
Sarah Woodson

***Commission Members Excused Absence:***

Olivia Allison  
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares

***Commission Members Unexcused Absence:***

Paula Jacobson

***Staff Present:***

Amy McBride  
Chevi Chung  
Naomi Strom-Avila  
Clarissa Gines  
Lisa Jaret  
Adam Cook  
Tammi Bryant

***Guests Present:***

Amber Sterud Hayward  
Andrew Strobel  
Stephanie Howe  
Gabriel Brown  
Don Lacky

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**1. Call to Order**

**5:09 pm (00:00)**

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 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**

**5:09 pm (00:46)**

Commissioners Allison and Fernandez-Llamazares had excused absences.

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

There was a motion: “I so move.”

Motion: Commissioner Douglas

Motion: Carried

**3. Chair’s Report/Housekeeping**

**5:10 pm (01:15)**

Chair Conklin reminded Commissioners to complete the Open Public Meetings Act training.

**4. Action Items**

**a. Incorporating Lushootseed Language in Signage**

**5:12 pm (03:36)**

Tacoma Arts Administrator Amy McBride introduced Amber Sterud Hayward, Program Director of the Puyallup Tribal Language Program. Amber gave an update on increasing visibility of the Lushootseed language in the community and shared information about the Lushootseed language materials available online. There was discussion about sharing out land acknowledgement resources with organizations who receive funding through the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality and including a land acknowledgement on new public art signage.

There was a motion: “I will move that we adopt the Lushootseed language and land acknowledgement alongside public art that we fund and programming that we fund.”

Motion: Commissioner Stump

Seconded

Motion: Carried

**5. Discussion/Updates**

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**a. Fireman’s Park Totem Pole****5:27 pm (18:49)**

Amy McBride introduced Andrew Strobel and gave a brief history of the Fireman’s Park Totem Pole. Andrew added historical and cultural points about the totem pole. Commissioners asked questions and shared comments.

There was a motion: “I motion to have a subgroup or group of people look into the deaccession of the Fireman’s Park totem pole.”

Motion: Chair Conklin

Second: Commissioner Woodson

Motion: Carried

**b. Tacoma Arts Month Planning****5:43 pm (34:53)**

Chevi Chung gave an update about Tacoma Arts Month and how it will continue to have a call for activities and events as in prior years. A digital artists highlight called Artists in Focus will replace the former Tacoma Studio Tour. Staff are planning to commission local artists to create a series of community engagement projects. Commissioners discussed, gave suggestions, and asked questions.

**c. Arts Projects and TAIP Funding****6:03 pm (54:27)**

Naomi Strom-Avila gave an overview and update on Arts Projects and TAIP funding. Staff shared suggestions on ways to center justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the application and panel process. Commissioners discussed and shared comments around funding guidelines.

**6. Staff Check-In****a. Tacoma Creates****6:54 pm (1:45:48)**

Clarissa Gines and Lisa Jaret shared the new Tacoma Creates logo. Lisa shared updates about the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board and Tacoma Public Library programming.

**b. Staff Projects Overview and Updates****6:59 pm (1:50:20)**

Amy McBride discussed the BEING. DOING. KNOWING. short film series. Chevi Chung shared updates about Tacoma Poet Laureate Abby E. Murray’s recent work over the summer.

**c. Public Art Updates****7:02 pm (1:53:04)**

Naomi Strom-Avila provided updates on the following public art projects: Public Art Reaching Community (PARC) training program, Port of Tacoma Centennial at Fireman’s Park, and the Pierce Transit Waterwall project.

**7. Report Back****a. Advocacy Reports****7:05 pm (1:56:28)**

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There were no items.

**b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended**

**7:05 pm (1:56:35)**

Chair Conklin shared about Beautiful Angle posters.

**c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration**

**7:05 pm (1:56:53)**

There were no items.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm**

