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.

Date: January 10, 2011
Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16
Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:
Sarah Idstrom, Chair
Traci Kelly, Vice-Chair
Jan Brazzell
Rachel Cardwell
Robin Echtle
Antonio Edwards, Jr.
Janice Karroll
Don Lacky
Bill La Vergne
Janet Matzke
Aimee Mell
Dane Meyer
Jacqueline Peterson
Mike Sweney
Jana Wennstrom

City Council Members Absent:
Marty Campbell
Lauren Walker

Staff Present:
Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Assistant

Guests:
Andy Buelow
Harvey Felder

Commission Members Excused Absence:
Antonio Edwards, Jr.
Dane Meyer
Mike Sweney

1. Call to Order 5:02 pm (00:13) Chair Idstrom
2. Excusal of Absences 5:02 pm (00:35) Vice Chair Kelly
Commissioners Edwards, Meyer, and Sweney had an excused absence.
3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes  5:02 pm (00:46)  Vice Chair Kelly

Motion: Jackie Peterson
Second: Jan Brazzell

There was an amendment to add Budget Allocations for Funding to the agenda.

Motion: Robin Echtle
Second: Jan Brazzell
Motion: Carried

4. Chair’s Report  5:03 pm (01:55)  Chair Idstrom

Andy Buelow, Executive Director of the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra briefly spoke to the Commission.

5. Staff Check-In  5:07 pm (05:22)

Staff conducted a Tacoma Artists Initiative Program funding workshop on January 5.

The City received a $25,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to commission a public art plan for the Prairie Line Trail. The plan needs to be completed by the end of July; the call to artists will go out shortly.

Commissioners are invited to attend the January 22 bus tour of the murals created in the 2010 Mural Art Training Program.

Commissioners were notified of expiring terms and how to reapply, if interested.

6. Action Items

A. Budget Allocations for Funding  5:19 pm (17:00)

The Commission has $405,000 to redistribute via its three funding programs for 2011-12. Historically, funding has been redistributed as follows: $265,000 for Anchor Fund, $50,000 for year 1 of Arts Projects, $45,000 for year 2 of Arts Projects, and $45,000 for Tacoma Artists Initiative Program. Staff recommended funding redistribution remain the same.

There was a motion: “I move that we accept that we continue with the same numbers that you read.”

Motion: Jan Karroll
Second: Bill La Vergne
Motion: Carried
B. Artist in Residence/Enviro-Challenger Program 5:20 pm (18:38)

Environmental Services, is participating in the Percent for Art program with a budget of roughly $177,000. Environmental Services would like funding to go toward the development of an art component or Artist in Residency as part of their Enviro-Challenger program. There was discussion about the proposed program.

The Commission was asked for a motion “That we support using this funding to pursue this educational program.”

There was a motion: “I so move.”

Motion: Bill La Vergne
Second: Rachel Cardwell

Motion: Carried

7. Discussion

A. 2011 Arts Commission Retreat 5:44 pm (42:45)

Commissioners discussed their annual retreat; a date and location will be determined. Possible topics for discussion at the retreat are: the Commission’s goals for the year, Art at Work month planning, upcoming projects and public art, and Commissioners’ advocacy for the arts.

B. Art at Work 10th Anniversary Planning 5:50 pm (48:41)

Commissioners volunteered for Art at Work month committees as follows:

10th Anniversary Planning Committee
Aimee Mell
Jan Brazzell
Traci Kelly
Sarah Idstrom

Opening Party Committee
Janet Matzke
Don Lacky
Bill La Vergne

Studio Tour Committee
Jana Wennstrom
Sarah Idstrom

Symposium Committee
Jan Karroll
Traci Kelly

Art Slam Committee
Robin Echtle
C. Arts & Economic Prosperity IV Study  6:00 pm (58:33)
Staff discussed the Tacoma Arts Commission’s role in implementing aspects of Americans for the Arts’ Arts & Economic Prosperity IV study in Tacoma. Commissioners will help conduct audience surveys at art events in 2011.

8. Reports/Updates

A. 2011 Tacoma Poet Laureate Program  6:11 pm (1:09:27)
The 2011-13 Tacoma Poet Laureate call will go out to the public on January 18.

B. State of the Arts Discussion  6:14 pm (1:12:25)
Commissioners discussed the current known state of the Pierce County Arts Commission and the Washington State Arts Commission. Commissioners discussed options for advocacy including becoming a member of the Washington State Arts Alliance, attending Arts Day in Olympia on February 2, writing op-ed pieces for the local media, and contacting legislators.

Commissioners discussed plans for writing an op-ed piece for the News Tribune.

There was a motion: “I make a motion that the Chair drafts something to be distributed amongst Commission members for comments.”

Motion: Rachel Cardwell
Second: Aimee Mell
Motion: Carried

9. Report Back

A. Arts Events Attended  6:46 pm (1:44:47)
Commissioners talked about arts and cultural events they attended.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm