Summary Minutes
Tacoma Arts Commission
Community & Economic Development

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Date: January 11, 2016
Location: 728 St. Helens, Room 16
Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:
Mike Sweney, Chair
Rachel Cardwell, Vice Chair
Scott Campbell
Heather Conklin
Kareem Kandi
Traci Kelly
Johnaye Kendrick
Halley Knigge
Don Lacky
Dane Meyer
Wanda Thompson
Paul Throne
Katrina Toft
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:
Joel Chang

Staff Present:
Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist

Guests:
Wayne Beals
Stephanie Stebich

1. Call to Order 5:03 pm (00:14) Chair Sweney

2. Consent Agenda 5:03 pm (00:30) Vice Chair Cardwell

Vice Chair Cardwell asked if there was a motion to accept the agenda and minutes.

There was a motion: “So moved.”
Motion: Traci Kelly
Second: Wanda Thompson

Chair Sweney proposed adding a presentation by Stephanie Stebich to the Discussion/Updates portion of the agenda.
Vice Chair Cardwell asked if Commissioner Kelly approved the addition of the presentation to the agenda.

Commissioner Kelly stated, “Yes, I so move with the friendly amendment.”

Motion: Carried

3. Chair’s Report 5:05 pm (02:38) Chair Sweney
Chair Sweney thanked Commissioners Kelly and Meyer for their past service as Chair and Vice Chair.

Chair Sweney welcomed Commissioner Kendrick. Commissioners introduced themselves.

4. Discussion/Updates
A. 5-Year Art Plan & Arts Commission Annual Retreat 5:11 pm (08:13)
The Commission will work through a draft of the 5-year Art Plan at their annual retreat. Commissioners reviewed Section 5 of Tacoma 2025 in preparation for the retreat.

Commissioners discussed, gave suggestions, and asked clarifying questions.

Chair Sweney proposed Commissioners do a short arts resolution exercise at the retreat.

B. Tacoma Art Museum and Tacoma Action Collective 5:25 pm (22:00)
Stephanie Stebich, Executive Director of Tacoma Art Museum, gave an overview of recent activities related to the Art AIDS America exhibit at the museum and Tacoma Action Collective’s peaceful protest to bring attention to the lack of representation by artists of color. The museum and collective have had continuing conversations regarding the concerns. The museum has committed to encouraging updates and additions to the works in the exhibition as it continues to travel, advocating for more diversity at the museum, providing training to undo institutional racism, and inviting further conversation with the community.

Commissioners discussed and gave suggestions for community connections to expand the conversation.

C. Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 Study 5:45 pm (42:20)
Amy McBride gave an overview of the Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 study that the city is undertaking in 2016. Commissioners will be asked to help administer audience surveys throughout the year.

D. Public Art Updates 5:50 pm (47:02)
Lincoln District Revitalization – This project is underway and the Commission will see a proposal in the near future.
Prairie Line Trail Spur – This project is underway and the Commission will see a proposal in the near future.

Metro Parks Tacoma – The finalists for the Point Defiance Aquarium projects will be interviewed in February.

Water Flume Line Trail – The call to artists closes on January 11. Commissioner Toft volunteered to sit on the selection and review panel.

South Tacoma – Vice Chair Cardwell volunteered to sit on the selection and review panel for this gateway public art project on South Tacoma Way.

Harold Balazs sculpture – the deaccessioned artwork is scheduled to be taken down in the near future.

Bill Hoppe artwork – the artwork, currently sited at the bicentennial pavilion, will be moved to the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center.

Traffic Box Wrap Project – One box has been wrapped already and the other boxes will be wrapped in early 2016 when weather warms.

Sound Transit D to M – The city purchased the land where the sculpture will eventually be sited. City departments have been working on site reclamation, lighting, and landscaping plans.

Commissioners discussed projects and asked clarifying questions.

5. Staff Check-In 6:00 pm (57:27)
Staff is continuing to develop and implement a public art plan for Metro Parks Tacoma.

Mayor Strickland will be hosting a Monday Mixer event on February 1, 5 – 6:30 pm at 1120 Pacific Avenue. The event will be centered on adaptive reuse and creative space.

6. Report Back
A. Advocacy Reports 6:04 pm (01:01:06)
There were no advocacy reports.

B. Arts Events Attended 6:04 pm (01:01:22)
Commissioners shared art events they had attended or have been involved with including First Night Tacoma, Northwest Repertory Singers, Classical Tuesdays in Old Town, Tacoma Jazz Association, and The Grand Cinema.

C. Future Agenda Items for Consideration 6:10 pm (01:07:12)
There were no items noted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm