

**Members**

Traci Kelly, *Chair*  
 J.D. Elquist, *Vice Chair*  
 Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Robin Echtle  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Donald Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Zach Powers  
 Scott Ramsey  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Jana Wennstrom

# 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](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes).

**Staff**

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

Date: January 13, 2014

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Traci Kelly, Chair  
 J.D. Elquist, Vice Chair  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Don Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Zach Powers  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Jana Wennstrom

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Robin Echtle  
 Matt Hudgins

*Staff Present:*

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

*Guests:*

Molly Wilmoth  
 Rosemary Ponnekanti

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Scott Ramsey  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson

- |                               |                        |                           |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>1. Call to Order</b>       | <b>5:06 pm (00:01)</b> | <b>Chair Kelly</b>        |
| <b>2. Excusal of Absences</b> | <b>5:06 pm (00:12)</b> | <b>Vice Chair Elquist</b> |

Commissioners Ramsey, Sweney, and Thompson had an excused absence.

- |  |                        |                           |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes</b> | <b>5:06 pm (00:22)</b> | <b>Vice Chair Elquist</b> |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|

Commissioner Cardwell submitted a request to switch the Action Items on the agenda and put Warhol Flower for the Tacoma Dome before Arts Projects Funding Recommendations.

Chair Kelly asked for “a motion to approve the agenda as amended with the transfer of the Arts Projects to the second Action Item, and the minutes from last month.”



There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion: Zach Powers  
Second: Dane Meyer  
Motion: Carried

#### **4. Chair’s Report**

**5:07 pm (01:46)**

**Chair Kelly**

Future Agenda Items for Consideration will be added to each month’s agenda as a way to entertain agenda topics.

Chair Kelly and Amy McBride attended the Broadway Center’s presentation related to their expansion plans.

Chair Kelly participated in a telephone town hall meeting on January 9.

Arts and Heritage day will be held on February 25 in Olympia.

The City of Tacoma’s Economic Development Committee has requested a presentation on the arts in March.

#### **5. Staff Check-In**

**5:16 pm (10:10)**

The Arts Program, through The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, received \$80,000 in funding from J.P. Morgan Chase to further investigate artist live/work space in Tacoma. The funding will help bring Artspace back to Tacoma in a consulting role with local developers and to conduct a survey. It will also help cover related administration.

The Arts Program will be producing Metal Urge in 2014 in collaboration with Tacoma Art Museum’s upcoming metal arts exhibit and the Seattle Metals Guild symposium in October.

PC ACE has hired Frause to develop a plan to co-market the arts in Tacoma. The City is managing the funding contract.

The Arts Program is managing Sound Transit’s Tacoma Gateway public art project. The artists for the project will present their concept to the Commission in the near future. The Arts Program is also working with Sound Transit on the 66<sup>th</sup> Street Trestle public art project and is planning to submit a bid to manage another Sound Transit trestle public art project in Tacoma.

Councilmember Lonergan, a representative from Metro Parks, and Amy McBride checked out the Redmond Free Wall recently as part of the process in scoping out possibilities for a graffiti free wall in Tacoma.

Arts Program staff is working with the City’s Media and Communications Office to produce the artTown TV show.



Arts EnviroChallenger served 161 classrooms during the last school year. Funding for the program has been secured through spring 2014.

Ms. McBride has been working with Chihuly Studio on relamping the Seaform Pavilion on the Bridge of Glass. Bids for pouring the base for the Sun King have come in; installation will be scheduled for spring. Work is underway to fix and reinstall the PAVE Bell sculpture.

Community Based Services has dedicated \$25,000 in funding for the completion of more murals in 2014 including a mural along Stadium Way.

A call to artists will be released shortly for a mural to be sited under the Murray Morgan Bridge. Chair Kelly volunteered to sit on the artist selection panel.

Portable artworks from the Municipal Art Collection have been installed throughout the Municipal Building.

Amy McBride presented the second phase of Elizabeth Conner's Pacific Avenue Streetscape public art project. The six spheres in the second phase will be reflective of architectural elements of adjacent buildings.

Vice Chair Elquist and Commissioners Brazzell, Lacky, and Meyer volunteered to jury artwork for the National Arts Program visual art exhibit for City employees and family members.

A call to artists and call to community will be issued in February for the Tacoma Murals Project.

The Tacoma Poet Laureate is planning to put together an audio poetry mapping project in collaboration with the City's GIS program. The project received funding through The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation.

## **6. Action Items**

### **A. Warhol Flower for the Tacoma Dome 5:40 pm (34:29)**

Commissioners discussed submitting a letter of support to Mayor Strickland and Tacoma City Council members to pursue the investigation of the potential to put the Warhol flower on the Tacoma Dome.

If the proposal can move forward, funding would have to be secured through private funds. The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation has agreed to have oversight of funds raised. Rainier Industries has estimated the cost to cover the Dome with a 3-M removable supergraphic with a 10-year warranty to be \$2,000,000.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions including origins of the current Dome design, maintenance costs, structural stability of the Dome, and long-term plans for the Dome.



There was a motion: “I would make a motion that we continue to explore this idea without saying ‘yes, we wholeheartedly support the concept.’ I would like to continue to investigate the reality of what it would take.”

Motion: Rachel Cardwell  
Second: Zach Powers  
Motion: Suspended

Commissioners discussed the most appropriate way to encourage City Council to take the next step to allow the City to further investigate the feasibility of the proposal.

Commissioners proposed and discussed various wording options for a letter to Mayor Strickland and City Council, the final wording iteration of which was, “The Tacoma Arts Commission recognizes both the historic and aesthetic value of the Warhol proposal for the Tacoma Dome and urges the City of Tacoma to pass a resolution by March 4, 2014 to use the Tacoma Dome for this project.”

Commissioner Cardwell said, “I’m retracting my motion.”

Motion: Retracted

There was a motion: “I move that we approve.”

Motion: Catherine Stegeman  
Second: Jana Wennstrom  
Motion: Carried

## **B. Arts Projects Funding Recommendations          6:21 pm (1:15:50)**

The 2014 Arts Projects review panel’s funding recommendations were presented to the Commission. The panel recommended funding 19 applicants for a total of \$50,000 as follows:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Recommended Funding</b>
Asia Pacific Cultural Center	\$ 4,000.00
Children's Museum of Tacoma	\$ 3,500.00
DASH Center for the Arts	\$ 3,500.00
Fab-5 (fiscal sponsor Shunpike)	\$ 3,500.00
Fort Nisqually Foundation	\$ 3,000.00
King's Bookstore	\$ 3,900.00
Local Life	\$ 2,500.00
Metropolitan Glass	\$ 1,000.00



MLKBallet	\$ 1,000.00
Northwest Repertory Singers	\$ 2,300.00
Old Town Business and Professional Assoc.	\$ 3,500.00
Puget Sound Poetry Connection	\$ 2,000.00
Second City Chamber Series	\$ 2,300.00
Sister City Council of Tacoma	\$ 1,000.00
Tacoma Concert Band	\$ 2,500.00
Tacoma Maritime Fest (fiscal sponsor Tacoma Neighborhoods Together)	\$ 2,000.00
the BareFoot Collective (fiscal sponsor Shunpike)	\$ 1,000.00
University of Puget Sound	\$ 3,500.00
Washington State Historical Society	\$ 4,000.00

A total of 23 applications were received, requesting a total of \$92,400.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions. Panel members gave an overview of particular applications in question.

There was a motion: "I propose we accept this slate."

Motion: Dane Meyer  
 Second: Jana Wennstrom  
 Motion: Carried

## 7. Discussion/Updates

### A. Arts Commission Annual Retreat

6:30 pm (1:24:50)

Commissioners discussed possible dates and topics for the Commission's retreat. Arts Program staff will send out an email poll to determine the best date for the retreat.

Possible topics include: Art at Work Month, marketing of the arts, advocacy of the arts, the arts in relation to the City charter, a review of the purpose of the Commission, brainstorming possible guest speakers, and funding budget allocations.

### B. Graffiti Art Discussion

6:43 pm (1:37:25)



Chair Kelly noted that the New Tacoma Neighborhood Council will be presenting a community forum on graffiti in the summer.

**C. Art at Work Month Revamp, Name, and Marketing 6:44 pm (1:38:55)**

Commissioners discussed changing the name of Art at Work Month to Tacoma Arts Month.

There was a motion: “Motion to move forward with Tacoma Arts Month.”

Motion: Zach Powers  
Second: Catherine Stegeman  
Motion: Carried

Commissioners volunteered to sit on Tacoma Arts Month committees as follows:

AMOCAT Arts Awards and Opening Party Committee – Don Lacky, Zach Powers

Tacoma Studio Tour Committee – Traci Kelly, Catherine Stegeman, Jan Brazzell, Dane Meyer

Marketing Committee – Rachel Cardwell, Traci Kelly, J.D. Elquist, Zach Powers

**8. Report Back**

**A. Landmarks Preservation Commission 6:55 pm (01:49:40)**

Elizabeth Conner presented to the Landmarks Preservation Commission about her public art proposal for the Pacific Avenue Streetscape project.

**B. Advocacy Reports 6:55 pm (01:49:55)**

There were no new updates to report.

**C. Arts Events Attended 6:56 pm (01:50:10)**

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or been involved with including a visual art show at Grit City Grindhouse and a meeting with Councilmember Campbell.

**D. Future Agenda Items for Consideration 6:57 pm (01:51:35)**

There were no suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm

