

**Members**

Traci Kelly, *Chair*  
 Dane Meyer, *Vice Chair*  
 David Boe, *City Council Liaison*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Scott Campbell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Joel Chang  
 Heather Conklin  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Sarah Idstrom  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Donald Lacky  
 Ronald Lagman  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Katrina Toft  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

# 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: February 9, 2015

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Traci Kelly, Chair  
 Dane Meyer, Vice Chair  
 Scott Campbell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Joel Chang  
 Heather Conklin  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Sarah Idstrom  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Don Lacky  
 Ronald Lagman  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Katrina Toft  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

*Council Members in Attendance:*

David Boe

*Staff Present:*

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

*Guests:*

Andy Buelow  
 Joy Langley  
 Heather Joy  
 Sarah Koestler  
 Gary Boone  
 Deborah Boone

**1. Call to Order****5:05 pm (00:01)****Chair Kelly****2. Consent Agenda****5:05 pm (00:11)****Vice Chair Meyer**

There were no excused absences.

Commissioners were presented with a proposed revised agenda which included the addition of a presentation on Cultural Access WA by Joy Langley, Executive Director of Cultural Access Washington, and the addition of an action item to approve a meeting with the Tacoma News Tribune editorial board regarding the Warhol on the Tacoma Dome.

Chair Kelly stated, "Once you have had a chance to look at it, we're actually looking for a motion to approve the revised agenda for this evening."

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There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion: Mike Sweney  
Second: Don Lacky  
Motion: Carried

### **3. Chair’s Report**

**5:06 pm (01:46)**

**Chair Kelly**

Chair Kelly encouraged Commissioners to attend the February 10 Tacoma City Council meeting where they will be considering a Resolution regarding the Warhol on the Tacoma Dome. Arts Anchor Fund and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program panels are coming up and the Creative Space survey has closed.

### **4. Presentations**

#### **A. Tacoma 2025**

**5:07 pm (02:46)**

Andy Buelow, Executive Director of the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, presented on Tacoma’s new strategic plan, Tacoma 2025. Mr. Buelow sat on the Steering Committee of Tacoma 2025 and gave an overview of the process and report including goals, objectives, strategies, and tactics.

Arts and Cultural Vitality is one of seven focus areas in the plan. The three main objectives are: 1) increase participation in arts and culture, 2) Embrace Tacoma’s diversity of people, places, and cultures, 3) Leverage and strengthen Tacoma’s arts and cultural assets. Accountability measures include: increasing the number of youth participating in arts and cultural events, increase attendance at arts and cultural events, increase the economic impact of creative and cultural events in Tacoma, and increase the percentage of all business activity represented by creative industries.

The City is dedicating a full time staff member to help make sure the strategic plan is implemented and tracked. Mr. Buelow recommended the Commission continue the dialogue established by Tacoma 2025 by forming a steering committee comprised of community members and Commissioners. He also recommended Chair Kelly and Vice Chair Meyer meet with Mayor Strickland regarding how the Commission can take an active role in moving the Arts and Cultural Vitality portion of the plan forward.

Commissioners discussed and asked clarifying questions.

#### **B. Cultural Access WA**

**5:38 pm (33:00)**

Joy Langley, Executive Director of Cultural Access Washington presented on Cultural Access WA, a sustainable source of funding, through a small tax increase, to support and increase access to arts, science, and heritage organizations in the region. There is a strong focus on educational programming and outreach to schools, military, and seniors. It was modeled after Denver’s arts funding model.

The bill is currently moving through the House (House Bill 1107) and Senate (Senate Bill 5463) with bi-partisan support.



The legislation currently has a provision for a city to step up and put Cultural Access WA on the ballot if the county will not. Funding can come in the form of a property tax or sales tax increase. The impact of 0.1% funding in Pierce County is estimated at \$12,189,180.

Ms. Langley suggested that the Commission send a letter of support for Cultural Access WA to the Washington State Representatives and Senators for the Tacoma area. The Commission can also reach out to elected officials through Arts & Heritage Day.

There was a motion: "I move that we draft up a letter of support."

Motion: Scott Campbell  
Second: Wanda Thompson  
Motion: Carried

Arts & Heritage day will take place on March 4 in Olympia. Commissioners are invited to attend with other Commissioners or through the Washington State Arts Alliance.

## **5. Action Item**

### **A. TNT Editorial Board for Warhol**

**6:09 pm (1:04:08)**

The Commission discussed asking for a meeting between representatives of the Commission and the Tacoma News Tribune editorial board regarding the Warhol for the Tacoma Dome.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions and discussed the need to develop a list of next steps and benefits.

There was a motion: "I would like to propose a motion that we go forward with a meeting of the editorial board of the TNT to discuss the phases and steps of the Warhol proposal."

Motion: Wanda Thompson  
Second: Don Lacky

Commissions discussed the motion.

Commissioner Cardwell made a friendly amendment: "I make a friendly amendment that we appoint Traci and Dane and Mike and Scott, if he will take it, to speak on behalf."

Commissioner Thompson stated: "I would like to also add Amy to that list."

Commissioner Cardwell stated: "I assumed they would be part of it."

Motion: Carried

## **6. Staff Check-In**

**6:35 pm (1:30:30)**

Commissioners reviewed event and attendance numbers for arts and cultural events funded by the Tacoma Arts Commission in 2014.



Commissioners viewed images of Sean Orlando and David Shulman's updated proposal for Sound Transit's Tacoma Gateway public art project. The update is in response to the feedback they received from the Commission. Commissioners discussed and asked clarifying questions. The Commission does not need to approve the proposal updates at this time.

Staff have purchased a subscription to STORY.com, an online application that is populated with stories to help people learn about places and things to see and do. Staff will work with other city partners to add arts, culture, and heritage content relevant to Tacoma to the application.

Commissioners viewed the Laureate Listening Project audio anthology website.

Commissioners volunteered to attend/evaluate funded projects as follows:

<b>date</b>	<b>organization</b>	<b>event</b>	<b>volunteer</b>
02/14/15	Asia Pacific Cultural Center	17th Annual Asia Pacific New Year Celebration featuring Pakistan	Mike Sweney
02/19/15	Metropolitan Glass	The Monkeyshine Project: Year of the Ram	Wanda Thompson
03/14/15	Northwest Repertory Singers	A Celtic Celebration	Don Lacky
02/28/15	Tacoma Concert Band	Oscars, Classics & Cartoons	Don Lacky
2/21/15	Northwest Sinfonietta	The Three Divas	Don Lacky
02/10/15	Old Town Business and Professional Assoc.	Classical Tuesdays in Old Town - Dunava and Dave & the Dalmatians	Don Lacky
2/13/15	Puget Sound Poetry Connection	Distinguished Writer Series and Open Mic	Wanda Thompson
2/14/15 - 5/10/15	Museum of Glass	Patra Passage	Dane Meyer, Heather Conklin
3/1/15 - 6/30/15		Chihuly Drawings	
3/10/15 - 8/30/15		Joe Rossano: Vanity	
ongoing though 3/1/15		Celebrating Lino Tagliapietra	
ongoing through 7/12/15		Kids Design Glass Too	
3/1/15 - 6/7/15	Tacoma Art Museum	Eloquent Objects: Georgia O'Keeffe and Still-Life Art in New Mexico	Dane Meyer, Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem, Wanda Thompson, Heather Conklin
3/1/15 - 6/7/15		Still Life in the Northwest	

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ongoing through fall 2015		Art of the American West: The Haub Family Collection	
ongoing through fall 2015		Northwest in the West: Exploring Our Roots	
2/21/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Family Theater - Seussical the Musical	Traci Kelly
2/28/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Family Theater - Seussical the Musical	Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
2/22/15	Tacoma Symphony	Brahms & Dvorak	Don Lacky
2/21/15	Tacoma Youth Symphony Assoc.	Tacoma Young Artists Orchestra	Scott Campbell
3/1/15	Tacoma Youth Symphony Assoc.	Tacoma Youth Symphony	Mike Sweney

The Commission received 9 Arts Anchor Fund applications and 32 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program applications.

## 7. Discussion/Updates

### A. Tacoma Arts Commission Primer **6:56 pm (1:51:34)**

This item will be postponed till the next Commission meeting.

### B. Tacoma Arts Ecosystem: Global to Local **6:57 pm (1:52:07)**

Commissioners discussed the positive impacts of the Warhol on the Tacoma Dome. The list included:

- Civic pride in Tacoma
- Encourages people to further explore Tacoma
- A talking point that drives positive conversation
- Viral media that includes the Warhol on the Dome
- A welcoming piece of art as an entry to Tacoma
- Shifts the public image of Tacoma
- Supports Tacoma 2025 goals to increase attendance
- Raises the profile of arts in Tacoma
- Develops donors in the area
- Increases exposure of local artists to arts-interested patrons
- Increases options for grant opportunities
- Conversation starter for those outside of the traditional art community
- The value of other Warhol pieces gives perspective to the price tag for this project
- “Free” advertising for Tacoma



**8. Report Back**

**A. Advocacy Reports**

**7:09 pm (02:04:49)**

There were no reports.

**B. Arts Events Attended**

**7:09 pm (02:04:57)**

Commissioners shared art events they attended or have been involved with including Tacoma Opera, Asia Pacific New Year Celebration, and the 66<sup>th</sup> Street public art dedication.

**C. Future Agenda Items for Consideration**

**7:11 pm (02:06:26)**

There were no items noted.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm**

