

**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  
 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*  
 Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*

Date: March 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  
 Heather Conklin  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Sarah Idstrom  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Don Lacky  
 Mike Sweney  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Katrina Toft  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Joel Chang

*Council Members in Attendance:*

David Boe

*Staff Present:*

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

**1. Call to Order**

**5:05 pm (00:00)**

**Chair Kelly**

**2. Consent Agenda**

**5:05 pm (00:08)**

**Vice Chair Meyer**

Commissioners Chang and Sweney had an excused absence. Commissioner Sweney arrived late.

Vice Chair Meyer stated, “Hopefully everyone has had a chance to look at the agenda and look over the minutes from last week [month] and also hopefully somebody will propose we accept this.”

There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion: Sarah Idstrom  
 Second: Wanda Thompson  
 Motion: Carried



**3. Chair's Report****5:05 pm (00:53)****Chair Kelly**

Chair Kelly announced the resignation of Commissioner Lagman due to his relocation.

Commissioners were thanked for their service on the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program and Art Anchor Fund panels.

The Tacoma News Tribune published a positive editorial regarding the Warhol flower on the Tacoma Dome. The article was published after a meeting between the Tribune editorial board and Amy McBride, Vice Chair Meyer, and Commissioner Campbell.

Chair Kelly, Vice Chair Meyer, and Commissioners Sweney and Kandi attend Arts & Heritage Day in Olympia along with other members of Tacoma's cultural community.

**4. Presentations****A. Tacoma Arts Commission Primer (Public Disclosure and Open Meetings Act)****5:10 pm (05:35)**

Martha Lantz, Deputy City Attorney, presented on the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Records Act, and the City's Code of Ethics.

Under the Open Public Meetings Act, all meetings of committees, boards, commissions and governing bodies are open to the public and all business is to be conducted in an open meeting unless there is an exemption. The Commission is subject to the Open Public Meetings Act when a quorum of the Commission is present, even if the meeting is not in person, and when action occurs. Action includes any official business of the Commission, even if it isn't final action. A sub-body of the Commission is also subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, even if it is not a quorum, if they are authorized to take final action for the Commission. A quorum for the Arts Commission is a majority of the appointed Commissioners. Open Public Meetings must be properly notified, have a published agenda, allow the public to attend without conditions, and have minutes. There is no requirement to allow the public to speak. A knowing violation of the Open Public Meetings Act can lead to a penalty of \$100 against individual members. Any action of the Commission that didn't comply with the Open Public Meetings Act is null and void and would have to be redone.

The Public Records Act applies to the Commission as a whole and all Commission members have a duty to retain, search, and produce public records, on request. A public record is any type of information or communication related to the conduct of government or the performance of a government function, with a few exemptions. The owner/producer of the record is the one responsible for keeping the record; secondary copies do not need to be retained. Public records must be retained for various periods of time, as determined by the state. Penalties for not producing records are issued against the City.



The City's Code of Ethics applies to City employees and elected officials as well as Commission members. The purpose of the code is to avoid a conflict of interest, the appearance of a conflict of interest, or the use of a position for personal benefit or gain. The code prohibits the disclosure of confidential information, the use of the position for personal gain or the gain of another person, the acceptance of gifts, and financial conflicts of interest. A violation complaint would be reviewed by the Board of Ethics and could possibly include an investigation, hearing, and sanctions.

Commissioners discussed and asked clarifying questions.

## **5. Action Items**

### **A. 2015-16 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program Funding Recommendations**

**6:00 pm (55:27)**

The 2015-16 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program review panel's funding recommendations were presented to the Commission. The panel recommended funding the following 16 applicants at \$2,500 each for a total of \$40,000:

Saign Charlestein  
 Jennifer Chushcoff  
 Matthew Coté  
 Kristin Giordano  
 Michael Haeflinger  
 Whitney Henry-Lester  
 Christopher Jordan  
 Jeremy Mangan  
 Janet Marcavage  
 Tim Norris  
 Chandler O'Leary  
 Isaac Olsen  
 Nichole Rathburn  
 Holly Senn  
 Emilie Shimkus  
 Gregory Youtz

A total of 32 applications were received. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

There was a motion: "I would recommend that we accept the recommendations of the panel."

Motion: Mike Sweney

Second: Sarah Idstrom

Motion: Carried



**B. 2015-16 Arts Anchor Fund Funding Recommendations****6:11 pm (1:06:52)**

The 2015-16 Arts Anchor Fund review panel's funding recommendations were presented to the Commission. The panel recommended funding all 9 applicants for a total of \$255,000 as follows:

Hilltop Artists	\$33,000.00
Museum of Glass	\$28,000.00
Northwest Sinfonietta	\$20,000.00
Tacoma Art Museum	\$40,000.00
Tacoma Musical Playhouse	\$28,000.00
Tacoma Opera Association	\$20,000.00
Tacoma Symphony Orchestra	\$33,000.00
Tacoma Youth Symphony Association, Inc	\$33,000.00
The Grand Cinema	\$20,000.00

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

There was a motion: "I'm going to move that we accept the funding for the Arts Anchor organizations."

Motion: Wanda Thompson

Second: Dane Meyer

Motion: Carried

**6. Staff Check-In****6:23 pm (1:18:57)**

Rebecca Solverson is working with the Arts Program on public art projects and maintenance.

The Harold Balazs concrete sculpture, currently sited in the courtyard of the Bicentennial Pavilion, will be brought to the Commission to consider for deaccession at the May 11 meeting. The work is being considered for deaccession due to safety issues with the current state of the artwork, transfer of property ownership, and based on a recommendation for deaccession by a conservator.

The Arts Program, in collaboration with Tacoma Art Museum, is coordinating Pop-Up Art Putt, a temporary putt-putt golf course in downtown Tacoma running June 18 – 21.

There will be an upcoming Call to Artists for public art for the Water Flume Trail, which connects South Tacoma to Downtown and the Prairie Line Trail. The project will have an approximately \$50,000 budget.

There will be an upcoming Call to Artists for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Overpass of the Prairie Line Trail. The project will have an approximately \$50,000 budget to create vertical sculptural elements for the light posts.



A second public art project for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Overpass will be the creation of a mural for the back side of the overpass structure, adjacent to Johnny's Seafood, which connects the Prairie Line Trail to the Esplanade.

The possibility of wrapping traffic signal boxes with vinyl artwork wraps is being explored as an extension of the Tacoma Murals Project.

The Commission viewed BLRB's initial concepts for a possible artist live/work space for the former McKinley police substation.

Commissioners volunteered to attend/evaluate funded projects as follows:

<b>date</b>	<b>organization</b>	<b>event</b>	<b>volunteer</b>
4/10/15	Puget Sound Poetry Connection	Distinguished Writer Series and Open Mic	Wanda Thompson
4/10/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Evita	Don Lacky
4/11/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Evita	Mike Sweney
4/17/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Evita	Matt Hudgins
4/19/15	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	Evita	Kareem Kandi
4/12/15	Tacoma Opera	Romeo & Juliette	Kareem Kandi, Don Lacky
3/22/15	Tacoma Symphony	Songs from the Emerald Isle	Don Lacky
4/19/15	Tacoma Symphony	Mini Maestros - Percussion on Parade	Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Commissioners Thompson, Conklin, Lacky, Hudgins, Meyer, and Wilmot-Stenehjem volunteered to judge artwork for the National Arts Program employee art show.

## **7. Discussion/Updates**

### **A. Hai Ying Wu Sculpture**

**6:42 pm (1:38:15)**

International public artist Hai Ying Wu created a bronze sculpture as his thesis project from the University of Washington that addresses the history of Chinese laborers who worked on the railroad. The sculpture was contributed to the Chinese Reconciliation Park but was never sited at the park; it is currently in storage at City facilities. The Foss Waterway Seaport museum would like to exhibit the artwork in an upcoming show and it could possibly later be sited on the Prairie Line Trail. The next steps are to clarify ownership with the Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation, gather more information from the artist, and then the Commission would have to accession the work into the Municipal Art Collection.



**B. Council Coffee Sign-ups 6:51 pm (1:46:02)**

Commissioners volunteered to attend coffee meetings with City Council members as follows:

Robert Thoms – Scott Campbell, Dane Meyer  
 Anders Ibsen – Sarah Idstrom  
 Marty Campbell – Wanda Thompson, Mike Sweney  
 Lauren Walker – Traci Kelly  
 Ryan Mello – Rachel Cardwell, Traci Kelly  
 Mayor Marilyn Strickland – Mike Sweney, Don Lacky

**C. 2014 Year in Review 6:51 pm (1:46:02)**

Commissioners reviewed a draft of the 2014 Year in Review document. Final edits should be submitted to staff within two weeks.

**D. Tacoma Arts Month 6:56 pm (1:51:26)**

Commissioners volunteered for Tacoma Arts Month planning committees as follows:

AMOCAT Arts Awards & Opening Party Committee – Vice Chair Meyer, and  
 Commissioners Thompson, Conklin, Lacky, Wilmot- Stenehjem  
 Marketing Committee – Commissioners Cardwell, Thompson, and Campbell

**8. Report Back****A. Advocacy Reports 6:58 pm (01:53:15)**

Commissioner Sweney informed the Commission of a bill (SB5190) that is working through the Senate to eliminate the State's ½% for the Arts funding mechanism for state construction projects.

**B. Arts Events Attended 7:02 pm (01:57:45)**

Commissioners shared art events they attended or have been involved with including Monkeyshines, Asia Pacific New Year Celebration, Tacoma Concert Band, Tacoma Art Museum's O'Keeffe exhibit opening, Tacoma Musical Playhouse's production of Suessical, Museum of Glass, Grand Cinema.

**C. Future Agenda Items for Consideration 7:06 pm (02:01:07)**

Items mentioned include formulating an action plan for the Warhol flower on the Tacoma Dome, agenda items for the Commission retreat, and Commission funding allocations.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm**

