

Members

Robin Echte, *Chair*
 Traci Kelly, *Vice Chair*
 Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison*
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*
 Jan Brazzell
 Rachel Cardwell
 J.D. Elquist
 Chad Hall
 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.tacomaculture.org/arts/tac.asp.

Staff

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

Date: March 11, 2013

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Robin Echte, Chair
 Jan Brazzell
 J.D. Elquist
 Chad Hall
 Matt Hudgins
 Don Lacky
 Dane Meyer
 Zach Powers
 Catherine Stegeman
 Mike Sweney
 Jana Wennstrom

Staff Present:

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

Guests:

Diane Wiatr
 Katie Johnston
 Nadia Chandler Hardy
 Jennifer Kilmer

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Traci Kelly, Vice Chair
 Rachel Cardwell
 Scott Ramsey
 Wanda Thompson

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | 5:04 pm (00:01) | Chair Echte |
| 2. Excusal of Absences | 5:04 pm (00:08) | Chair Echte |

Vice Chair Kelly and Commissioners Cardwell, Ramsey, and Thompson had an excused absence.

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| 3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes | 5:04 pm (00:18) | Chair Echte |
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Chair Echte asked for “a call for accepting these as presented.”

There was a motion: “I so move.”

Motion: Jana Wennstrom

Second: Jan Brazzell



Motion: Carried

4. Chair’s Report

5:04 pm (00:42)

Chair Echtle

Chair Echtle passed on the Chair’s Report.

5. Staff Check-In

5:04 pm (00:51)

Invitations were passed around for Tacoma School of the Arts’ fundraiser, Artrageous.

Heather Joy Helbach-Olds was selected as the new Spaceworks Tacoma Coordinator.

Amy McBride has been working with Tacoma Power to develop a new LED lighting solution for the Bridge of Glass. LED lighting will translate to longer life span of the lights (5 years vs. 2 years), lower energy costs (a projected savings of \$6,000 a year), and rebates. Work is being coordinated with Chihuly Studios, who will help clean the glass pieces. The updates will cost \$60,000; \$20,000 of which will come in the form of energy rebates.

Thank you letters from Arts Projects and Arts Anchor Fund recipients were passed around.

Commissioners volunteered to meet with City Council Members as follows:

	Robert Thoms	Anders Ibsen	Marilyn Strickland	Marty Campbell
Commission Volunteer 1	Zach Powers	Matt Hudgins	Mike Sweney	Traci Kelly
Commission Volunteer 2	Scott Ramsey	J.D. Elquist	Scott Ramsey	

	Lauren Walker	Victoria Woodards	David Boe	Ryan Mello
Commission Volunteer 1	Jan Brazzell	Zach Powers	J.D. Elquist	Traci Kelly
Commission Volunteer 2			Scott Ramsey	Zach Powers

	Joe Lonergan
Commission Volunteer 1	Jan Brazzell
Commission Volunteer 2	Don Lacky

Commissioners volunteered to attend funded events as follows:

date	organization	event	volunteer
4/7/13	Second City Chamber Series	Spotlight Series - These Two Things Do Not Go Together	Jana Wennstrom
4/20/13	Tacoma Concert Band	A Grand Sousa Concert	Don Lacky
4/28/13	King's Bookstore	Wayzgoose	JD Elquist



6. Presentations

A. Board, Commissions, and Committee Review Report 5:09 pm (05:01)

Assistant to the City Manager, Nadia Chandler Hardy, and Budget and Management Analyst, Katie Johnston presented to the Commission summary findings from an assessment of the City's committees, boards, and commissions. The assessment was in response to a request from City Council to look at impacts of staff reductions on committees, boards, and commissions; look for opportunities to align the work of these groups with Council priorities; and provide an opportunity for these groups to interface with Council more frequently. Recommendations and key findings were recently presented to Council.

Ms. Johnston went over some of the recommendations based on the findings of the study. Recommendations include: improving training opportunities for commission members, chairs, and support staff; setting the maximum size of commissions at 11 members (this would include a reduction of the Arts Commission, which currently has 15 members); establishing term limits to create turnover; developing stronger relationships between committees, boards, and commissions and City Council; transfer appointments process to Council's standing committees; reduce administrative staff work load; establish 1-year youth member positions; and develop a citizens academy.

Commissioners voiced concern over the 11 member limit on the Arts Commission as it would reduce the knowledge base of the group, reduce the representation of the arts to the city and citizens, and reduce available coverage needed for panels and review. Commissioners asked for an exception in the case of the 11 member limit in the case of the Arts Commission.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions regarding the recommendations. Commissioners can provide further feedback to Ms. Chandler Hardy.

Staff recommendations, including feedback themes from commissions, boards, and committees, will go to Council at the end of March or early April.

B. In the Spirit Festival

5:40 pm (36:09)

Jennifer Kilmer, Executive Director of the Washington State Historical Society, thanked the Commission for Arts Projects funding for the In the Spirit festival and exhibit. She gave an overview of the impact of the funding and scope of the program. Ms. Kilmer noted that Arts Projects funding was seen as a stamp of approval and helped leverage \$30,000 in additional private support for the program.

C. Prairie Line Trail Initial Concept Design

5:43 pm (39:25)

Diane Wiatr, the City's Community Trip Reduction Coordinator, presented initial concept designs for the Prairie Line Trail. Commissioners and public are invited to the full presentation and open house on March 14, 6 pm at Tacoma Art Museum.

Construction on UW Tacoma's section of the trail (between 17th and 21st) will begin in a few months and should wrap up the first phase by December 2013.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation.



7. Action Items

A. 2013-14 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program Funding Recommendations 6:09 pm (1:05:52)

The 2013-14 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:

Sean Alexander
 Carla Barragan
 Bill Colby
 Alice Di Certo
 Kyle Dillehay
 David Domkoski
 Oliver Doriss
 Josie Emmons Turner
 Sarah Gilbert
 Erin Guinup
 Meghan Mitchell
 Mark Monlux
 Kat Ogden
 Scott Scoggin
 Erik Steighner
 Noah Struthers

A total of 37 applications were received. Commissioners Sweney noted that he felt the flat funding rate of \$2,500 was a good idea and should be continued. Commissioners Sweney, Elquist, and Lucky gave feedback on the overall process.

Chair Echtle asked, "Do I have a motion to approve the funding recommendations as presented?"

There was a motion: "I would make a motion that we approve these as stated."

Motion: Dane Meyer

Second: Zach Powers

Motion: Carried

B. 2013-14 Arts Anchor Fund Funding Recommendations 6:14 pm (1:10:28)

The 2013-14 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	\$	35,000.00
Museum of Glass	\$	20,000.00
Northwest Sinfonietta	\$	25,000.00
Tacoma Art Museum	\$	35,000.00
Tacoma Musical Playhouse	\$	30,000.00



Tacoma Opera Association	\$	20,000.00
Tacoma Symphony Orchestra	\$	25,000.00
Tacoma Youth Symphony Association, Inc	\$	30,000.00
The Grand Cinema	\$	35,000.00

Commissioners asked clarifying questions. Panel members gave an overview of the review process.

Chair Echtle asked, “Do we have a motion to approve the recommendations as offered?”

There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion: J.D. Elquist

Second: Jana Wennstrom

Motion: Carried

8. Discussion/Updates

A. 2012 Year in Review

6:17 pm (1:13:13)

Commissioners reviewed a draft of the 2012 Year in Review document. Commissioners requested a PDF slideshow document of images from the report to share with Council members.

Commissioner Powers asked if it is possible to produce a video version of the report. Ms. McBride noted that a new arts TV show on TV Tacoma could be a platform for getting this information out to the public. Commissioners discussed possible content and formats for the new arts TV show.

Copies of the Year in Review document will be available to the public and can be presented to Council during one-on-one meetings.

B. Retreat Agenda

6:28 pm (1:24:34)

Commissioners reviewed the proposed agenda for the March 23 Commission retreat. Staff will add a section to the agenda to discuss the arts TV show.

9. Report Back

A. Landmarks Preservation Commission Report Back

6:32 pm (01:28:50)

Commissioner Elquist reported about activity on the Landmarks Preservation Commission including historic register nominations for the Browne’s Star Grill building and the historic pavements on the North Slope; renaming of 13th Street by Lowell Elementary; and other various projects.

B. Arts Events Attended

6:35 pm (01:31:16)

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or been involved with including Northwest Repertory Singers, Tacoma Youth Symphony, and Tacoma Concert Band.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm

