

## Members

Traci Kelly, *Chair*  
J.D. Elquist, *Vice Chair*  
David Boe, *City Council Liaison*  
Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
Jan Brazzell  
Rachel Cardwell  
Matt Hudgins  
Donald Lacky  
Dane Meyer  
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*

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Date: April 14, 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  
Matt Hudgins  
Don Lacky  
Dane Meyer  
Scott Ramsey  
Mike Sweney

### *Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Catherine Stegeman  
Wanda Thompson  
Jana Wennstrom

### *Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Rachel Cardwell

### *City Council Liaisons in Attendance:*

David Boe  
Marty Campbell

### *Staff Present:*

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator  
Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist  
Vyra Saran, Arts Program Assistant

### *Guests:*

Kristin Lynett  
Jennifer Chin

## 1. Call to Order

5:05 pm (00:02)

Chair Kelly

## 2. Consent Agenda

5:05 pm (00:13)

Vice Chair Elquist

Commissioners Stegeman, Thompson, and Wennstrom had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Elquist requested to add an action item to the agenda to approve the panel recommendations for the Murray Morgan Bridge mural.

Vice Chair Elquist asked if commissioners had a chance to review the minutes from the last meeting and the agenda for this meeting and asked, "Is there a motion to approve?"

There was a motion: "So moved."

Motion: Jan Brazzell  
Second: Mike Sweney  
Motion: Carried



**3. Chair’s Report**

**5:05 pm (00:57)**

**Chair Kelly**

Chair Kelly, Vice Chair Elquist, and Amy McBride gave a presentation on the Arts Commission’s work to the Economic Development Committee on March 25.

Chair Kelly participated in the Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster panel review and the Murray Morgan Bridge Mural panel review.

**4. Staff Check-In**

**5:08 pm (03:48)**

Ms. McBride introduced Vyra Saran as the new Arts Program intern.

The base of the Sun King is being constructed and staff has been in talks with the artist, Thomas Morandi.

Work is underway to resite the Children’s Bell sculpture on Ruston Way.

The Crystal Towers on the Bridge of Glass were cleaned.

Six murals sites were chosen for the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project. A roster of lead artists was also selected; lead artists who are new to the program will attend an orientation meeting.

The Metal-Urge call-to-artists and call-to-venues has been released.

Kim Bedier will give a presentation on the Warhol Flower for the Tacoma Dome proposal and options on April 22, 10 am, in room 248

The Arts Program is partnering with ArtsWA to host a convening of the local arts community to welcome ArtsWA’s new Executive Director, Karen Hanan. It will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Pantages Theater.

Commissioner Sweney announced that May 5<sup>th</sup> is the 40th anniversary of the legislation for the state-wide Art in Public Places program.

Chair Kelly expressed her thanks to Robin Echte for her years of service as former Chair of the Commission.

Commissioners volunteered to attend and evaluate the following programs that were funded by the Commission:

date	organization	event	volunteer
4/26/14	Tacoma Youth Symphony Assoc.	Tacoma Junior Youth Symphony & Harp Ensemble	Don Lacky
04/27/14	King's Bookstore	Tacoma Wayzgoose: A Letterpress and Book Arts Festival	Don Lacky
05/03/14	Fort Nisqually Foundation	Crafts of the Past	Dane Meyer
5/9/14	Grand Cinema	72-Hour Film Competition	Dane Meyer &

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			Mike Sweney
5/10/14	Tacoma Symphony Orchestra	Felder Farewell	Don Lacky
5/10/14	Hilltop Artists	Spring Glass Sale	Scott Ramsey
5/18/14	Tacoma Youth Symphony Assoc.	Tacoma Youth Symphony	Don Lacky
05/24/14	Fort Nisqually Foundation	Crafts of the Past	Mike Sweney
DATE			
TBD	Fort Nisqually Foundation	Crafts of the Past	Don Lacky

## 5. Presentation

### A. STAR Community Rating System

**5:17 pm (12:30)**

Kristin Lynett from the City's Office of Sustainability presented on the STAR (Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating) Communities report for Tacoma. The report is an online tool that looks at cultural, equity, economy and the environment. Submissions are rated by experts from around the country to get a sense of how sustainable cities and communities are and what major steps cities are taking towards this goal.

The Arts and Culture ratings of the report were based on community level outcomes and actions within 7 categories of the rating system. The report provides a tool to track benchmarks for how the City is doing.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

## 6. Action Items

### A. Proposed Artwork Donation by Museum of Glass

**5:42 pm (37:03)**

Chair Kelly presented a gift proposal from the Museum of Glass to donate a hand-blown glass bird designed by artist Oiva Toikka for Iittala to the City of Tacoma's Municipal Art Collection. The piece is "Western Tanager", number 253 of an edition of 253.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

There was a motion: "I would make a motion that we would thankfully accept this gift."

Motion: Dane Meyer

Second: Don Lacky

Motion: Carried, Chair Kelly abstained from voting



**B. Artist Selection for the Murray Morgan Bridge Mural 5:48 pm (43:27)**

A review panel consisting of community members and Commission members reviewed artist applications, interviewed three finalists, and selected artist Nick Goettling for the Murray Morgan Bridge Mural. Commissioners viewed images of Mr. Goettling's work.

Commissioners discussed Mr. Goettling's work and asked clarifying questions.

Chair Kelly asked for "approval of the panel's selection."

There was a motion: "So moved."

Motion: Jan Brazzell  
Second: Mike Sweney  
Motion: Carried

**7. Discussion/Updates****A. Committee, Board & Commission Training Overview 5:54 pm (49:08)**

Staff gave an overview of the City's training for Committee, Board, and Commission members. Content included how the appointment process will work, recruitment of new members, Open Public Meetings Act, public records, and Code of Ethics.

Commissioners discussed the open seats on the Commission that will need to be filled.

Commissioners gave feedback, voiced concerns, and asked clarifying questions.

**B. Arts Commission Annual Retreat Wrap-up 6:27 pm (1:22:42)**

Commissioners reviewed the portraits that Commissioner Meyer took of each Commissioner at the retreat.

Commissioners reviewed the updated funding program evaluation forms that were modified during the retreat. Commissioners asked clarifying questions. Staff will add a checkbox to each form to note if the reviewer would like their review posted as a blog entry.

Ms. McBride proposed that the development of the Commission's strategic goals be discussed in more depth at upcoming Commission meetings.

**C. Marketing Committee 6:45 pm (1:40:15)**

Vice Chair Elquist and Commissioner Ramsey debriefed about topics discussed at the Marketing Committee meeting including event title, poster, and updated logo design.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.



## **8. Report Back**

### **A. Landmarks Preservation Commission**

**6:48 pm (01:43:39)**

The Preservation Month reception and awards will be held May 8, 6 – 8 pm at B Sharp Coffee House.

Michael Sullivan will give a talk about the history of Whiskey Row on May 31, 5:30 pm at The Forum.

### **B. Advocacy Reports**

**6:49 pm (01:44:35)**

Chair Kelly and Commissioner Meyer met with Councilmember Lonergan and discussed a potential mural in Stewart Heights.

Vice Chair Elquist talked with Councilmember Thoms regarding the Warhol for the Tacoma Dome.

### **C. Arts Events Attended**

**6:52 pm (01:47:29)**

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or have been involved with including Hilltop Artist's installation at the Seymour Conservatory, Tacoma Opera's production of Madame Butterfly, Sister City Film Festival, MLKBallet, Tacoma Historical Society's opening event, slider event at the Museum of Glass, and DASH's Krunk dance event.

### **D. Future Agenda Items for Consideration**

**6:55 pm (01:50:42)**

The Economic Development Committee will discuss the Warhol on the Tacoma Dome at their April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm

