Summary Minutes
Tacoma Arts Commission
Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality
Tacoma Venues & Events

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Date: September 10, 2018
Location: 728 St. Helens, Room 16
Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:
Mike Sweney, Chair
Heather Conklin, Vice Chair
Rosie Ayala
Scott Campbell
Halley Knigge
Michael Kula
Paul Throne
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Commission Members Excused Absence:
Michelle Douglas
Johnaye Kendrick
Wanda Thompson

Commission Members Un-Excused Absence:
Quincy Henry

Staff Present:
Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist
Rachel Betron, Tacoma Arts Month Coordinator

Guests Present:
Christina Blocker
Kim Bedier
Don Lacky

1. Call to Order 5:12 pm (00:10) Chair Sweney
Chair Sweney called the meeting to order, recognizing that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

2. Chair’s Report 5:12 pm (00:47) Chair Sweney
Chair Sweney shared that because there was not yet a quorum present, the consent agenda approval would need to wait. He spoke about recent events regarding Tacoma Creates, introducing Tacoma Creates campaign manager Christina Blocker. He also welcomed Kim Bedier, the director of Tacoma Venues and Events, the department that now oversees the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality.
3. Presentation: Tacoma Creates  5:14 pm (02:46)  Christina Blocker
Christina Blocker gave an overview of Tacoma Creates and reviewed key talking points. Citizens or organizations are invited to host luncheons and house parties in support of Tacoma Creates and there will be a block party on September 20.

4. Consent Agenda  5:25 pm (13:32)  Vice Chair Conklin
Commissioners Kendrick, Douglas, and Thompson had excused absences.
Chair Sweney proposed agenda changes including switching the order of agenda items and adding an action item for the first review of changes to the Percent for Art in the Tacoma Municipal Code. Vice Chair Conklin asked for a motion to approve the amended consent agenda as well as minutes from the August meeting.
There was a motion: “So moved.”
Motion: Paul Throne
Second: Liesl Santkuyl
Motion: Carried

5. Action Items
A. 2019 Art Projects Guidelines  5:26 pm (14:40)
Staff shared the funding subcommittee’s proposed updates to the Arts Projects funding guidelines and application for this year’s funding cycle. Commissioners asked questions and made comments.
Chair Sweney called for a motion to approve the changes.
There was a motion: “So moved.”
Motion: Michael Kula
Second: Halley Knigge
Motion: Carried

B. Percent for Art  5:46 pm (34:20)
Staff gave an overview of the proposed changes to the Percent for Art policy. The revised code will go to the Tacoma City Council for a vote before it is adopted into the Tacoma Municipal Code. Commissioners will be asked to vote next month to move the plan forward to council.
Commissioners discussed and asked questions.
There was a motion: “I make a motion to support this direction.”
Motion: Liesl Santkuyl
Second: Rosie Ayala
Motion: Carried
6. Staff Check-In
A. Tacoma Arts Month
Rachel Betron requested volunteers to assist with the Tacoma Arts Month opening party, and shared updates on the event and additional upcoming Arts Month programming.

B. Staff Projects Overview and Updates
Staff shared updates on the following projects: TransFORM, McKinley Artist Lofts, Rebecca Solverson’s upcoming return, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium opening, Chair Sweney and Amy McBride’s presentation to the Economic Development Committee, Roni Chelben’s Artist in Residence projects, Susan Robb’s Artist in Residence projects.

C. Public Art Updates
Staff shared updates on the following projects: funding programs, East 64th Streetscape public art project, Horatio Law’s Lincoln streetscape public artworks, the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium’s artworks, Eastside Community Center Training Cohort, Billy Ray memorial project, Mauricio Robalino’s welcome sculpture, Metro Park’s pumphouse mural by Anthony Duenas, Sail Mound finalist selection, Prairie Line Trail historic interpretation artworks installations, Prairie Line Trail Spur mural progress by Kenji Stoll and Nofo Porter, East 40th Street project, the Port of Tacoma’s centennial artwork.

7. Report Back
A. Advocacy Reports
There were no reports.

B. Arts Events Attended
Commissioners shared arts events and venues that they attended, upcoming events, or events they have been involved with including: Fort Nisqually events, Canoe Journey, In the Spirit Festival, Johnaye Kendrick performances, Smokey Wonder at Alma Mater, Welcoming Week.

C. Future Agenda Items for Consideration
There were no items for consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm