Summary Minutes
Tacoma Arts Commission
Community & Economic Development

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which are available at www.tacomaculture.org/arts/tac.asp.

Date: October 10, 2011
Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16
Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:
Sarah Idstrom, Chair
Traci Kelly, Vice Chair
Jan Brazzell
Janice Karroll
Don Lacky
Dane Meyer
Scott Ramsey
Catherine Stegeman
Mike Sweney
Jana Wennstrom

City Council Member Present:
Lauren Walker

City Council Member Absent:
Marty Campbell

Commission Members Excused Absence:
Rachel Cardwell
Robin Echtle
Antonio Edwards, Jr.
Bill La Vergne
Zach Powers

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

Guests:
Stephanie Stebich
Andy Buelow
Paul Rucker
David Fischer

1. Call to Order 5:05 pm (00:03) Chair Idstrom

2. Excusal of Absences 5:05 pm (00:25) Vice Chair Kelly
Commissioners Cardwell, Echtle, Edwards, La Vergne, and Powers had an excused absence.

3. Approval of Minutes and Agenda 5:05 pm (00:39) Vice Chair Kelly
Motion: Jan Brazzell
Second: Jana Wennstrom
Motion: Carried
4. Chair’s Report  5:07 pm (02:37)  Chair Idstrom

5. Staff Check-In  5:07 pm (02:42)

Amy thanked Commissioners for attending the Tacoma Murals Project dedication on October 8th.

Applications for Arts Projects funding are now available. Commissioners Meyer, Echtle, Powers, and Cardwell, and Vice-Chair Kelly have volunteered to sit on the selection panel. A funding application workshop will be held November 1.

6. Presentation

A. Experience 253  5:10 pm (5:07)

Andy Buelow and Stephanie Stebich presented to the Commission about Experience 253. Pierce County Arts and Cultural Executives group is a collective association of executives from Pierce County arts and cultural organizations. Collectively, they work on arts advocacy, joint marketing, and pooling resources. They developed the co-brand of Experience 253 as a way to cross-promote each other.

Commissioners and presenters discussed the goals and future of Experience 253 including marketing, fundraising, and collaborations with the City of Tacoma and Tacoma Arts Commission programming.

B. Human Rights Legacy Project  5:36 pm (31:51)

Paul Rucker presented about revisions to the Human Rights Legacy Project. Paul’s final proposal is to create a monument in the form of three glass benches arranged in a triangle designed to encourage conversation and reflection on the topic of human rights. Each bench will be engraved with text based on conversations Paul had with community members over the course of this project. Each bench will measure 16” x 16” x 60” and will be constructed of green glass with a stainless steel base. The project will also include an online video piece.

Commissioners discussed the project and asked questions.

There was a motion: “I move that we accept it as proposed.”

Motion: Mike Sweney
Second: Jana Wennstrom

Motion: Carried

7. Recommendation Item

A. Sun King  6:07 pm (1:02:47)

Commissioners looked at photographs of the proposed Dock Street site with a correctly scaled footprint of the Sun King sculpture on the North side of the park. The sculpture is about 12’ at its highest point. Staff will contact the artist to see if he has a preference on the direction the sculpture is sited and if it is alright to place it on a concrete base.
Commissioner Brazzell made a motion: “I make a motion that we sit it there in whatever direction the artist prefers it be pointed. I would make a motion that we do it on a base, in the direction that the artist approves, or the same direction that it was before.”

Commissioner Lacky said, “You might want the artist to okay the orientation but the base also.”

Commissioner Brazzell said, “That’s friendly.”

Motion: Jan Brazzell
Second: Dane Meyer
Motion: Carried

Commissioner Sweney made a motion: “I move that, should the artist decline the elevated base, that you move forward with a hidden footing with whatever your grounds agree with for mowing around it.”

Motion: Mike Sweney
Second: Jana Wennstrom
Motion: Carried

8. Discussion

A. Art at Work Month 6:19 (1:14:48)

Naomi presented the printed materials for Art at Work Month to the Commission. The following Commissioners volunteered to distribute materials: Sarah Idstrom, Rachel Cardwell, Zach Powers, Don Lacky, Scott Ramsey, Catherine Stegeman, Robin Echtle, Dane Meyer, Jan Karroll, and Mike Sweney

The Opening Party will be held on November 3, 6 – 8:30 pm at the Museum of Glass. Commissioners volunteered to assist with the Opening Party as follows:

- Set-Up
  - 5:00 – 6:00 pm – Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell, Jan Karroll, Don Lacky
- Welcome Table
  - 5:30 – 6:00 pm – Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell
  - 6:00 – 6:30 pm – Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell
  - 6:30 – 7:00 pm – Don Lacky, Catherine Stegeman
- Mover
  - 5:45 – 6:00 pm – Sarah Idstrom
  - 6:00 – 6:15 pm – Jan Brazzell
  - 6:15 – 6:30 pm – Catherine Stegeman
  - 6:30 – 6:45 pm – Traci Kelly
- Meet and Greet
  - 6:00 – 8:30 pm – Sarah Idstrom, Traci Kelly, Jan Brazzell, Rachel Cardwell, Jan Karroll, Scott Ramsey, Robin Echtle, Don Lacky, Mike Sweney, Antonio Edwards
- Usher into Theater
  - 7:05 – 7:15 pm - Sarah Idstrom, Jan Brazzell
- Help with Wrap-up
8:30 – 9:15 pm - Don Lacky, Dane Meyer, Mike Sweney

The Art Symposium will be November 19 and 20, 9 am – 5 pm at UPS. Commissioners volunteered to assist with the Symposium as follows:

- **November 19**
  - **Set Up**
    - 7:45 – 8:30 am - Traci Kelly, Dane Meyer, Rachel Cardwell
  - **Registration Table**
    - 8:30 – 9:30 am – Dane Meyer, Mike Sweney
    - 9:30 am – 12:15 pm – Traci Kelly
    - 12:15 – 4:45 pm – Jan Brazzell
  - **Session Introductions & Assistant**
    - 9:00 – 10:30 am - “Beyond the Line: Poetry in Response to Visual Art” - Mike Sweney
    - 9:00 – 10:30 am - “Marketing with Social Media” panel - Catherine Stegeman
    - 12:45 – 2:45 pm - “Fund Your Projects: Grant Writing for the Visual, Literary and Performing Artist” - Traci Kelly
    - 1:15 – 2:45 pm - “Starting a New Arts Group” - Sarah Idstrom
    - 3 – 4:30 pm - “Engaging with Youth in the Arts” panel - Jan Karroll
    - 3 – 5 pm - “Behind Closed Doors: the Funding Panel” - Amy McBride

- **November 20**
  - **Set Up**
    - 8:15 – 8:30 am - Rachel Cardwell
  - **Registration Table**
    - 8:30 – 10:30 am – Rachel Cardwell
    - 1:00 – 2:00 pm – Antonio Edwards
    - 2:00 – 5:15 pm - Traci Kelly
  - **Session Introductions & Assistant**
    - 9:00 – 11:30 am - “The Art of Marketing: Tips and Tools for Getting the Word Out” - Sarah Idstrom
    - 12:30 – 3 pm - “Beyond the Elevator Speech: Writing and Talking About Your Work” - Traci Kelly
    - 12:45 – 3 pm - “Public Art Perspectives” - Amy McBride
    - 3:15 – 4:45 pm - “Impact and Intent: Presenting and Perceiving Meaning in Works of Art” - Traci Kelly
    - 3:15 – 5 pm - “Non-Traditional Publishing: Experience from Writers Who’ve Done It” panel - Antonio Edwards

Commissioners looked at the promotional items with graphics created by Art Chantry. Items will be distributed at the Opening Party and the Studio Tours.
Commissioners took a tour of the updated ArtAtWorkTacoma.com website and watched the promotional video that was created for this year. Commissioners discussed the advertising and promotion of Art at Work Month.

B. Prairie Line Trail 6:41 (1:36:36)

Amy presented information about the Prairie Line Trail project. The Prairie Line Trail runs from S. 25th down to the waterfront. The City received $25,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts to develop a public art plan and a temporary public art project for the trail. Todd Bressi and Thoughtbarn is the artist team who is developing the plan and project.

A tour of the trail will be held on November 12, 2 pm, leaving from Tollefson Plaza.

C. Pacific Avenue/Our Town Grant 6:51 (1:46:39)

Amy informed the Commission that the artist who was originally selected for the Pacific Avenue streetscape project, Lorna Jordan, has been replaced with Elizabeth Conner. The National Endowment for the Arts has approved the switch in artists as part of the Our Town Grant.

There was a motion: “I recommend that we accept the substitution of Elizabeth Conner for whoever the other one was.”

Motion: Jan Brazzell
Second: Jan Karroll
Motion: Carried

D. Arts & Economic Prosperity Surveys 6:54 (1:49:53)

Naomi gave a brief overview of the year-long survey progress.

9. Report Back

A. Survey & Art Events Attended 6:56 (1:51:07)

Commissioners talked about arts events.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm