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.

Date: October 14, 2013
Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16
Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:
Robin Echte, Chair
Traci Kelly, Vice Chair
Jan Brazzell
Rachel Cardwell
J.D. Elquist
Matt Hudgins
Don Lacky
Dane Meyer
Zach Powers
Scott Ramsey
Catherine Stegeman
Mike Sweney
Wanda Thompson
Jana Wennstrom

Commission Members Excused Absence:
Scott Ramsey
Catherine Stegeman

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

Guests:
Liza Brown
Elizabeth Conner

1. Call to Order 5:04 pm (00:03) Chair Echte
2. Excusal of Absences 5:04 pm (00:10) Vice Chair Kelly

Commissioners Ramsey and Stegeman had an excused absence.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes 5:04 pm (00:16) Vice Chair Kelly
Vice Chair Kelly asked “Do I have a motion to approve either of those things?”

There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion: Jan Brazzell
Second: Rachel Cardwell
Motion: Carried
4. Chair’s Report 5:04 pm (00:36) Chair Echtle
Commissioners are invited to attend a meeting about Prop 1 on October 17, 6 pm in Council Chambers.

Jan Brazzell was honored by the Business Examiner as a 2013 Woman of Influence.

5. Staff Check-In 5:06 pm (02:33)
If funding is secured through JP Morgan Chase, Art Space will provide consulting services in Tacoma to our local developers and do an arts market survey.

The Tacoma Gateway public artists, Sean Orlando and David Schulman, visited Tacoma in September and met with members of the community through two public open houses. Options are being looked at to address recent flooding issues at the site.

The Water Forest has been turned off for the season and consulting is underway to see what it will take to get the two broken towers up and running again and how to address the long-term viability of the artwork.

The quarterly TV show artTown launched and is available for viewing online and on TV Tacoma.

Amy McBride gave a presentation to the Economic Development Committee about the arts. It also included Elizabeth Conner’s Green Flash, PC ACE’s work, and Spaceworks Tacoma. Council requested a resolution regarding the Warhol flower on the Tacoma Dome.

The City’s Neighborhood & Community Services department sent a letter to Lorig, the property owner of the graffiti garages, requesting a plan for addressing nuisance code issues happening in the garages. Lorig does not want to take on liability for the activity going on in the garages and has decided to stop allowing legal graffiti painting in the garages starting November 1. Several options to allow continued use of the space did not pan out. Additional sites for legal graffiti walls are being sought out.

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

Robert Thoms - Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell
Anders Ibsen – Jan Brazzell, Dane Meyer
Joe Lonergan – J.D. Elquist, Dane Meyer
Marty Campbell - Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell
Lauren Walker - Mike Sweney, Don Lacky
Victoria Woodards - Zach Powers, Wanda Thompson
David Boe - Don Lacky, Dane Meyer
Ryan Mello - J.D. Elquist, Matt Hudgins
Mayor Marilyn Strickland - Robin Echtle, Mike Sweney

6. Action Items

A. Pacific Avenue Streetscape 5:36 pm (32:28)
Elizabeth Conner presented on the Pacific Avenue Streetscape project. The Green Flash tiles are completed and will be installed in October. She showed scale samples of the concrete sculptural sphere
elements that will be installed in the rain gardens and in 5 to 7 sidewalk locations, along with a map of the installation locations. The sculptural elements will be 12” to 42” in diameter. Rain garden sculptures are scheduled to be installed before Thanksgiving. Sidewalk sculptures are scheduled to be installed before the end of January.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions including surface finish, maintenance recommendations, and involvement of local merchants in raising awareness of the project.

Ms. McBride requested a motion “to approve what Elizabeth has proposed.”

There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion:  Mike Sweney
Second:  Dane Meyer

Motion:  Carried

**B. Cancelation or Rescheduling of November Meeting**  6:06 pm (1:02:50)

Commissioners discussed whether to cancel or reschedule the November 11 meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission.

There was a motion: “I’ll move to cancel the November meeting.”

Motion:  Jana Wennstrom
Second:  Dane Meyer

Motion:  Carried

**C. 2014 Arts Projects Guidelines**  6:08 pm (1:04:27)

Commissioners reviewed the proposed changes to the 2014 Arts Projects funding guidelines including updates to dates, the wording of eligibility criteria, and how the budget sheet is laid out.

Chair Echtile asked for a motion to “accept the guidelines as amended.”

There was a motion: “So moved.”

Motion:  Jan Brazzell
Second:  Jana Wennstrom

Motion:  Carried

Chair Echtile, Vice Chair Kelly, and Commissioners Cardwell, Elquist, Lacky, and Hudgins volunteered to sit on the Arts Projects panel.

**7. Discussion/Updates**

**A. Commission Executive Committee Nominations**  6:17 pm (1:13:40)

Commissioners made nominations to the Executive Committee as follows:

Chair – Robin Echtile, Traci Kelly
Vice Chair – Traci Kelly, Zach Powers, Rachel Cardwell, J.D. Elquist
B. Art at Work Month  

Commissioners received copies of printed materials. The following Commissioners volunteered to help distribute Art at Work print materials: J.D. Elquist, Matt Hudgins, Mike Sweney, Don Lacky, Wanda Thompson, Scott Ramsey, Catherine Stegeman, Rachel Cardwell, Dane Meyer, Jan Brazzell, Traci Kelly.

Media sponsorships include KPLU, Tacoma Weekly, Weekly Volcano, and Premier Media Group. Twice weekly email newsletters will start in late October through November.

The Opening Party & AMOCAT Arts Awards will be held on October 28, 6 – 8:30 pm at the Foss Waterway Seaport. Entertainment includes a hands-on project with Diane Hansen, iron pour by Tacoma Community College, take away project with Fab-5, music by Taxi Driver, dance by the BareFoot Collective, poetry by Lucas Smiraldo and two film pieces by Carla Barragan and Kat Ogden. Mayor Strickland and Deputy Mayor Campbell will present the AMOCAT Arts Awards.

Commissioners volunteered to assist with the Art at Work Opening Party as follows:

- Set-Up
  - 4:00 – 6:00 pm – Traci Kelly, Catherine Stegeman, Matt Hudgins
- Welcome Table
  - 5:30 – 6:00 pm – J.D. Elquist, Matt Hudgins
  - 6:00 – 6:30 pm – Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell
  - 6:30 – 7:00 pm – Traci Kelly
- Tacoma Locks Assistant
  - 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Robin Echtle, Jan Brazzell, Dane Meyer
- Meet and Greet
  - 6:00 – 8:30 pm – Robin Echtle, J.D. Elquist, Rachel Cardwell, Matt Hudgins, Don Lacky, Wanda Thompson, Traci Kelly, Zach Powers, Jan Brazzell, Jana Wennstrom, Scott Ramsey
- Usher to seats for awards
  - 7:05 – 7:15 pm – Traci Kelly, Rachel Cardwell, Dane Meyer, Robin Echtle, J.D. Elquist, Zach Powers, Scott Ramsey
- Help with Wrap-up
  - 8:30 – 9:30 pm – Matt Hudgins, Don Lacky, Dane Meyer

The Tacoma Studio Tour will be held on November 2 & 3.

C. Tacoma Murals Project  

Commissioners saw images of the 2013 murals to date and asked clarifying questions.

8. Report Back

A. Landmarks Preservation Commission  

Commissioner Elquist reported that the copper roof on the back of Old City Hall is being removed and new roofing laid down to fix a leak. The old copper roofing will be stored.
The structural support for the totem pole will be a metal pole up the back of the totem pole with two clamps that bolt in to the totem pole.

**B. Advocacy Reports** 6:56 pm (01:52:40)

Commissioners signed up to attend coffee meetings with City Council members.

**C. Arts Events Attended** 6:57 pm (01:53:40)

Commissioner Stegeman recently adopted a baby.

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or been involved with including Zach Powers’ CD release party, the one-year anniversary of Feather & Oar, a fashion show on November 30 at the New Frontier, Broadway Center Free For All, Classical Tuesdays in Old Town, Tacoma Musical Playhouse space re-opening, Tacoma Film Festival, and a memorial for Vicky Winters.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm