

Members

Heather Conklin, *Chair*
Rosie Ayala, *Vice Chair*
Lillian Hunter, *City Council Liaison*
Keith Blocker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*
Michelle Douglas
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Davis Freeman
Anna Holcomb
Paula Jacobson
Johnaye Kendrick
Michael Kula
Liesl Santkuyl
James Stowe
Wanda Thompson
Paul Throne
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, *Tacoma Arts Administrator*
Chevi Chung, *Community Programs Specialist*
Lisa Jaret, *Tacoma Creates Program Manager*
Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*
Naomi Strom-Avila, *Funding & Cultural Programs Manager*
Asia Tail, *Arts Program Coordinator*

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: November 12, 2019

Location: 747 Market Street, Room 248

Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Heather Conklin, *Chair*
Rosie Ayala, *Vice Chair*
Michelle Douglas
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Davis Freeman
Anna Holcomb
Liesl Santkuyl
James Stowe
Wanda Thompson (phone)
Paul Throne (phone)
Sarah Woodson

Staff Present:

Naomi Strom-Avila, *Funding & Cultural Programs Manager*
Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*
Chevi Chung, *Community Programs Specialist*
Lisa Jaret, *Tacoma Creates Program Manager*
Asia Tail, *Arts Program Coordinator*

Guests Present:

Don Lacky
Felina Martens

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Michael Kula
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
Johnaye Kendrick
Paula Jacobson

1. Call to Order

5:08 pm (00:07) Chair Conklin

Chair Conklin called the meeting to order and recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.



ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čət txʷəl tiit ʔa čət ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit ʔuyaləpabš dxʷəstətlils gʷəl ʔutxʷəlšucidəbs həlgʷəʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

2. Consent Agenda **5:08 pm (00:39) Vice Chair Ayala**
Commissioners Kula, Wilmot-Stenehjem, Kendrick, and Jacobson had excused absences.

Vice Chair Ayala asked for a motion to approve the agenda, as well as minutes from the October meeting.

There was a motion: “I so move.”

Motion: Wanda Thompson

Second: Sarah Woodson

Motion: Carried

3. Chair’s Report **5:09 pm (01:29) Chair Conklin**

Chair Conklin noted that five commissioners’ terms are ending December 31, 2019 and those seats will be reappointed or filled soon.

4. Action Items

a. Commission Executive Committee Elections **5:11 pm (03:15)**

Commissioners voted on Chair and Vice Chair positions. Chair Conklin and Vice Chair Ayala were voted for unanimously (11 votes each) and will continue service in their current roles. Chair Conklin called for a motion to accept the election results.

There was a motion: “I make that motion.”

Motion: James Stowe

Second: Michelle Douglas

Motion: Carried

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Recap **5:14 pm (06:35)**

Staff shared an overview of Tacoma Arts Month, including numbers drawn from the opening party, community calendar, and the Tacoma Studio Tour.

Commissioners discussed, asked questions, and provided feedback. There is an interest in seeing more year-to-year number comparisons so trends can be evaluated.



6. Staff Check In**a. Tacoma Creates****5:24 pm (16:55)**

Staff presented an overview of Tacoma Creates updates: Participatory Budgeting, 54 Planning and Capacity Building Grants, getting the ordinance passed to turn the original initiative into law – a second reading by City Council will occur on December 3, planning for an advisory board with 12 seats.

Commissioners discussed and asked questions. There is concern that the application process for advisory board members, which will follow the same standardized process as all of the City's committees, boards, and commissions, will be intimidating and inaccessible for community members. Ideas to make the advisory board more accessible included: changing the structure of and time of the interview process, changing the times of meetings to not be right after work, changing the locations of meetings to different neighborhoods, providing funds or troubleshooting for transportation needs, providing childcare, providing stipends, increasing marketing and advertising to underrepresented groups and neighborhoods, extending the application and selection timelines.

b. Staff Projects Overview and Updates**5:46 pm (38:35)**

Staff shared updates on the following projects: 58 Arts Projects applications are being processed, the panel will meet on December 4, and funding recommendations will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting.

The City Clerk's Office is offering quarterly trainings for boards and commissions, on ethics, 2025, and big picture things impacting the City overall. Commissioners are invited to attend but attendance is not required.

Staff presented a proposed Professional Development Series of classes and topics in response to the TAC Funding Subcommittee recommendations made in June 2019. Commissioners discussed and asked questions. There was encouragement that a cohort approach be considered to create a more connected group through these classes. Staff is also planning to continue Community Conversation events.

The Literary Laureate Subcommittee will be meeting later this month.

Commissioners drew names for Tacoma Studio Tour passport prize winners: Burl Battersby, Nina Miller, Teresa Marl, Kyle Bradshaw, James Calvin, Barbie Pratt, Julie Dungo, Sky Brandon.



c. Public Art Updates

5:48 pm (40:40)

Staff shared updates on the following projects: Tacoma Housing Authority's The Rise at 19th artist finalists, recycled glass drop off container wrap artist selections, Little Makers public artwork by Nichole Rathburn installation complete.

7. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

6:12 pm (01:04:10)

There were no updates.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

6:12 pm (01:04:20)

Commissioners shared arts events and venues that they attended, upcoming events, or events they have been involved with including: James Stowe met with TAIP recipient Anique Zimmer, Sarah Woodson met with TAIP recipient Kenya Shakoor – who will have a December 28-29 show at Fab-5 HQ, Festival Latinx at STAR Center, Dia de los Muertos at Tacoma Art Museum, Calavera Collective, Michael Kula talk at the Swiss, Proof with Chevi Chung.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

6:20 pm (01:12:00)

There were no updates.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm

