

**Members**

Mike Sweney, *Chair*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison*  
 Keith Blocker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Scott Campbell  
 Heather Conklin  
 Quincy Henry  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Traci Kelly  
 Johnaye Kendrick  
 Halley Knigge  
 Michael Kula  
 Donald Lacky  
 Liesl Santkuyl  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Paul Throne  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

# Summary Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

### Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

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*  
 Rebecca Solverson, *Public Art Specialist*  
 Asia Tail, *Arts Program Coordinator*

Date: November 13, 2017

Location: 728 St. Helens, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Mike Sweney, Chair  
 Marty Campbell, City Council Liaison  
 Scott Campbell  
 Heather Conklin  
 Quincy Henry  
 Kareem Kandi  
 Johnaye Kendrick  
 Halley Knigge  
 Michael Kula  
 Donald Lacky  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

*Staff Present:*

Amy McBride, Arts Administrator  
 Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist  
 Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist  
 Asia Tail, Arts Program Coordinator

*Guests Present:**Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Paul Throne

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Traci Kelly  
 Liesl Santkuyl

**1. Call to Order****5:06 pm (00:21)****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. Consent Agenda****5:06 pm (00:45)****Chair Sweney**

Commissioner Throne had an excused absence.

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Chair Sweney asked if there was a motion to approve the consent agenda as well as minutes from the October 9th meeting.

There was a motion: "I move to accept the minutes and agenda."

Motion: Don Lacky

Second: Heather Conklin

Motion: Carried

### **3. Chair's Report**

**5:07 pm (01:10)**

**Chair Sweney**

Chair Sweney thanked staff for all their work on Tacoma Arts Month during October, and invited commissioners to attend the Washington State Arts Commission's open board meeting at the Museum of Glass the following week.

### **4. Action Items**

#### **A. Commission Executive Committee Elections**

**5:08 pm (02:02)**

Staff explained the voting process and announced that Chair Sweney was running for re-election for Chair, and Commissioners Conklin and Campbell were running for the Vice Chair position. Staff asked if Commissioners felt comfortable accepting proxy votes from those not present at the meeting.

There was a motion: "I move that we accept proxy votes for elections."

Motion: Scott Campbell

Second: Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Motion: Carried

Votes were collected and tallied:

10 votes for Michael Sweney for Chair

7 votes for Heather Conklin for Vice Chair

4 votes for Scott Campbell for Vice Chair

There was a motion: "I move that we accept the ballot and have Heather as our Vice Chair."

Motion: Scott Campbell

Second: Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem

Motion: Carried

#### **B. Revised Commission Position Designation**

**5:15 pm (09:42)**

Staff explained the process through which new Commissioners were being selected by the Economic Development Committee. Currently in the code there is a position reserved for an individual representing the Cross District Association or Community Council. Staff recommends changing that restrictive position to an At-Large position to increase community access to the Commission, and to ensure all seats are filled as there are currently no applicants fitting the criteria for that seat. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

There was a motion: "I will make a motion to convert the association of community councils to an at-large position."



Motion: Scott Campbell  
 Second: Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem  
 Motion: Carried

## 5. Discussion/Updates

### A. Tacoma Arts Month Recap

5:22 pm (16:16)

Staff provided a recap of Arts Month activities including the Tacoma Studio Tour. Studio Tour artists received an average of 169 visitors, there was an overall higher attendance this year, and almost everyone sold work or made a beneficial connection. Commissioners discussed and shared feedback on the tour.

Commissioners randomly selected the following 8 winners to receive Studio Tour Passport Prize Packages out of 132 entries:

Henry Barbosa  
 LaVaughn Richards  
 Sue Huber  
 Sissel Feroy  
 Stanley Zielinski  
 Cindy Stutton  
 Teresa Hershbergur  
 Michelle Pope

### B. Candidate Forum on Arts and Culture Recap & Advocacy Discussion 5:46 pm (40:12)

Chair Sweney shared that the event went well, and around 75-100 people were in attendance. He thanked the Asia Pacific Cultural Center and the Arts and Culture Coalition of Pierce County for partnering on the forum. Commissioners discussed and asked questions. Chair Sweney reminded commissioners to prepare for arts advocacy efforts with the new councilmembers and new Mayor.

## 6. Staff Check-In

### A. Overview and Updates

5:50 pm (44:30)

Staff shared updates on the following projects: the Northwest College of Art and Design has officially moved into their new space on Pacific Avenue; the Broadway Center will be redesigning their front entrance which will require re-siting the public art currently there; a firm was hired to facilitate the Cultural Access Washington ballot initiative; the McKinley Artist Lofts will have an open house on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Union Club; the Sound Transit octopus public art project may be installed soon; Andy Buelow is retiring from his long-time position as Executive Director of Symphony Tacoma; Arts Projects applications are in and will be reviewed in December.



**B. Public Art Updates****6:02 pm (56:35)**

Staff shared updates on the following public art projects: the People's Community Center mural is complete, the portable artworks and history project are installed, and the dedication event will be November 14<sup>th</sup>; several Metro Parks projects are underway including multiple for the Eastside Community Center; the Artist in Residence position will be split between two artists – Roni Chelben and Susan Robb – and they'll be starting soon; the Prairie Line Trail celebration event in October was successful and the final two artworks will be installed next fall; the Lincoln Sing-a-Long event funded through a Lincoln mini-grant was well attended.

**7. Report Back****A. Advocacy Reports****6:14 pm (01:07:50)**

Commissioner Campbell shared that there is a new North Tacoma Music and Arts Academy that has moved downtown and provides after school enrichment programs for youth.

**B. Arts Events Attended****6:15 pm (01:09:33)**

Commissioners shared arts events and venues that they attended, upcoming events, or events they have been involved with including: Water Flume Line Trail dedication, Chinese Reconciliation Foundation remembrance walk, Day of the Dead celebration at Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma Concert Band's opening concert, Symphony Tacoma's opening concert, Classical Tuesdays, UWT and the Toy Boat Theater's production of 365 Days.

Commissioner Campbell mentioned seeing a damaged tile mural on Broadway in need of repair. The mural is owned by Tacoma School of the Arts.

**C. Future Agenda Items for Consideration****6:24 pm (01:18:53)**

Commissioner Knigge heard about the groundbreaking on the new Town Center construction project and suggested finding a way to get public art integrated into the project. Commissioner Lacky suggested creating a certificate honoring Andy Buelow for his service to the Tacoma community.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm**

