

**Members**

Robin Echte, *Chair*  
 Traci Kelly, *Vice Chair*  
 Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison*  
 Marty Campbell, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 J.D. Elquist  
 Matt Hudgins  
 Donald Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Zach Powers  
 Scott Ramsey  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Mike Sweny  
 Wanda Thompson  
 Jana Wennstrom

# 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](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes).

**Staff**

Amy McBride, *Tacoma Arts Administrator*  
 Naomi Strom-Avila, *Cultural Arts Specialist*

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Date: December 9, 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  
 Don Lacky  
 Dane Meyer  
 Zach Powers  
 Scott Ramsey  
 Catherine Stegeman  
 Mike Sweny  
 Wanda Thompson

*Commission Members Unexcused Absence:*

Matt Hudgins

*Staff Present:*

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

*Guests:*

Scott Painter  
 David Fischer  
 Liza Brown  
 Mizu Sugimura  
 Diana Leigh Surma  
 Juel Lugo  
 Jennifer Weddermann

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Jana Wennstrom

**1. Call to Order****5:04 pm****Chair Echte****2. Excusal of Absences****5:04 pm****Vice Chair Kelly**

Commissioner Wennstrom had an excused absence.

**3. Approval of Minutes****5:04 pm (00:31)****Vice Chair Kelly**

There was a motion: "I'll make a motion we approve the minutes."

Motion: Dane Meyer

Second: Zach Powers

Motion: Carried

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**4. Approval of Agenda****5:04 pm (00:42)****Vice Chair Kelly**

There was a motion: "I so move that we approve the agenda."

Motion: Wanda Thompson

Second: Scott Ramsey

Motion: Carried

**5. Chair's Report****5:04 pm (00:57)****Chair Echtle**

Chair Echtle passed around the Art at Work Month Proclamation.

**6. Staff Check-In****5:05 pm (01:30)**

The first two parts of Elizabeth Conner's Pacific Avenue Streetscape public art project have been installed. A celebration event was held on December 7. Elizabeth's final pieces will be installed in January.

The base for the Sun King public art piece is out to bid with a tentative installation in early spring.

Arts Projects funding applications were due on December 6. The Commission received 24 applications to date.

Thank you letters from funding recipients were shared with Commissioners.

The dedication of the Stadium District mural will be held on December 14, 12 pm.

A volunteer juror is sought from the Commission for an upcoming Rainier League of Arts exhibit.

**7. Presentations****A. Proposed Site Alterations at Pantages****5:09 pm (05:39)**

David Fischer presented on the \$45 million capital campaign that the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts (BCPA) has underway to improve the current facilities of the Pantages, Rialto, and Theater on the Square as well as develop new facilities in the Theater on the Square Park and redevelop The Winthrop building. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

In 1993, under a commission from the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, Doug Granum created a series of 14 rock sculptures and 20 mask pieces that were sited around the Theater District. In 1996, the collection was gifted to the City of Tacoma.

There will be a meeting on December 19, 11 am in Studio 2 at the Broadway Center which will include a discussion of the public art around the BCPA. Mr. Fischer showed visual diagrams of the proposed redevelopment of the sidewalk in front of the Pantages, Theater on the Square, and Theater on the Square Park. The proposed redevelopment of theaters would include moving the Doug Granum rock sculptures currently sited in front of the Pantages and in Theater on the Square Park to allow for a better



flow and safety of pedestrian traffic. The Commission would need to approve any potential resiting of the pieces. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

## **8. Action Items**

### **A. Siting of Art Benches in Ruston-Pt. Defiance Business District 5:52 pm (48:57)**

Juel Lugo and Jennifer Weddermann presented on the bench/bike rack to be sited on the northwest corner of N. 51<sup>st</sup> and Pearl Street. They showed examples of Ms. Weddermann's past work as well as drawings of the proposed bench. The bench will be fabricated from ½" mild steel plate with rounded edges; the bench will be painted and will be ADA accessible. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

The bench was funded through the 2013 Arts Projects funding program. The Commission reviewed the bench because it is an art piece and/or has artistic elements and it is proposed to be sited in public right of way.

Chair Echte: "We need a motion to approve the siting of the bench as proposed."

There was a motion: "So moved."

Motion: Mike Sweney

Second: Rachel Cardwell

Motion: Carried

### **B. Commission Executive Committee Election 6:06 pm (1:02:56)**

Chair Echte was thanked for her service on the Commission. Chair Echte and Commissioners Cardwell and Powers have rescinded their nominations for the 2014 Executive Committee.

Commissioners voted for the 2014 Executive Committee.

The votes for Chair were tallied as follows: Traci Kelly – 12 votes

The votes for Vice Chair were tallied as follows: J.D. Elquist – 12 votes

## **9. Discussion/Updates**

### **A. Hillside Terrace Public Art Project Update 6:12 pm (1:08:14)**

Commissioner Powers gave a recap of the Hillside Terrace housing development public art project to date. Artist Yuki Nakamura is proposing a series of organic form concrete art benches. She will further explore the integration of color into the pieces.

### **B. Art at Work Month Recap 6:18 pm (1:14:13)**

Naomi Strom-Avila shared some general statistics from the Tacoma Studio Tour. Commissioners discussed their overall impressions of Art at Work Month and events they attended or were involved with.



**10. Report Back**

**A. Landmarks Preservation Commission 6:29 pm (01:25:20)**

There was nothing new to report.

**B. Advocacy Reports 6:29 pm (01:25:28)**

Commissioners reported back about the conversations they had with council members Joe Lonergan, Anders Ibsen, Robert Thoms, and Marty Campbell.

**C. Arts Events Attended 6:41 pm (01:37:56)**

Commissioners shared arts events they had attended or been involved with including the Feather & Oar fashion show, Tacoma City Ballet's Nutcracker, Tacoma Symphony Orchestra Christmas concert, Tacoma Concert Band, Beautiful Angle holiday party, Potted Potter, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, World AIDS Day at The Grand Cinema, and Rockwell Powers' CD.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm

