

Members

Michael Kula, Chair
Jeanette Sanchez, Vice Chair
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jamika Scott
Kenya Shakoor
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Joe Williams
Ton Williams
Heidi Wygle
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Olgy Diaz, City Council Liaison Alternate

Staff

Daniel Garcia, Community Programs Specialist
Ricky Reyes, Public Art Project Manager
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Program Manager
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

Community & Economic Development Dept.



Date: August 14, 2023

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual and in-person

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at

www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Jeanette Sanchez, *Vice Chair*
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Sarah Jane Hoppe
Wade Neal
Derek Nunn
Jamika Scott
Kenya Shakoor
MaryMikel Stump
Joe Williams
Heidi Wygle

City Staff Present:

Daniel Garcia
Lisa Jaret
Ricky Reyes
Jeff Robinson
Rebecca Solverson
Naomi Strom-Avila

Guest Presenters:

Randy Engstrom

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Michael Kula, *Chair*

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Alejandra Villeda
Ton Williams

1. Call to Order

5:07 pm (00:20)

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

ʔuk'wədiitəb ʔuhigwətəb čəł txwəl tiif ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxwixwtxwəd ʔə tiif puyaləpabš dxwəstəłlils 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 (01:00)

Chair Kula had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Sanchez asked for a motion to approve the August meeting agenda as well as the minutes from the June meeting.

There was a motion: "I move to approve the agenda."

Motion: Commissioner Wygle

Seconded: Commissioner Hoppe

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (01:50)

Vice Chair Sanchez introduced new staff members Daniel Garcia and Ricky Reyes. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and shared one leadership quality they value.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (15:26)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Division Manager Recruitment (16:08)

Randy Engstrom from Thirdway Creative presented an overview of his work with the Community and Economic Development Department to plan and strategize around the needs for the next Division Manager who will oversee the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality. Randy presented background information, an overview of the search committee, and timeline for the recruitment process.

Commissioners and staff asked questions. Commissioners who are interested in sitting on the search committee should email Randy Engstrom directly.

b. Labor Acknowledgement (50:49)

Drena Sellers, Committees, Boards and Commissions Equity Analyst presented about the work the Office of Equity & Human Rights has been doing to develop a Labor Acknowledgment at the City level that can be used by all Committees, Boards, and Commissions (CBC). The Labor Acknowledgement that will be developed will need to be vetted by City Council.

Commissioners and staff asked questions. Drena will find out whether CBC members can participate in the crafting of a Labor Acknowledgement.

c. Tacoma Arts Month Updates and Sign-ups (1:00:39)

Staff provided an overview of planned programming for Tacoma Arts Month:

- Tacoma Arts Month Proclamation – October 3, 5 pm in City Council Chambers
- Kaleidoscope opening party – October 5, 6:30 – 9 pm at STAR Center. The event will include the AMOCAT Arts Awards, live entertainment, hands-on activities, and more.
- Tacoma Studio Tour – October 14 & 15, 11 am – 5 pm. About 80 artists will open their studios to the public.
- Arts at the Armory - November 11 & 12, 11 am – 5 pm at the Tacoma Armory. The artist market will showcase over 100 local artists.

Commissioners volunteered to help as follows:

- Material distribution – Commissioners Wygle, Hoppe, and Fernandez-Llamazares

- Kaleidoscope opening party – Commissioners Brown and Fernandez-Llamazares
- Arts at the Armory - Vice Chair Sanchez and Commissioners Neal and Wygle

6. Action Items

a. AMOCAT Arts Awards Nomination Review & Voting

(1:14:25)

Staff provided an overview of the 2023 AMOCAT Arts Awards and nominations. Commissioners reviewed and discussed the nominees, including if/how to recognize nominees posthumously and how to approach nominations for past award winners.

Vice Chair Sanchez asked for a motion to accept the nominations as they are, without adding any new nominations to the categories of Community Outreach by an Organization and Arts Patron.

There was a motion: “I move that we consider the list as it exists without any additions at this time.”

Motion: Commissioner Stump

Seconded: Commissioner Neal

Motion: Carried, with one opposed

Commissioners voted as follows:

Community Outreach by an Organization	Vote
Southeast Asian Comedy Collective	10

Arts Patron	Vote
Bryson & Kristin Foster	9

There was a motion: “I would make a motion that we create a special AMOCAT for Chandler O’Leary, recognizing the design of the AMOCAT award to give to her posthumously and then vote on a different person to win the [Community Outreach by an Individual] award.”

Motion: Vice Chair Sanchez

Seconded: Commissioner Brown

There was clarification that this would be an honoring and recognition of her creation of the award, not a unique award category. Chandler will still remain a nominee in the Community Outreach by an Individual category.

Motion: Carried

Commissioners voted as follows:

Community Outreach by an Individual	Round 1 Vote	Round 2 Vote
Curtis Ashby	0	
Theresa Byrd	2	
Ellen Ito	0	
Drew Lindgren	0	
Chandler O’Leary	1	
Reid Ozaki & Kristina Batiste	4	6
Terri Placentia	1	
James Allen Tucker Rodriguez	3	4
Curtis Ashby	0	

Theresa Byrd	2	
Ellen Ito	0	
Drew Lindgren	0	
Chandler O'Leary	1	

The 2023 AMOCAT Arts Award winners are:

Community Outreach by an Individual	Reid Ozaki & Kristina Batiste
Community Outreach by an Organization	Southeast Asian Comedy Collective
Arts Patron	Bryson & Kristin Foster

Vice Chair Sanchez asked for a motion to approve the three nominees.

There was a motion: "I move to approve the slate of winners."

Motion: Commissioner Neal

Seconded: Commissioner Scott

Motion: Carried

b. Safe Routes to School Concrete Stamps (2:13:25)

Staff shared an overview of the Safe Routes to School Concrete Stamps project, which will be implemented on sidewalks around Lincoln High School, Manitou Park Elementary, Edison Elementary, and Whitman Elementary. The five artists selected by the panel are Dion Thomas, Maila Cervania, Jessica Spring, Stephanie Pride, and Mateo Smith.

There was a motion: "I move to approve these artists."

Motion: Commissioner Neal

Seconded: Commissioner Brown

Motion: Carried

c. Larchmont Public Art (2:16:52)

Staff shared an overview of a public art opportunity around Larchmont Elementary. This project will include a teaching artist who will work with the school to create concrete stamps. Staff is proposing a direct selection of Write253, in collaboration with Saiyare Rafeai, for this project.

There was a motion: "So moved."

Motion: Commissioner Scott

Seconded: Commissioner Williams

Motion: Carried

7. Staff Check-In (02:21:00)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

This item was tabled.

b. Public Art Updates

This item was tabled.

c. Tacoma Creates

This item was tabled.

8. Report Back

(02:21:00)

a. Advocacy Reports

This item was tabled.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

This item was tabled.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

This item was tabled.

9. Adjourn

7:28 pm (02:21:36)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Tacoma Arts Commission staff at (253) 591-5191. TTY or speech to speech users please dial (253) 581-5820 to connect with Washington Relay Services.
