

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: September 11, 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
Alejandra Villeda
Joe Williams
Heidi Wygle

City Staff Present:

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

Guest Presenters:

Randy Engstrom

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Michael Kula, *Chair*

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Ton Williams

1. Call to Order

5:04 pm (00:00)

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 dxwəsłəłlils 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 (00:50)

Chair Kula had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Sanchez asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda for the September meeting as well as the minutes from the August meeting.

There was a motion: "I make a motion to approve."

Motion: Commissioner Hoppe

Seconded: Commissioner Shakoor

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (02:30)

There was no Chair's report.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (02:40)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Updates and Sign-ups (03:40)

Staff provided an overview of Tacoma Arts Month programming:

- Kaleidoscope opening party – October 5, 6:30 – 9 pm at STAR Center. Staff shared an overview of performances and activities at the event, which will include the AMOCAT Arts Awards.
- Tacoma Studio Tour – October 14 & 15, 11 am – 5 pm. Staff shared about the event and participating artists.
- Arts at the Armory - November 11 & 12, 11 am – 5 pm at the Tacoma Armory. Staff shared about the event and participating artists.

Commissioners volunteered to help with the Kaleidoscope opening party and material distribution.

Staff asked Commissioners to help spread the word about the call for applications to serve on the Tacoma Arts Commission. Applications are due October 1.

b. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Subcommittee (19:18)

Staff provided an update about the subcommittee's work in reviewing and providing input on sections of the 2024 Community Arts Projects funding guidelines and discussing other funding needs in the community. Commissioners Brown and Fernandez-Llamazares provided additional context.

The DEI Subcommittee recurring meetings need to be rescheduled. Staff will work with subcommittee members to determine a new meeting schedule.

6. Action Items

a. 2024 Community Arts Projects Funding Guidelines (31:42)

Staff shared the 2024 Community Arts Projects funding guidelines and went over the main content updates including clarification of eligibility and funding requirements.

There was discussion about clarifying the language regarding other City funding sources. There was also discussion about the funding award amounts.

There was a motion: “I make a motion that we make a subcommittee that is specifically focused on funding.”

Motion: Commissioner Fernandez-Llamazares

Second: Commissioner Brown

Motion: Carried

Commissioners Villeda, Brown, and Fernandez-Llamazares volunteered to sit on the subcommittee.

Staff shared additional updates to the guidelines including clarification about funding priorities and allowing video and audio narrative responses, in addition to written responses. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

Vice Chair Sanchez asked for a motion to approve the guidelines with updates as discussed.

There was a motion: “I make a motion to approve the funding application.”

Motion: Commissioner Fernandez-Llamazares

Seconded: Commissioner Villeda

Motion: Carried

7. Staff Check-In

(01:12:12)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- Staff shared a notice from the City of Tacoma’s Legal Department regarding allowable First Amendment Activities.
- Commissioners are invited to attend a reception hosted by the Arts & Culture Coalition of Pierce County on October 12.
- The national and local findings from the Arts & Economic Prosperity Study will be released on October 12.

b. Public Art Updates

Staff gave updates about the following items:

- Safe Routes to Schools concrete stamps are in design.
- Murals are underway for Schuster Parkway, M Street, South Tacoma Library, and McKinley Avenue.
- Final pieces from the Tacoma Totem Pole have been offered to the Puyallup Tribe to use as they see fit.
- A budget request has been submitted for a lighting overhaul on the Bridge of Glass.
- Tacoma Mall area planning includes looking at renaming the area and outreach activities in October.
- Staff are looking at doing an intersection mural in downtown for Pride festival 2024, in response to a request from City Council.
- Staff are putting together a mural and anti-graffiti plan, in response to a request from City Council.
- Staff are looking at developing several artist-in-residence programs.
- Staff suggested setting up a Public Art Work Plan Subcommittee.

8. Presentations

a. Tacoma Creates

(01:26:13)

Lisa Jaret provided an overview of Tacoma Creates including current Tacoma Creates funding, how the Tacoma Arts Commission's funding aligns with and fills the gaps in Tacoma Creates funding, and the upcoming reauthorization of Tacoma Creates. Commissioners discussed and asked clarifying questions.

9. Discussion/Updates

a. Division Manager Recruitment

(01:39:42)

Randy Engstrom presented on the recruitment process for the Division Manager who will oversee the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality. Commissioner Joe Williams is the Commission representative on the search committee. The initial committee met to discuss an overview of the hiring process. The committee will be reviewing the job description with the goal of the City's Human Resources Department launching the open position within a couple of weeks.

10. Report Back

(01:44:59)

a. Advocacy Reports

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

Commissioners shared about events they have attended or been involved with including the Tacoma Moon Festival, tours of public art in Tacoma, a TAIP mid-project meeting with Mary Mann, and Creation Station in Tacoma.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

Vice Chair Sanchez requested that the creation of a Public Art Work Plan subcommittee be added to the October meeting agenda.

11. Adjourn

6:53 pm (01:50:02)

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.



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