

Members

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heather Conklin
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Chevi Chung, Community Programs Specialist
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

Tacoma Venues and Events Department



Date: November 8, 2021

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual

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

www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heather Conklin
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
Naomi Strom-Avila
Rebecca Solverson
Lisa Jaret

Guest Presenters:

Bucoda Warren
Larry Levy
Diana Brambrink

Commission Members Excused Absence:

James Stowe

1. Call to Order

5:07 pm (00:05)

Chair Ayala called the meeting to order. Chair Ayala 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 (01:36)

Commissioner Stowe had an excused absence.

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

There was a motion: "I move to approve the consent agenda and meeting minutes."

Motion: Commissioner Holcomb

Seconded: Commissioner Sanchez

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping (02:43)

Chair Ayala mentioned that, during the meeting, she would walk through the basics of how motions are made. She shared that the Commission will discuss and vote on whether members want to host a social gathering in December.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (05:15)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Presentations (06:10)

a. Tacoma Equity Index

Bucoda Warren, the Strategic Initiatives Coordinator for the City of Tacoma, presented on Tacoma's Equity Index. The purpose of the Equity Index is to track and ensure that Tacoma is an inclusive and equitable place to live, learn, work, and play. He explained that the Equity Index pulls data from 29 indicators and breaks data down into 197 Census Blocks. He shared an overview of some elements of the tool. Commissioners asked questions and shared ideas on how the arts could be included in the index.

6. Action Items

a. Commission Executive Committee Elections (37:44)

Commissioners voted on the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the 2022 calendar year. Two commissioners were nominated: Ben Maestas and Olivia Allison.

Commissioners voted for the Chair position as follows: Ben Maestas (13 votes) and Olivia Alison (1 vote). Commissioners voted for the Vice Chair position as follows: Ben Maestas (0 votes) and Olivia Alison (14 votes). Chair Ayala asked for a motion to accept Ben Maestas for Chair and Olivia Allison for Vice Chair.

There was a motion: "I move that we vote for Ben to be our Chair and for Olivia to be our Vice Chair as we have voted and accepted."

Motion: Commissioner Conklin

Seconded: Commissioner Sanchez

Motion: Carried

b. Gift of Artwork to Municipal Art Collection (52:05)

Staff gave an overview of the Tacoma Arts Commission's Accession Policy and Gift Policy. Larry Levy and Diana Brambrink talked about the meaning behind the sculpture they are offering for donation to the Municipal Art Collection titled, Indenture, created in 1981 by artist Tom Torrens. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

There was a motion: “I would make a motion that we table it pending additional conversation with the DEI Subcommittee and as a committee of the whole.”

Motion: Commissioner Kula

Second: Commissioner Allison

Commissioners discussed the motion including timeline and wanting the DEI Subcommittee to discuss the gift before a decision is made.

The motion was withdrawn.

There was a motion: “I move that we table the decision regarding the acceptance of the gift until the December meeting when we can have information, input, and thoughts from the DEI Subcommittee.”

Motion: Commissioner Kula

Second: Vice Chair Maestas

Motion: Carried

7. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Recap and Feedback

(1:34:29)

This item was tabled and will be added to the December meeting agenda.

b. DEI Subcommittee

(1:37:04)

Commissioner Allison gave an overview of the DEI Subcommittee’s October meeting including the creation of core meeting agreements in response to Coleman & Associates recommendations to the Commission. Commissioners are invited to join the monthly meetings on the third Thursday of every month.

8. Staff Check-In

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

(1:40:03)

Staff shared that 41 eligible applications were submitted for 2022 Community Arts Projects funding; the panel will have an orientation meeting on November 9. Twenty-five applications were submitted to serve on the Tacoma Arts Commission; the Economic Development Committee of City Council will interview 11 applicants at the end of November.

b. Public Art Updates

(1:43:58)

Staff gave an update about the installation of the Billy Ray Memorial artwork, ‘You Got This’, at the Eastside Community Center; completion of maintenance of the Welcome Figure; cleaning and restoration of murals through the City of Tacoma’s Tidy-up Tacoma initiative; and launching of a new call to artists for traffic box art wraps.

c. Tacoma Creates

(1:46:47)

Staff shared that Tacoma Creates is currently seeking applicants for a new position, Tacoma Creates Program Technician. The application deadline is November 23, 5 pm.

9. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(1:48:15)

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(1:49:07)

Vice Chair Maestas reported on the TAIP mid-project meeting he had with Gerardo Pena. Commissioner Kula reported on the TAIP mid-project meeting he had with Kellie Richardson.

Commissioners discussed interest in holding a non-Commission-business related social gathering after the December meeting.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(1:54:07)

There were no items.

10. Adjourn

7:01 pm (1:54:23)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm, venue to be determined based on health regulations. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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