

Members

Heather Conklin, Chair
Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
Olivia Allison
Michelle Douglas
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Paula Jacobson
Michael Kula
Benjamin Maestas III
Elizabeth Pew
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Wanda Thompson
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
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 9, 2020

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:

Heather Conklin, Chair
Rosie Ayala, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Olivia Allison
Michelle Douglas
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Benjamin Maestas III
Elizabeth Pew
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Wanda Thompson
Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
Naomi Strom-Avila
Rebecca Solverson
Lisa Jaret
Adam Cook
Tammi Bryant

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Paula Jacobson

1. Call to Order

5:08 pm (00:00)

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

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiit ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit 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

(00:24)

There were no excused absences.

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

There was a motion: "Motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes our agenda for tonight as well as our meeting minutes for October 12."

Motion: Vice Chair Ayala

Seconded: Commissioner Wilmot-Stenehjem

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping

(01:08)

Commissioners provided a check in on how they are each doing and their Instagram takeover experiences.

4. Action Items

a. Commission Executive Committee Elections

(09:10)

Commissioners voted on the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the 2021 calendar year. Four commissioners were nominated: Rosie Ayala, Michael Kula, Ben Maestas, and James Stowe.

Commissioners voted for the Chair position as follows:

Rosie Ayala (10 votes), Michael Kula (3 votes), Ben Maestas (1 vote), and James Stowe (0 votes)

Commissioners voted for the Vice Chair position as follows:

Michael Kula (4 votes), Ben Maestas (9 votes), and James Stowe (1 vote)

Staff asked for a motion to accept Rosie Ayala for Chair and Ben Maestas for Vice Chair.

There was a motion: "I would like to make a motion to approve the slate of new officers or chairs for 2021 as Rosie Ayala and Ben Maestas – to approve those nominations."

Motion: Commissioner Thompson

Seconded: Commissioner Douglas

Motion: Carried

b. 2021-22 Funding Distribution

(35:35)

Staff gave an overview of the estimated funding available for distribution in 2021-2022 and a proposed redistribution breakdown between the Community Arts Projects and Tacoma Artists Initiative Program funding programs. Staff estimated that there would be \$300,000 in funding to re-distribute. Commissioners discussed and asked questions before deciding on the following:

Funding Program	2021	2022
Tacoma Artists Initiative Program (24%)		\$72,000
Community Arts Projects (76%)	\$114,000	\$114,000

There was a motion: "I move to increase the flat funding award from \$2,500 to \$3,000 for the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program."

Motion: Chair Conklin

Second: Commissioner Wilmot-Stenehjem

Motion: Carried

There was a motion: “I move that we adopt the 24%/76% split with staff’s ability to make adjustments necessary in that – still maintaining that ratio – to adjust as necessary for any funding difference in the initial funding number.”

Motion: Commissioner Stump

Second: Commissioner Thompson

Motion: Carried

c. 2021-22 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program Guidelines (1:14:46)

Staff reviewed proposed updates to the 2021-2022 TAIP guidelines including the addition of funding priorities, definitions of terms, and reduction of wait time before artists are allowed to reapply. Commissioners discussed, asked questions, and proposed edits.

There was a motion: “I move that we accept the changes to the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program guidelines as presented.”

Motion: Chair Conklin

Second: Commissioner Kula

Motion: Carried

d. Public Comment at Commission Meetings (1:24:28)

Staff and Commissioners discussed adding oral public comment to the Commission’s agenda. Commissioners discussed logistics including length of comment time, restricting oral comments to agenda items, and acknowledging comments.

There was a motion: “I’d like to make a motion that we support the public comment at the meetings that pertain to agenda items with the logistics to be worked out by staff and Executive Committee.”

Motion: Commissioner Thompson

Second: Commissioner Woodson

Motion: Carried

5. Discussion/Updates

a. Tacoma Arts Month Recap (1:44:49)

Discussion tabled until the next meeting.

b. Tacoma Poet Laureate/Literary Laureate Position (1:45:27)

Staff and the Literary Laureate subcommittee members presented their initial findings and recommendations, which include sticking with the ‘Tacoma Poet Laureate’ title and program basics for the 2021-23 cycle but better defining the genres of literary art that will be considered. Commissioners discussed and asked questions.

6. Staff Check-In

a. Tacoma Creates (1:59:00)

Lisa Jaret provided an update on the new TacomaCreates.org website.

b. Staff Projects Overview and Updates (1:59:29)

Naomi Strom-Avila provided an update on the Community Arts Projects funding program.

The Economic Development Committee will interview and consider 11 applicants for the Tacoma Arts Commission at their meeting on November 10. They will make appointments to fill six Commission seats that will expire at the end of 2020.

c. Public Art Updates

(2:00:40)

Rebecca Solverson gave an update about the East 40th Street project video and upcoming Public Art Reaching Community temporary public art projects.

7. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(2:02:08)

There were no items.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(2:02:20)

Commissioner Wilmot-Stenehjem announced that she will be stepping down from her position on the Commission at the end of 2020.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(2:04:25)

There were no items.

8. Adjourn

7:13 pm (2:05:20)

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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