

**Members**

Robin Echte, *Chair*  
Sarah Idstrom, *Vice Chair*  
Julie Anderson, *City Council Liaison*  
Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
Jan Brazzell  
Rachel Cardwell  
Phillip Hill, *LPC Liaison*  
Janice Karroll  
Traci Kelly  
Donald Lacky  
Bill La Vergne  
Janet Matzke  
Kristi Nebel  
Margaret Payne  
Jacqueline Peterson  
Michael Reynolds  
Mike Sweney

# Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

### Community & Economic Development

**Staff**

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

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Date: January 12, 2009

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

*Commission Members in Attendance:*

Robin Echte, Chair  
Sarah Idstrom, Vice-Chair  
Phillip Hill  
Janice Karroll  
Don Lacky  
Bill La Vergne  
Janet Matzke  
Kristi Nebel  
Margaret Payne  
Jacqueline Peterson  
Mike Sweney

*Staff Present*

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

*Guests Present:*

Judy Durkin  
Edward Echte

*City Council Member Present:*

Julie Anderson

*City Council Member Absent:*

Lauren Walker

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Jan Brazzell  
Rachel Cardwell  
Traci Kelly  
Michael Reynolds

**1. Call to Order**

**5:01 pm**

**Chair Echte**

**2. Excusal of Absences**

**5:04 pm**

**Vice Chair Idstrom**

Commissioners Brazzell, Cardwell, and Reynolds had an excused absence. Commissioner Kelly was absent.

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**3. Approval of Agenda****5:01 pm****Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Margaret Payne

Second: Bill La Vergne

There was a friendly amendment to add Click! Network Partnership Proposal and Chamber of Commerce Banner Program to the agenda.

Motion: Carried

**4. Approval of Minutes****5:02 pm****Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Jacqueline Peterson

Amendment: Janice Karroll

“Meeting adjourned at 5:49 pm to move on to the holiday party provided by Councilwoman Julie Anderson.”

Second: Donald Lacky

Motion: Carried

**5. Chair’s Report:****5:05 pm****Chair Echtle**

Lauren Walker will be the Tacoma Arts Commission’s City Council alternate liaison for 2009. Jake Fey was thanked for his service to the Commission.

**6. Staff Check-In****5:06 pm**

The Commission has a confirmed amount of \$405,000 for contracts for cultural services programming for the 2009 – 2010 biennium. There should also be \$100,000 per biennium for maintenance of the Municipal Art Collection.

The 505 Broadway development is installing the final components to their public art component of work by Laura Brodax. The Commission did not manage the public art component. Under the newly proposed Commission ordinance, private development projects like this would come before the Commission for approval. Developers are not required to choose local artists for their projects but the development of a local artist public art registry can help encourage developers to use Tacoma artists.

Councilwoman Anderson asked if the Commission could set a goal for how we are going to build capacity for local artists. Commissioners will further discuss ways to provide more opportunities for local artists.

The Cultural Arts Specialist position turned into a full-time employee position on January 20.

Two acrylic tubes for the Water Forest sculpture were stolen from their storage facility.

**7. Action Items****A. Pacific Plaza Finalist****5:22 pm**

Pacific Plaza is a public/private partnership to renovate the parking facility on Pacific and 11<sup>th</sup> into a LEED Platinum building. The budget for the public art component is \$179,000. The panel narrowed down the pool from 39 applicants to 4 finalists. The finalists visited the site in December and were interviewed on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Sweney noted that the decision came down to two finalists; Robert Horner (Seattle) and Jill Anholt (Vancouver). The panel chose Jill Anholt. Samples of her work were presented to the Commission.

The selection panel will review Jill Anholt's proposals for the building. The building construction is slated to be done by June and the art installation will follow soon after.

There was a motion:

"Formally approve the recommendation of Jill Anholt as the selected artist."

Motion: Bill La Vergne

Second: Phil Hill

Motion: Carried

## **B. Art Commission Retreat**

**5:37 pm**

The date for the Commission retreat was scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 10 am – 3 pm. Location will be determined.

The Commission recommended having a facilitator to lead the retreat.

It was suggested to review the content of last year's retreat at the February Commission meeting in preparation for the 2009 retreat. The Commission can also review the City's strategic plan, the Community and Economic Development Department's business plan, the downtown plan and the Washington State Arts Commission strategic plan as a basis for the Tacoma Arts Commission's plan for 2009.

There was a motion:

"Motion to accept the proposed logistics for the Arts Commission retreat."

Motion: Jan Karroll

Second: Phil Hill

Motion: Carried

## **C. Click! Network Partnership Proposal**

**5:49 pm**

The Tacoma Arts Commission and Click! have developed a partnership to have a "TacomaArt & Culture" button on Click! ON Demand. Artists and organizations funded by the Commission can currently submit their work to be included on the channel.

Click! is proposing that the Commission develop a process and take the lead in hosting an annual call to local artists to submit arts content for the channel. The Commission and a panel of community members would jury the submissions to select those pieces approved for airing.

Council member Anderson suggested that the Commission check with the City attorney on the City's stance on public access channels.

There was a motion:

"Motion to approve to develop a new program for local artists to submit to be on Click! ON Demand."

Motion: Phil Hill

Second: Janet Matzke

Motion: Carried

**D. Chamber of Commerce Banner Program 5:58 pm**

The Chamber of Commerce is in charge of vetting the downtown banners for non-profit organizations. The Commission is currently set up as the approving body for the banners.

An ad hoc subcommittee comprised of community members as well as Chair Echtle and Commissioners Matzke and Karroll will meet occasionally to review submissions and report back to the Commission.

The Commission discussed encouraging the use of local artists for the design and creation of the banners.

“Do we have a motion to accept Amy’s proposal to form an ad hoc subcommittee composed of some Arts Commission members as well as at large community members to review the Chamber’s banner program submissions.”

Motion: Bill La Vergne

Second: Jacqueline Peterson

Motion: Carried

**8. Report Back****A. Anchor Fund Panelist Sign-up 6:05 pm**

The following commissioners volunteered to sit on the Anchor Fund funding panel:

**2009-10 Anchor Fund Panel Members** (one all day meeting. either February 23, 24, 25, 27, March 2, 3, 4)

Jackie Peterson

Don Lacky

Kristi Nebel

Sarah Idstrom

Robin Echtle

**B. Annual Report 2008 Draft Review and Maintenance Report 6:08 pm**

Commissioners reviewed the draft of the 2008 annual year in review. Changes and suggestions should be made to Naomi by January 31. It was suggested to add publicity that the Commission has received in 2008.

The document will be put on TacomaCulture.org, dispersed to the TacomaArt listserv, shared with City Council members, and is used in meetings with the City Manager and Council members.

The annual report outlines maintenance accomplishments for 2008 including:

- Development of a system using industry standards to organize the Municipal Art Collection
- Creation of a new accession numbering system
- Development of a processes for review and reporting
- Development of reporting forms
- Completed surveys and condition reports for many pieces
- Conservation and maintenance of pieces in the collection including Bridge of Glass, Water Forest, Totem Pole, Clearing the Way, Locomotive Monument, Tidal Pools and Neon at the Tacoma Dome

