

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

Date: June 8, 2009

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Robin Echte, Chair
Sarah Idstrom, Vice-Chair
Jan Brazzell
Janice Karroll
Traci Kelly
Don Lacky
Janet Matzke
Margaret Payne
Michael Reynolds
Mike Sweney

Staff Present

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Rebecca Solverson, Arts Intern

Guests Present:

Judy Durkin

City Council Member Absent:

Julie Anderson
Lauren Walker

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Rachel Cardwell
Bill La Vergne
Jacqueline Peterson

Commission Members Absent:

Phillip Hill
Kristi Nebel

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|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | 5:08 pm | Chair Echte |
| 2. Excusal of Absences | 5:08 pm | Vice Chair Idstrom |
| Commissioners Cardwell, La Vergne and Peterson had an excused absence. Commissioners Hill and Nebel were absent. | | |
| 3. Approval of Agenda | 5:08 pm | Vice Chair Idstrom |
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Motion: Margaret Payne

Second: Traci Kelly

Motion: Carried

Approval of Minutes

5:09 pm

Vice Chair Idstrom

Motion: Janet Matzke

Second: Jan Karroll

Motion: Carried

4. Chair's Report:

5:09 pm

Chair Echtle

The Commission decided to cancel the August 10th meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission.

Chair Echtle and Deputy City Manager, Rey Arellano, helped present awards for the National Arts Program exhibit reception on May 29.

Chair Echtle announced the retirement of Commissioner Payne from the Tacoma Arts Commission. Commissioner Payne said that it was a privilege to serve on the Commission and that she learned much about Tacoma from the experience. Commissioners were invited to join Commissioner Payne in an after-meeting gathering.

5. Staff Check-In

5:15 pm

Amy McBride introduced arts intern, Rebecca Solverson.

Water Forest

The Water Forest sculpture is installed on the Museum of Glass plaza. The barrier around the piece is still installed while some features, including the computerized program to raise and lower the water levels, are still being worked on. There is a possibility of re-christening the Water Forest.

Welcome Figure

Work has started on carving the Welcome Figure. The piece will be sited in Tollefson Plaza. The location was chosen because it was a significant gathering site for the native people of the area. There will be a pole raising ceremony, possibly in August, depending on when the piece is completed; plans are being made in coordination with the Puyallup tribe. The Commission accepted the piece into the Municipal Art Collection several years ago.

Wintergrass Festival

Acoustic Sound received an offer from the Bellevue Hyatt to move Wintergrass to Bellevue. A meeting took place in Tacoma on June 8 between the Mayor, Convention and Visitors Bureau, local hotels, Chamber of Commerce, BIA, art program staff, and Acoustic Sound to let them know that Tacoma wants Wintergrass to stay in Tacoma and to offer them a package of capacity-building incentives for staying including ON Demand coverage on Click! and TV Tacoma produced commercials.

The Hyatt is offering incentives including low room rates, rebates to Acoustic Sound, free parking and multiple stages under one roof. Acoustic Sound is considering the offer because it would provide a lower cost of doing business and ease of event coordination. Acoustic Sound will make their decision by Friday, June 12.

Sun King

The Museum of Glass has confirmed that they are supportive of the resiting of the Sun King sculpture to the end of the Thea Foss esplanade as discussed in the May meeting. Amy will talk with the Foss Waterway Development Authority on Friday to recommend the resiting of the piece to that location.

Metal-Urge

Metal-Urge brochures were distributed to Commissioners. Commissioner Idstrom noted that the Tacoma Art Museum exhibit is installed. Upcoming events include a block party on June 20 hosted by the Robert Daniel Gallery and the Metal-Urge Free Community Festival & Iron Artist competition on July 31 at the Tacoma Art Museum and Tollefson Plaza.

Technical Assistance Strategies

Washington Lawyers for the Arts wants to have a stronger South Sound presence. They are planning to host four brown bag seminars per year in Tacoma. The first seminar is scheduled for July 22 in conjunction with Metal-Urge. They will also host legal clinics in Tacoma; these are 30-minute private legal consultations with a lawyer for \$20.

Shunpike is planning to bring a satellite of their services down to Tacoma from Seattle. Shunpike handles the business side of the arts including providing consultations on board and non-profit development and technical assistance workshops. They will conduct a general intake where organizations and groups can talk to them to see what services they might be able to utilize. Shunpike can help build capacity for many of the small art groups that are already doing great work in Tacoma without them requiring becoming a 501(c)3.

6. Report Back/Updates

A. Marketing & Communications Committee 5:35 pm

Commissioner Reynolds updated the Commission about the Marketing Committee’s latest meeting. The Committee suggests that the Tacoma Arts Commission ride the coat tails of what is already being done in the community, particularly in regards to conducting needs assessments and in creating a cultural calendar. The Committee would also like to brainstorm ideas with other community resources. The Committee would like to put together a communication plan that outlines ways the Commission can effectively promote their work in the community.

Commissioner Kelly suggested looking into Zvents; an online cultural calendar that can be shared between multiple venues.

B. Volunteer Sign-Up 5:39 pm

Commissioners volunteered to jury art submissions for Click! ON Demand as follows:

Click! Cable TV art programming panel
Robin Echte
Sarah Idstrom
Janet Matzke

Commissioners volunteered to staff the Washington Lawyers for the Arts July 22 seminar as follows:

WLA brown bag seminar: Securing & Protecting Rights in Your
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Works
Don Lucky

Commissioners volunteered to meet with City Council members as follows:

Council Member	Tacoma Arts Commission Member
Mike Lonergan	Michael Reynolds
Spiro Manthou	Jan Karroll
Jake Fey	Jan Brazzell
Lauren Walker	Traci Kelly
	Mike Sweney
Connie Ladenburg	Sarah Idstrom
	Robin Echte
Mayor Bill Baarsma	Don Lucky
	Michael Reynolds

These meetings are a continuation of the Commission's plan to keep strong communications with Council. It was suggested that Commissioners could see if Council Members have anything they want to share with the Commission and then talk with them about what the Commission has been working on including Metal-Urge, notes from the retreat, marketing committee ideas, and targeted feedback about any specific concerns Council Members voiced in the 2008 meetings.

Commissioners volunteered for Art at Work Month committees as follows:

Opening Party Committee

Robin Echte
Sarah Idstrom
Mike Sweney
Traci Kelly
Michael Reynolds
Janet Matzke

Studio Tour Committee

Jan Brazzell
Sarah Idstrom - if needed

Symposium Committee

Traci Kelly

Art Slam Committee

Jan Karroll
Janet Matzke

Material Distribution

Janet Matzke
Jan Brazzell
Don Lucky

Commissioner Kelly noted that she would like to present on 'How to Form and Keep a Relationship with a Gallery Buyer' at the Symposium in 2009.

7. Good of the Order**5:45 pm**

Vice Chair Idstrom announced that Franke Tobey Jones is putting on their senior art show in November and are currently accepting applications from artists 55 years and older.

A thank you card was presented to Commissioner Payne for her years of service to the Commission.

Commissioner Karroll met with Fumiko Kimura for her TAIP mid-project meeting. Fumiko is working on a series of sumi and mixed media collages called Pathos to Peace. Commissioner Karroll saw pieces in the body of work in a variety of stages of completion. Her work is rich in media, theme, and content. The artist completed her own progress report. Fumiko starts each piece with a Chinese word written in ink and then develops the ideas surrounding that word using a variety of media.

Commissioner Sweney noted that Americans for the Arts is hosting their annual convention in Seattle June 19 – 21; the event will bring in about 1000 people from across the nation. Amy will be hosting a glass-themed tour of Tacoma for a group of convention attendees.

Commissioner Reynolds noted that Tacoma was voted by American Style magazine as one of the top 25 cities for art in the United States.

Commissioner Reynolds attended the Double Shot Film Festival at the University of Puget Sound. Participants had 24 hours to produce a 10-minute play. He noted that the event featured excellent impromptu performances by region-wide artists. He urged Commissioners to attend the event in 2010; the event spans two days.

Guest Judy Durkin announced that the Washington Arts Education Conference will be held on October 9 & 10 in downtown Tacoma.

Commissioner Lacky noted that he attended Theater Northwest' second production of Educating Rita. He also announced that ACT Fest, happening June 24 – 27 at the Pantages Theater, will bring together groups from all over the nation. The event is sponsored by Tacoma Musical Playhouse and tickets are \$7 per performance.

Commissioners were invited to gather at The Hub after the meeting to wish Margaret a happy retirement.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm