

**Members**

Robin Echte, *Chair*  
 Sarah Idstrom, *Vice Chair*  
 Julie Anderson, *City Council Liaison*  
 Lauren Walker, *City Council Liaison Alternate*  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Rachel Cardwell  
 Janice Karroll  
 Traci Kelly  
 Donald Lacky  
 Bill La Vergne  
 Janet Matzke  
 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: October 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  
 Jan Brazzell  
 Janice Karroll  
 Traci Kelly  
 Don Lacky  
 Bill La Vergne  
 Michael Reynolds  
 Mike Sweney

*Staff Present*

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

*Guests Present:*

Marilyn Mahoney  
 Babe Lehrer  
 Roger Edwards

*City Council Member in Attendance:*

Julie Anderson

*City Council Member Absent:*

Lauren Walker

*Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Rachel Cardwell  
 Janet Matzke  
 Jacqueline Peterson

**1. Call to Order****5:05 pm (00:23)****Chair Echte**

Commissioners were reminded that all Arts Commission meetings from here on out will be documented with summary minutes and a complete audio recording.

**2. Excusal of Absences****5:05 pm (00:56)****Vice Chair Idstrom**

Commissioner Matzke and Peterson had an excused absence. Commissioner Reynolds joined the meeting via telephone. Commissioner Cardwell was unable to join the meeting via phone as planned but had an excused absence.

**3. Approval of Minutes****5:06 pm (01:19)****Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Jan Karroll

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Motion: Carried

**4. Approval of Agenda** **5:06 pm (01:31)** **Vice Chair Idstrom**

Motion: Bill La Vergne

Second: Jan Brazzell

Motion: Carried

**5. Chair's Report:** **5:06 pm (01:46)** **Chair Echte**

The Commission will take action on the Goddess of Commerce gift proposal. Public comment time for this item was held at the September 14 meeting.

Jan Brazzell and Robin Echte recused themselves from the Goddess of Commerce gift proposal voting process.

**6. Staff Check-In** **5:08 pm (03:09)**

**Ordinance**

The new Tacoma Municipal Code changes for the Tacoma Arts Commission were approved by City Council.

**Cheney Stadium**

There is a bond opening up for Cheney Stadium which will be eligible for the 1% for art program.

**7. Action Items**

**A. Art at Work Month** **5:10 pm (05:14)**

Commissioners received and reviewed copies of the 2009 Art at Work brochures.

Naomi Strom-Avila gave an overview of Arts Commission events for Art at Work month including the Studio Tours, Arts Symposium, Art Slam, and Opening Party. She also presented the 2009 poster and talked about advertising for Art at Work month and the [www.ArtAtWorkTacoma.com](http://www.ArtAtWorkTacoma.com) website.

Commissioners volunteered to assist with Art at Work programming as follows:

**Arts Symposium Set-up**

14-Nov Mike Sweney, Traci Kelly

**Arts Symposium Registration Tables**

14-Nov 8:30 - 9:30 am Traci Kelly, Dane Gregory Meyer

14-Nov 9:30 am - 1 pm Traci Kelly

14-Nov 1 - 5:15 pm Antonio Edwards, Jr.

15-Nov 10:00 am - 12:30 pm Sarah Idstrom

**Arts Symposium Session Introductions**

14-Nov 9:00 AM Introduce Copyright session Jan Brazzell

14-Nov	11:45 AM	Introduce Fundraising session	Jan Brazzell
14-Nov	2:00 PM	Introduce Gallery Relationship session	Mike Sweney
14-Nov	3:45 PM	Introduce Getting a STart in Public Art session	Antonio Edwards, Jr.
15-Nov	11:00 AM	Introduce Surviving & Thriving in Turbulent Times session	Sarah Idstrom
15-Nov	11:30 AM	Introduce Artist Spotlight: Robert Horner session	Bill La Vergne
15-Nov	1:15 PM	Introduce Beyond the Elevator Speech session	Jan Karroll

### **Art Slam Set-up**

18-Nov 5:00 - 6:30 pm Sarah Idstrom, Jan Karroll

### **Art Slam Registration Table**

18-Nov 6:30 – 7:10 pm Robin Echte, Jan Karroll, Jana Wennstrom, Dane Gregory Meyer

### **Art Slam Meet & Greet**

18-Nov 6:30 - 7 pm, 8 - 9 pm Robin Echte, Sarah Idstrom, Bill La Vergne, Mike Sweney, Antonio Edwards, Jr.

### **Opening Party Set-up**

29-Oct 5:00 – 6:00 pm Jan Karroll, Sarah Idstrom, Jana Wennstrom, Antonio Edwards, Jr.

### **Opening Party Registration Tables**

29-Oct 5:30 – 7:15 pm Mike Sweney, Jan Brazzell, Traci Kelly, Robin Echte, Jan Karroll

### **Opening Party Ushers**

29-Oct 7:00 – 7:15 pm Jan Brazzell, Traci Kelly, Don Lacky, Bill La Vergne, Sarah Idstrom

### **Opening Wrap-Up**

29-Oct 9:00 pm Don Lacky, Robin Echte

### **Material Distribution**

Janet Matzke, Mike Sweney, Jan Brazzell, Don Lacky, Robin Echte, Sarah Idstrom, Bill La Vergne

**B. Arts Projects Guidelines****5:43 pm (38:26)**

Commissioners reviewed the Arts Projects funding guidelines including changes and clarifications recommended by staff. Commissioners discussed whether or not to accept multiple applications from the same applicant. They also discussed whether or not to encourage weaning organizations off of Arts Projects funding as they become more self-sustaining.

Commissioners decided that it was fine to receive multiple applications from one organization. It is up to the review panel to decide who to fund and to choose the best projects from all applications. Funding is never guaranteed to any applicant.

Commissioners decided that it was not necessary to wean organizations off of the funding program; they noted that as long as the applicant organization is doing excellent work they deserve to be funded.

There was a motion: “Move to accept as proposed.”

Motion: Jan Karroll

Second: Traci Kelly

Motion: Passed

**C. Goddess of Commerce Gift Proposal****5:57 pm (52:57)**

Commissioners received a gift proposal checklist outlining the Arts Commission’s Accession and Gift Policies as they related to accepting artwork into the Municipal Art Collection.

Commissioners discussed the Goddess of Commerce gift proposal as it relates to the following Accession Policies:

“Accessioned artwork shall be of distinctive artistic merit and aesthetic quality and will enhance the diversity of the Municipal Art Collection.”

“Accessioned artwork shall be appropriate in and for its site [including] scale, material, form, and content for both its immediate and general social and physical environment.”

“Accessioned artwork shall be reasonably durable against theft, vandalism, weather, and excessive maintenance costs.”

Commissioners discussed the Goddess of Commerce gift proposal as it relates to the following Gift Policies:

“Technical Feasibility – The realistic ability for the proposed project to be built and installed as proposed.”

“Budget – Cost to manage project, prepare the site, deliver and/or install the work, funds for signage/recognition, and any other costs should be disclosed by the donor in a budget. The Tacoma Arts Commission will determine if the costs are accurate and realistic and that the donor has clearly delineated responsibility for all costs associated with the project.”

“Timeline – Expected timeline for donation or installation should be proposed by the donor. The Tacoma Arts Commission will determine if the proposed timeline is realistic.”

Chair Echtle called for the question “Do we have a motion to accept the donation into the Municipal Art Collection?”

There was no motion.

Chair Echtle called for the question “Do we have a motion to not accept the donation into the Municipal Art Collection?”

There was a motion: “I move.”

Motion: Mike Sweney

Second: Don Lacky

Jan Karroll asked the motion to be clarified to reflect the siting of the piece. The motion was updated as follows: “To not accept the donation into the Municipal Art Collection as proposed in this application”

Motion: Passed with six ayes (Michael Reynolds, Mike Sweney, Jan Karroll, Don Lacky, Bill La Vergne, and Sarah Idstrom). Traci Kelly abstained from voting.

Amy McBride clarified that the Commission’s vote to not accept the piece into the Municipal Art Collection would be a recommendation for the Street Occupancy Permit to not site the piece as requested on the permit.

Commissioners thanked Babe Lehrer and Marilyn Mahoney for their gift proposal.

## **8. Reports**

### **A. Center for Urban Waters**

**6:49 pm (1:44:53)**

Commissioner Sweney presented artist Robert Horner’s public art proposal for the Center for Urban Waters. Commissioners asked questions to clarify the construction of the building and discussed concerns about safety in the space, algae build-up, and misuse of the space.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm