

Members

Phillip Hill, *LPC Liaison, Chair*
Margaret Payne, *Vice Chair*
Julie Anderson, *City Council Liaison*
Jake Fey, *City Council Liaison Alternate*
Jan Brazzell
Rachel Cardwell
Robin Echtle
Sarah Idstrom
Jan Karroll
Traci Kelly
Bill La Vergne
Janet Matzke
Kristi Nebel
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: October 13, 2008

Location: City of Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 16

Time: 5:00 pm

Commission Members in Attendance:

Phillip Hill, Chair
Margaret Payne, Vice-Chair
Jan Brazzell
Rachel Cardwell
Robin Echtle
Sarah Idstrom
Janice Karroll
Janet Matzke
Jacqueline Peterson
Michael Reynolds

Staff Present

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

Guests Present:

Judy Durkin
Steph Farber
William Kupinse

City Council Member Present:

Jake Fey

City Council Member Absent:

Julie Anderson

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Traci Kelly
Bill La Vergne
Kristi Nebel
Mike Sweney

1. Call to Order

5:06 pm

Chair Hill

2. Excusal of Absences

5:06 pm

Vice Chair Payne

Commissioner Nebel had an excused absence. Commissioners Kelly, La Vergne and Sweney were absent.

3. Approval of Agenda **5:06 pm** **Vice Chair Payne**

Motion: Sarah Idstrom

Second: Jackie Peterson

Motion: Carried

4. Approval of Minutes **5:07 pm** **Vice Chair Payne**

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Janice Karroll

Motion: Carried

5. Chair's Report: **5:07 pm** **Chair Hill**

Chair Hill talked about City Arts magazine and reminded Commissioners to fill out their survey for the Arts Commission feature in November's issue.

6. Staff Check-In **5:09 pm**

A request for approval of proposed repairs for the Water Forest is going to City Council on October 14. The information packet that was submitted to council members was passed out to commissioners.

Movement has been made on the Welcome Figure: to structurally reinforce the piece, a steel plate will be sandwiched inside the Welcome Figure and steel pipes will connect to a base similar to a light standard pole. Once this structural piece is built, the carving for the Welcome Figure can fully begin. The sculpture is about 18 feet tall and the piece will be located adjacent to Tollefson Plaza, a historical gathering site for native tribes.

A survey of teaching artists has gone out to the listserv. The info gathered will be used by the University of Chicago to help identify what a teaching artist is.

The sculpture She Who Watches will be sited a few feet north of where the Commission had originally planned it to go. This is to avoid overcrowding of plantings which could detract from the sculpture.

The ArtsFund luncheon is on November 11. Commissioners Matzke, Peterson, Brazzell, Cardwell, Karroll, Payne, La Vergne and Kelly, Chair Hill, and Amy McBride asked to attend.

Tacoma Artists Initiative Program funded artist Elise Richman is ready for her TAIP mid-project meeting. Commissioner Cardwell volunteered to meet with her.

Arts Projects applications and guidelines have been released. A press release was sent out and the application was sent to the TacomaArt listserv and to past applicants. Commissioners Echte, Reynolds, Idstrom, Brazzell, and Cardwell volunteered to sit on the review panel for the 2009 Arts Projects funding program.

Commissioners Matzke, Karroll and Payne and Chair Hill volunteered to sit on the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program panel in February 2009. Past TAIP recipients will be pulled to sit on the review panel as well.

7. Presentation

A. First Night Update – Steph Farber **5:22 pm**

Steph Farber is the current president of the First Night board and president of the board of the Theater District Foundation which puts on First Night. First Night Tacoma is a licensee of the First Night International organization out of Boston. It provides a family-friendly, arts-focused, alcohol-free New Year's Eve event. First Night has been in Tacoma for 15 – 16 years and was brought to Tacoma by the Pierce County Arts Commission which ran it for the first 6 years. In 2005, a major sponsorship fell through causing First Night Tacoma to fall into \$40,000 of debt and shut down until First Night 2008 while money was raised to pay everyone. They currently have a surplus of about \$40,000.

First Night requested that the Arts Commission write a letter to City Council in support of First Night 2009.

B. Tacoma Poet Laureate – William Kupinse 5:34 pm

In his position as Tacoma Poet Laureate, William Kupinse has given readings, including one on KXOT, and done a poetry workshop at the Tacoma Art Museum in conjunction with the exhibit *Illuminating the Word*. He will be giving a free workshop at the University of Puget Sound campus focusing on sustainability and the environment.

Kupinse is working on putting together a poetry anthology to highlight the work of local writers. He envisions it having about 150 pages and featuring the work of 50 – 100 poets of all ages and backgrounds from the Tacoma area. He is thinking of printing 500 – 1000 copies to be available beginning in April 2009 and have the book for sale at local bookstores and distributed to libraries.

Kupinse is going to talk with Urban Grace, who organizes the Poet Laureate competition, to see if the entrants for the next Poet Laureate competition can be included in the anthology.

He was encouraged to apply for the 2009 Arts Projects funding cycle.

8. Action Items

A. Ordinance

5:47 pm

- A. In section **1.28.A 070.L**, “Review and make recommendations with reference to any existing work of art in possession of the City in connection with the relocation, or alteration thereof. (Deaccessioning policy adopted by resolution #34963).” was changed to “Review and make recommendations with reference to any existing work of art in the Municipal Art Collection of the City in connection with the relocation, or alteration thereof. (Deaccessioning policy adopted by resolution #34963).”
- B. In section **1.28.A 070.R**, “Review and make recommendations for all artworks under consideration for placement on City of Tacoma property and upon request for placement upon city Rights of Way.” was changed to “Review and make recommendations for visual artworks and artistic elements under consideration for placement on City of Tacoma property and upon request for placement upon city Rights of Way.”
- C. In section **1.28.B 020.C**, “Eligible Capital Improvement Project means any project paid for wholly or in part by the City of Tacoma that is visible or accessible by the public for the construction, rehabilitation or remodeling of a structure, park, parking facility or any portion thereof within the City of Tacoma limits whose value is equal to the threshold necessary for inclusion in the Capital Facilities Program.” was changed to “Eligible Capital Improvement Project means any project paid for wholly or in part by the City of Tacoma that is visible or accessible by the public for the construction or alteration, of a structure, park, parking facility or any portion thereof within the City of Tacoma limits.”

D. In section **1.28.B 040**, the word “required” was changed to “eligible” in the first, second, and sixth paragraphs.

There was a motion:

“I make a motion that we accept the document as revised herein.”

Motion: Jan Brazzell

Second: Rachel Cardwell

Motion: Carried

B. Anchor Fund Guidelines

5:56 pm

The Anchor Fund program helps support the larger arts organizations in Tacoma with a budget of \$200,000 or more. The guidelines were reordered to be more consistent with the guidelines of the other funding programs.

The Commission discussed whether it was important to have a minimum number of times an organization needs to perform in one year.

There was a motion:

“I move to approve.”

Motion: Margaret Payne

Second: Jackie Peterson

Motion: Carried

C. Art at Work Month

6:10 pm

The Art at Work printed materials have all been sent to press.

Invitations to the Opening Party have been mailed out to local officials, funded organizations and artists, studio tour artists and others.

The Art at Work brochure is 36 pages and covers events for November, art exhibits, classes and workshops. It is now online.

Posters of the broadsides are ready for posting around Tacoma and will also be on Pierce Transit busses starting October 27th. Sets of the broadsides will be for sale. The broadside poets are lined up to read their poems for the Art at Work month opening party.

Commissioners volunteered for the following jobs:

Material Distribution

Robin Echte

Janet Matzke

Jackie Peterson

Michael Reynolds

Jan Brazzell

Phil Hill

Mike Sweney

Opening Party (registration tables, meet & greet)

Robin Echte

Janet Matzke

Jackie Peterson

Michael Reynolds

Sarah Idstrom

Jan Brazzell
 Rachel Cardwell
 Margaret Payne
 Phil Hill
 Traci Kelly

Arts Symposium (registration table, speaker introductions)

Janet Matzke
 Sarah Idstrom
 Jan Brazzell
 Janice Karroll
 Phil Hill
 Margaret Payne
 Mike Sweney

Art Slam (set up for reception, meet & greet, registration table)

Robin Echtele
 Janet Matzke
 Jackie Peterson
 Michael Reynolds
 Sarah Idstrom
 Rachel Cardwell
 Janice Karroll
 Phil Hill
 Mike Sweney
 Traci Kelly
 Bill La Vergne
 Kristi Nebel

The Opening Party is on October 29, 6 – 9 pm at the Tacoma Art Museum. Commissioners were encouraged to be there and act as a host to attendees.

The Arts Symposium on November 15 & 16 will be at the University of Puget Sound. Commissioners were asked to volunteer to help introduce the session presenters.

The Art Slam is on November 21, 7 – 9 pm at the Rialto Theater. Commissioners were asked to help with registration, reception set up, and meet and greet.

TV Tacoma is taping shows in relation to Art at Work month including CityLine, Business Matters, and CityScape.

City Arts is dedicating their November issue to Art at Work month. The cover will include a partial image of the Nine Lives broadside. Articles include coverage of the studio tours, arts symposium, and the Arts Commission.

Click! Network has offered the Tacoma Arts Commission their own On Demand button year-round through which the Commission can air videos, images, and sound pieces of funded artists and Commission related events and programs.

The Weekly Volcano is doing a cover article on Art at Work month for their October 23rd issue as well as offering 5 ¼-page ads throughout November.

Press releases for the AMOCAT awards and the Art Slam have gone out and a general press release for Art at Work month will go out.

9. Report Back

A. Pacific Plaza Art Committee Meeting 6:45 pm

The call to artists for Pacific Plaza was passed around. It is a public/private partnership. Stakeholders are the developers, owners, community members, Jim Dugan with Parametrix, and Mike Sweney for the Arts Commission. The call is open to artists in Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia.

10. Good of the Order 6:47 pm

Commissioner Karroll visited the Columbia Gorge and saw a replica of the original She Who Watches petroglyph. Karroll brought back paperwork about the piece. The original petroglyph is the influence behind Doug Granum's She Who Watches, which is part of the Municipal Art Collection.

Commissioner Cardwell spoke with Pat Nagle of the Hub about their new gallery and event space. They plan on having rotating art shows in the space.

Commissioner Reynolds attended *A Salute to Vaudeville* at the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts. The event helped promote the arts organizations which call the BCPA "home".

Chair Hill, Amy McBride, and Martha Anderson will meet with the City Manager on October 28 to see how funding is shaping up for 2009-2010.

Commissioners were asked to make nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair positions on or before the next Arts Commission meeting on November 10.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm