



City of Lacey, Washington Historical Commission Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

Call to Order

Roll Call

1. Land Acknowledgement:

The Lacey Historical Commission meets on the ancestral land of the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe and Squaxin Island Tribe. We acknowledge and remember those Tribal People not recognized today who were absorbed or relocated into other tribes for survival. We recognize the ancestors and their descendants who are still here. We recognize and respect the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek as the traditional stewards of this land since time immemorial and their role today in taking care of these lands in perpetuity. We recognize and have the responsibility to call attention to the histories of dispossession, forced removal, and abridged treaty rights that allowed our nation, state, and city to develop as they have today. We recommend that community members read the [Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854](#).

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

- A. Approval of Agenda*
- B. Approval of January 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes*

3. Public Comment:

Please refer to the bottom of the agenda for instructions on how to provide public comment.

4. Business Items:

- A. **Joint Worksession Debrief**
Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director
- B. **City Email Addresses**
Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator
- C. **Historian of the Year**
Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

D. Updated Historical Commission Meeting Schedule

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

5. Reports:

- A. Lacey Historical Society
- B. Policy StEPs Committee
- C. Commissioners
- D. Chair
- E. Museum Curator
- F. Director

6. Adjourn

*Item Action Requested

Next Meeting:

Historical Commission Meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers and online

Upcoming Events:

Lacey Cultural Celebration, Saturday, March 9, 2024, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saint Martin's University

HistoryTalks! 150 Years of Jewish History in the South Sound, Thursday, March 14, 2024, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers and online

Attend Remote or In Person

There are several ways to attend the Historical Commission Meeting:

- In Person: Council Chambers at Lacey City Hall
420 College Street SE, Lacey, WA 98503
- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83611640238>
- Website: <https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UntAPjOp7xQ>
- Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 836 1164 0238)

Verbal Public Comment

The opportunity for verbal public comment is available in-person or by Zoom:

- In Person: Use the sign-up sheet in Council Chambers
- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83611640238>
During the public comment portion of the meeting, use the Raise Hand



function to be given the opportunity to speak. Public comments are limited to three minutes.

Written Public Comment

Please submit written public comment to PRPublicComment@ci.lacey.wa.us by noon the day of the meeting. Written public comments received by the deadline will be sent to Commissioners prior to the meeting, but will not be read at the meeting. Emailed correspondence that is received throughout the month will be summarized in the next available Historical Commission agenda packet under Public Comment.





City of Lacey, Washington
Historical Commission Minutes
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 - Council Chambers and Online

Call to Order

Chair Keogh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Chair Jim Keogh, Vice Chair Kevin Wyckoff (arrived at 6:08 p.m.), Kimberly Goetz (arrived at 6:01 p.m.), Jon Halvorson, Ed Holm, Tula'i Patane, and Alan Tyler.

Commissioners Absent (Unexcused): Anthony Santiago.

Staff Present: Kelly Adams, Special Projects Administrator; Jennifer Burbidge, Parks, Culture & Recreation Director; Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk; and Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner.

Public Present: John Dziedzic, Tumwater resident; and Cheryl Malkmus, Lacey resident.

1. Land Acknowledgement:

Chair Keogh read the land acknowledgment.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

A. Approval of Amended Agenda

Chair Keogh requested to add item 4G Land Acknowledgment Reading Rotation.

**Commissioner Halvorson made a motion to accept the agenda as amended.
Commissioner Holm seconded. Motion carried.**

B. Approval of November 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Tyler made a motion to approve the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Halvorson seconded. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment:

John Dziedzic, former secretary and trustee of the Lacey Historical Society, presented a request from the Society to recognize the significance of the Popkes Subdivision and Selma Street by 1) designating Selma Street as a memorial roadway, 2) installing a historic street sign for Selma Avenue, and 3) adding a tree to the historical tree register. The request was added to the public record. Cheryl Malkmus shared the history of the street, related people and nearby tree. Ms. Burbidge acknowledged the request and noted that staff will look into it.

There were no written public comments.

4. Business Items:

A. 2024 Historical Commission Meeting Schedule

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director

Director Burbidge shared the 2024 meeting schedule. She confirmed that the March worksession noted in the November minutes is now scheduled for January 23, 2024 as indicated on the meeting schedule.

B. Joint City Council-Historical Commission Worksession Update

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director

Director Burbidge shared information about the new format for the joint worksession with Council. There will be a short presentation on the Historical Commission's 2023 accomplishments and 2024 work plan.

C. Historical Street Sign Policy

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Director Burbidge summarized the Historical Street Sign Policy and its purpose to recognize original street names.

D. Recent Acquisitions

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Director Burbidge presented the recent acquisitions.



Commissioner Halvorson made a motion to accept the acquisitions as presented. Commissioner Tyler seconded. Motion carried.

E. City Email Addresses and Advisory Board Stipend Program

Kelly Adams, Special Projects Administrator and Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

Adams and Fontaine presented the new advisory board member updates including: City-issued email addresses, the CivicClerk board portal, the stipend program, a demographic survey, and the support available to commissioners.

F. 2023 Work Plan and Accomplishments

Jennifer Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director

Director Burbidge presented the final draft of the 2023 accomplishments and work plan update.

Commissioner Goetz made a motion to approve the 2023 accomplishments and work plan update. Commissioner Holm seconded. Motion carried.

G. Land Acknowledgement Reading Rotation

Jim Keogh, Chair

Commissioners will take turns reading the land acknowledgment in alphabetical order by surname.

5. Reports:

A. Lacey Historical Society

John Dziedzic reported:

- The next newsletter will be coming out in February.
- The Society is developing a website page and improving their social media presence.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

No report.

C. Commissioners

Commissioner Tyler thanked the meeting guests for their presentation on Selma Street. Commissioner Halvorson thanked the staff and Chair Keogh for their work.



D. Chair

Chair Keogh shared that the Lacey Leader collection cataloging is almost finished, and he will begin scanning negatives next. The interpretive kiosk at the Regional Athletic Complex is continuing and the design work is in progress.

E. Museum Curator

Director Burbidge shared:

- January 10th *HistoryTalk! Inside the Lacey City Council of the 1970s* with Karen Fraser had 52 participants.
- Museum staff connected with community members for *Stories of the South Sound* to go over the project and story collecting process.
- February's Creativity Corner at the museum celebrates Lunar New Year with a dragon craft.

F. Director

Director Burbidge shared:

- Former Lacey Mayor William A. Bush passed away on December 21. Commissioner Halvorson expressed the Bush family's thanks to museum staff for photos of Mayor Bush during his time at the City.
- The Ken Balsley memorial bench was installed at Civic Plaza. The dedication ceremony scheduled for January 18, 2024 was cancelled due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled.
- The 2024 budget was approved at the December 21 City Council meeting.
- City Council meetings will now be on Tuesday and Council committees will not continue.
- There are three new staff members in our department: Sports & Fitness Coordinator, Aquatics & Volunteer Supervisor, and Executive Assistant (EA). Carter Gibson, the new EA, will be starting Monday, January 22 and will be working closely with the Commission.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.



FROM: Tom Traulsen
SUBJECT: Clearbrook Monument Restoration

Good morning! Thanks again for looking into this.

The intent of this email is on behalf of our Clearbrook Home Owners Association for the following reasons:

1. To see about possibly restoring the monument and also opening it up (by clearing the two trees) so the public will notice it and have better access to it. It will also help preserve the monument from further decay.
2. We are willing to help clear the trees ourselves but would like to ask if there is an office in the City of Lacey or Historical Restoration Department where they would be able to help restore the monument since it has deteriorated through time?
3. Once the trees are removed, it would be nice to add more to it, to make it noticeable and more inviting to the public. Ideas like adding stepping stones and indigenous plants around the monument. Was wondering if Lacey Parks would be interested in helping out in anyway?

With so much of Lacey's historical sites around us, the new Lacey Depot Park and the Lacey Museum it would be nice to restore the site, make it more inviting and in-turn more people aware of the historical site.

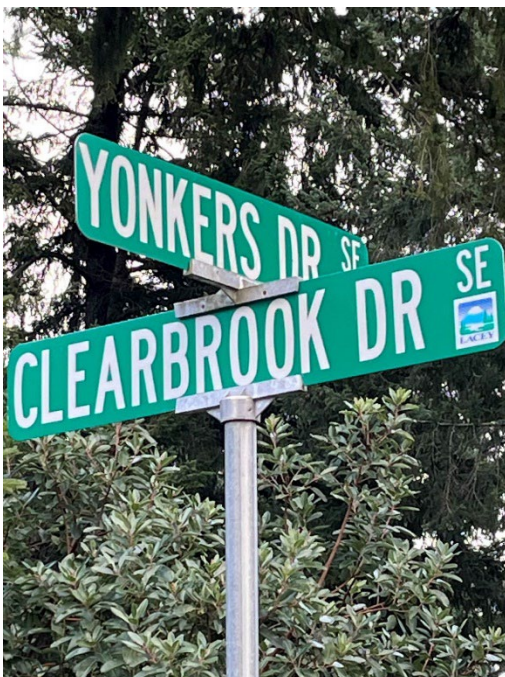
Please read the plaque's inscription on the attached picture below. (It was erected in 1983 by Harley Company in conjunction with The Lacey Historical Commission).

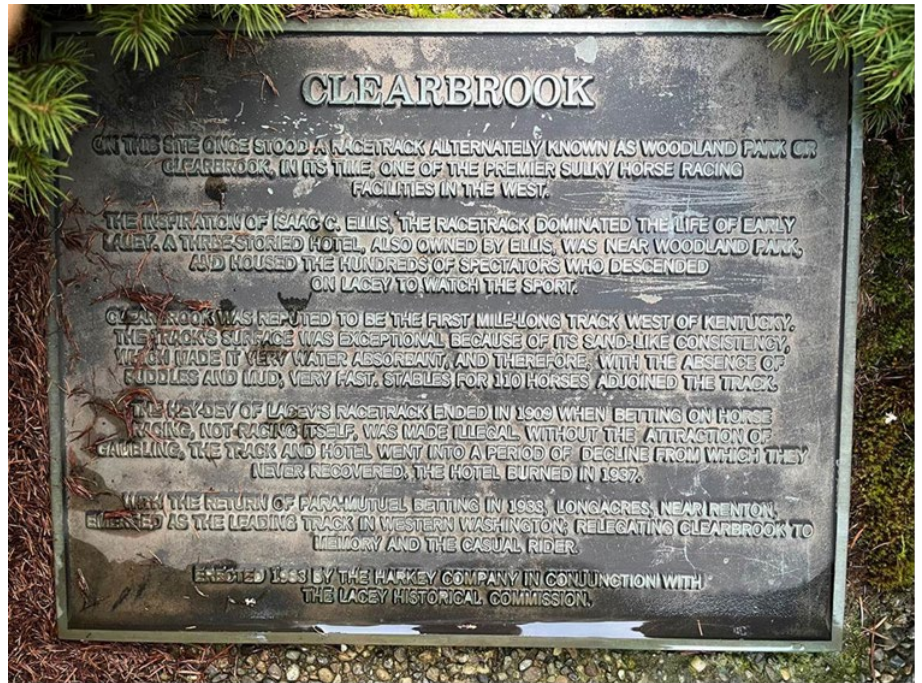
It would also be nice if the monument was restored/preserved and the site fixed up, to one day add it to Lacey Life newsletter.

I feel that the monument is a hidden secret that not many people are aware of and yet pass by it so often being on the same road with the Lacey Post Office.

Thanks again for your time in looking into this and directing or forwarding this email to the department(s) that maybe interested and able to help/advise.

Below pictures are the crossroads of the site, the picture of the monument obstructed by the two trees, the inscription on the plaque and a close up of the monument deteriorating.





Thank you,
Thomas Traulsen

REPLY FROM: Director Jen Burbidge
February 9, 2024

Hi Tom,

Thank you for contacting us about the restoration of the Clearbrook Monument. We agree it is an important piece of Lacey's history, should be preserved, and could be better accessed by the public. Since Clearbrook Park and the monument are owned by Clearbrook Homeowners Association, the City wouldn't maintain the park or restore the park, monument, or the plaque.

That said, we do want to share your email with the City's Historical Commission. We can ask the commission if they have recommendations for grant or other types of funding that might be available to you for this project. If there is a grant opportunity available, you could ask the commission to provide a letter of recommendation. In addition, museum staff can provide photos, research or other information that could be helpful to support you.

One idea we have is to change the monument to a historic marker. I've cc'd Erin Quinn Valcho, the City's Museum Curator. She has a wealth of experience and advice regarding historic markers, and can share the City's experience and cost with purchasing, creating and installing them. As for the publicity component, you could work with Erin to see what options might be available. She can share what's already being done. Another idea is for you to reach out to the Lacey Historical Society, a local non-profit organization, and see if there's support and/or publicity they might be able to provide. If you'd like to connect with the Lacey Historical Society, you can contact Jon Halvorson at halvo@comcast.net.

It sounds like this project would be a great fit for the City's Neighborhood grant program; however, Jenny Bauersfeld noticed that Clearbrook HOA already submitted an application for tree work this year and applications are limited to one per HOA. She said if you'd like to discuss changing the grant project with your HOA board that could be an option, or there is always next year's grant cycle ([here is the link for the City's grant information](#)).

Please let us know if you have further ideas or questions. Thanks again for reaching out,

Jen Burbidge
Director

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LACEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY GO ON RECORD AS ENDORSING THE PROPOSAL INITIATED BY CHERYL MALKMUS, TO RECOGNIZE THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE “POPKES SUBDIVISION” AT THE SITE OF THE NEWLY DEDICATED MULTICARE NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT; AND TO FURTHER ENCOURAGE THE CITY OF LACEY TO RESPOND FAVORABLY AND APPROVE MS. MALKMUS’ PROPOSAL TO:

(A) DESIGNATE **SELMA STREET** AS A “MEMORIAL ROADWAY;”

(B) INSTALL AN **HISTORIC STREET SIGN** AT THE CORNER OF PACIFIC AVENUE AND SELMA STREET IDENTIFYING THE STREET’S ORIGINAL, 1950, DESIGNATION OF “**SELMA AVENUE;**” AND

(C) DESIGNATE AS AN “**HISTORICAL TREE**” FOR THE PURPOSES OF LACEY MUNICIPAL CODE 14.32.072, THE 70+ YEAR OLD **TULIP POPLAR TREE** (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*) THAT STILL STANDS AT THE FORMER SITE OF 904 SELMA STREET.

RECOGNIZING SELMA STREET

December 11, 2023

Selma Street is named for Selma Popkes, the wife of W. B. “Buster” Popkes, an early real estate developer in the Lacey area.

Selma and “Buster” Popkes married in 1931, in Snohomish, Washington. Their son, Lester, was born in December 1934.

The family moved to what was to become the city of Lacey in the early 1940’s, before Sleater-Kinney Road was paved.

In 1947, the Popkes’ purchased land that they later developed near the convergence of the Old Pacific Highway (now Pacific Avenue), the Olympia-Nisqually Road (now Lacey Boulevard), and the former tracks of the Northern Pacific Railway. The “Popkes Subdivision” (see attached plat map) contained a sixty-foot-wide roadway, designated **Selma Avenue**, extending north from the Old Pacific Highway. Ten residential lots, of approximately 2/3 of an acre each, faced **Selma Avenue**, with five on each side to the west and east. Three commercial lots separated the residential units from the Old Pacific Highway.

Starting in 1954 and 1960 the Popkes’ also created two other subdivisions in the “Country Homes Addition” between Chambers Lake and what is now the Panorama retirement and rehabilitation complex on South Sleater-Kinney Road. Buster and Selma lived in a duplex they built in the subdivision, and they wintered in Mesa, Arizona.

Mr. Popkes succumbed to a heart attack while fishing on Chambers Lake in June 1979. Selma passed at the age of 88 on October 1, 1994. They are buried together in the Tumwater Masonic Cemetery.

We are asking for support in preserving Selma Popkes’ memory in one or more of the following:

- Endorsement of an application to designate **Selma Street** as a “memorial roadway,” regardless of whether part or all of the roadway becomes vacated. See Lacey Policy and Procedures Chapter 5.15.
- Agreement to install a framed certificate containing a photograph of Selma Popkes and a brief history of **Selma Street** in a public area of the new facility.
- Placement of a plaque referring to the street’s history on a bench facing **Selma Street**.

HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR
Approved by the Lacey Historical Commission on October 21, 2015

Accepting nominations for and selecting a "Historian of the Year" is a process by which the Mayor and Lacey City Council can recognize an individual or a group who has made a significant contribution to preserving the history and heritage of the citizens of Lacey.

This policy shall apply to the nomination and selection process by the Lacey Historical Commission to name a "Historian of the Year".

1. Nomination
 - a. The call for nominations should be made at least two months prior to the first day of Lacey History month.
 - b. Nomination forms may be submitted by Lacey Historical Commissioners, the Museum Curator, the Lacey Historical Society, city council members, and the public at large.
 - c. Nomination forms shall be submitted to the Lacey Historical Commission, due one month prior to the first day of Lacey History Month. This allows sufficient time for copies of nomination forms to be included in the monthly agenda packet.
 - d. All nomination forms submitted shall be reviewed by the Lacey Historical Commission at the regular monthly Commission meeting.
2. Selection
 - a. The criteria for selection shall be based on the individual's or group's significant contribution to the promotion or preservation of Lacey's history.
 - a. Criteria may include but is not limited to: hours/time, duration, significance, donation of tangible property or monetary contribution.
 - b. The selection shall be made by the majority vote of commissioners, provided a quorum is present.
 - c. No individual shall be selected more than once.
 - d. The preference is to select only one Historian of the Year each year. (Two or more individuals or a group (family, corporation, etc.) may be nominated on the same nomination form for a joint contribution, project or program).
3. Presentation
 - a. The honoree will be recognized as the Lacey Historian of the Year at a City Council meeting.

This procedure shall apply to the nomination and selection process by the Lacey Historical Commission to name a "Historian of the Year".

1. Nomination Process
 - a. A call for Nominations shall be announced by press release, on the City website, and by making nomination forms available at the museum and city hall.
 - b. The nomination form is a standard form, which may be altered upon the majority vote of the Commission, at least 90 days prior to the call for nominations.
 - c. Nomination forms shall be available on the city website, at events and in community buildings.
2. Selection Process
 - a. The honoree selected shall not be named publicly before the presentation.
3. Presentation
 - a. A presentation of the accomplishments and/or activities of the Historian of the Year that led to selection shall be made at a City council meeting.
 - b. The city shall issue a press release the day following the city council meeting presentation announcing the Historian of the Year, and post the announcement on the city web site.

2024 Meeting Schedule Lacey Historical Commission

Meeting Type	Date	Location
<i>All meeting days are Wednesday unless otherwise specified.</i>		
JANUARY		
Regular Meeting	January 17, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
City Council Joint Worksession	Tuesday, January 23, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
FEBRUARY		
Regular Meeting	February 21, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
MARCH		
Regular Meeting	March 20, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
APRIL		
Regular Meeting	April 17, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
MAY		
Regular Meeting	May 15, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
City Council Meeting (History Month)	Tuesday, May 7, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
JUNE		
Regular Meeting	June 19, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
JULY		
Regular Meeting	July 17, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
AUGUST		
Regular Meeting	August 21, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
SEPTEMBER		
Regular Meeting	September 18, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
OCTOBER		
Regular Meeting	October 16, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
NOVEMBER		
Regular Meeting	November 20, 2024	Council Chambers or Online
DECEMBER		
Regular Meeting	December 18, 2024	Council Chambers or Online

For meeting details, agendas and agenda packets, visit the [public meetings portal](#).

For information on current museum events, visit LaceyMuseum.org.