



Historical Commission Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgement

We, the City of Lacey, are 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.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda*

B. Approval of the January 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes*

5. Public Comment

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

6. Business Items

A. Strategic Plan Update

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

B. Historical Register Properties Overview

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

C. Recent Acquisitions*

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

7. Reports

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

8. Adjourn

***Vote Requested**

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

HistoryTalks! A History of Whiskey and Washington State: April 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers and Online

Historical Commission Meeting: April 16, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers and Online

HistoryTalks! The Origins of Asian America: May 8, 2025, 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/webinar/register/WN_a4GScJixT6yYJ2fopfm-NA

Website: <https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dcx9Azrgprc>

Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 847 1770 6654)

Verbal Public Comment

Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments are welcome on matters connected to City business or specific agenda items.

Prior to starting your comments, please provide your:

- a. Name
- b. City of residence or connection to the City
- c. Topic or subject matter of your comments

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

In-Person: Use the sign-up sheet in Council Chambers

Zoom: Preregister using the following Zoom link no later than two hours prior to the meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a4GScJixT6yYJ2fopfm-NA

Instructions and access details will be provided once registration is complete.

Written Public Comment

Please submit written public comments to PRPublicComment@cityoflacey.org up to two hours prior to the start time of the meeting. Public comments received by the deadline will be sent to Commissioners prior to the meeting, but will not be read at the meeting.



Historical Commission Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Chair Keogh called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Chair Jim Keogh, Vice Chair Kevin Wyckoff, Jon Halvorson, Alan Tyler, Ed Holm, Tula'i Patane

Commissioners Absent (excused): Kim Faith (Youth Commissioner), Kimberly Goetz

3. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Keogh read the land acknowledgement.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Holm made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Commissioner Halvorson seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of November 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Wyckoff made a motion to approve the minutes as printed.
Commissioner Halvorson seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Business Items

A. 2024 Accomplishments

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Curator Quinn Valcho presented the approved 2024 Accomplishments with final

numbers added.

B. January 28, 2025 Council Worksession

Jen Burbidge, Director

Curator Quinn Valcho reminded Commissioners of the upcoming opportunity for the Historical Commission to present to the Lacey City Council at the City Council Worksession on January 28, 2025, and provided an overview of what will be discussed during the meeting.

C. Recent Acquisitions

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho presented the new acquisitions.

Commissioner Halvorson motioned to approve the new acquisitions.

Commissioner Holm seconded. Motion carried.

7. Reports

A. Lacey Historical Society

The Lacey Historical Society:

- Shared appreciation for the Lacey Museum's HistoryTalks! events;
- Published a newsletter in December 2024;
- Continues to work on their 2025 priorities;
- Acknowledged that 2026 is the City of Lacey's 60th anniversary, and indicated the Society would entertain participating in any celebration efforts;
- Shared excitement to see the new Lacey Museum space once its open; and
- Continues its Memorial Monday Facebook campaign.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

The committee is on hiatus.

C. Commissioners

Commissioner Halvorson shared his eagerness for the new Lacey Museum and Cultural Center project to progress. Commissioner Tyler shared appreciation for the Lacey Museum's HistoryTalks! events.

D. Chair

Chair Keogh reported that the Regional Athletic Complex kiosk dedication ceremony date should be announced soon.

E. Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho reported:

- HistoryTalk! on O. C. Lacey will be February 13.
- January's History Talk on the Evergreen Ballroom hosted 101 attendees.
- The Lacey Museum move is progressing. The opening exhibit will be called *Bits & Bobs*, showcasing an assortment of items from the collections that would not otherwise warrant an exhibit of their own.
- Staff are coordinating with the Lacey Women's Club to update the deed language to remove the historical uses requirement with the understanding that the requirements laid out in the deed have already been met.
- The historic preservation project is still underway.

F. Director

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho gave the Director's report.

- The City Manager would like Director Burbidge to discuss the new Lacey Museum and Cultural Center project with the Lacey City Council once the Lacey Community Foundation completes its five-year fundraising plan draft.
- The City Clerk will be reaching out to each Commissioner regarding the Advisory Board Stipend Program. Forms are due back by February 28, 2025.

8. Adjourn

Chair Keogh adjourned the meeting at 6:52 P.M.

2023-2032 Lacey Museum Strategic Plan

The Historical Commission reviews and updates the strategic plan at regular intervals. This plan was approved by the Historical Commission on January 19, 2022. For the purposes of this plan, near-term means 1-3 years, mid-term means 3-5 years, and long-term means 5-10 years.

Goal #1: Plan and build the new Lacey Museum & Cultural Center.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop an operations and interpretive plan for the new facility that includes a sustainable funding plan.*

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Secure funding for Phase 4 of building construction.
- ☐ Construct the new building.*

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Provide equipment and supplies for all museum functions.
- ☐ Open the new museum to the public.

Goal #2:

Create and deliver high-quality experiences at the Lacey Museum & Cultural Center.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Continue to provide mission-driven programs, outreach and events.
- ☐ Develop a two-year exhibit schedule for the current museum.
- ☐ Provide new or upgraded exhibits in the current museum facility 1-2 times/year.

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop an interpretive plan for the core exhibit in the new museum facility.*
- ☐ Construct the core exhibit at the new museum facility.
- ☐ Develop a five-year programming and exhibit schedule for the new facility.*
- ☐ Develop policies for community exhibits, events and facility rentals.
- ☐ Develop education, visitor services, and exhibits staffing needs as identified in the operations and interpretive plans.
- ☐ Develop a field-trip program for North Thurston Public Schools.
- ☐ Develop an education trunk program for teachers.

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop and implement an annual free community event.
- ☐ Revisit education and exhibits staffing needs as identified in the operations and interpretive plans.
- ☐ Create a quiet research room with public access to frequently used materials.
- ☐ Develop a history festival event targeted to reach all fourth grade students.
- ☐ Begin planning for the museum's 50th anniversary in 2030-31.

Goal #3: Preserve, care for and manage collections professionally.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Continue to process and catalogue new acquisitions as well as the backlog.
- ☐ Continue to make the collections accessible through the online portal.
- ☐ Review and update museum policy manual.*

- ☐ Develop and implement procedures for collections stewardship based on the policies adopted in 2018.
- ☐ Continue to retain professionally-trained collections preservation staff and provide them with ongoing professional development.
- ☐ Move collections stored at the Bowker Street storage unit to the new unit at Rainier View.

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Complete the comprehensive collections inventory.
- ☐ Prepare the collections to move to the new facility.
- ☐ Develop collections staffing needs as identified in the operations plan.
- ☐ Develop a plan for collections preservation including a prioritized needs list.*
- ☐ Update the disaster recovery plan.

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Move the collections to the new facility.
- ☐ Revisit collections staffing needs as identified in the operations plan.
- ☐ Develop a collecting plan.
- ☐ Secure funding to rehouse collections to meet a professional standard of care.

Goal #4:

Identify and secure stable, long-term funding and revenue sources for the museum.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Continue to request funds for priority projects through grant programs as they are identified.
- ☐ Partner with the Lacey Community Foundation to secure, manage and invest privately-raised funds for the museum capital campaign.

- ☐ Develop a charter membership and community partner giving program.
- ☐ Request additional operating funds through the lodging tax process.
- ☐ Continue to develop museum store revenue opportunities.
- ☐ Complete the Heritage Capital Grant for the 2021-2023 biennium.
- ☐ Implement applicable recommendations from the sponsorship insights plan.
- ☐ Develop an annual giving campaign.

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop a facility rental plan.
- ☐ Develop an annual fundraising event.
- ☐ Plan and implement a small gift shop space for the new museum.

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Partner with the Lacey Community Foundation to develop an endowment fund.

Goal #5: Increase museum awareness, visibility and value throughout the city and region.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Continue to use Constant Contact or similar email service for sharing museum news.
- ☐ Continue to maintain the museum website with regular monitoring and updates.
- ☐ Develop the Virtually Lacey website with monthly additions.
- ☐ Develop the historic register and inventory properties map for the website.
- ☐ Contribute to city media and publications with heritage stories and images.
- ☐ Continue to regionally promote museum programs and events.

- ☐ Develop a museum communication plan in partnership with the Public Affairs Department and Lacey Community Foundation.
- ☐ Pursue and implement museum standalone social media accounts.

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop a marketing strategy for the new museum.
- ☐ Develop wayfinding signage for the museum site.

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Develop a system of program, facility and exhibit evaluation.

Goal #6: Build and foster community partnerships to increase capacity and sustainability.

Near-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Continue to develop and strengthen community partnerships.
- ☐ Develop an internship and/or work study program with Saint Martin's University, Evergreen State College, South Puget Sound Community College or other appropriate traditional or online educational institutions.

Mid-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Create an educators committee to assist in developing the interpretive plan.
- ☐ Develop a History Day partnership with North Thurston Public Schools.

Long-Term Objectives:

- ☐ Evaluate community partnership opportunities and challenges.

*Items required by the 2019-21 Heritage Capital Grant contract.

Lacey Register of Historic Properties

2/7/2025

PROPERTY	ADDRESS	EST.	REGISTERED	HISTORIC SITE #	WHR*	NR**
Bowker House	915 Bowker St SE	1893	1/24/1991			
Gallager House	823 Lacey St SE	1895	1992	3		
Pioneer Cemetery	NE corner Ruddell & Mullen Rd	1852	04/1992	1	WHR	NR
Groom/Turner House	901 Ulery St SE	1929	1996	2		
Jacob Smith House	4500 Intelco Loop SE	1859	1998		WHR	
Huntamer House	834 Lacey St SE	1940	1999	5		
Lacey Women's Club	827 Lacey St SE	1936	2000	7		
Lacey Museum	829 Lacey St SE	1926	01/2001	8		
Taylor House	2508 Gwinn Lane SE	1936	2005	9		
Homann House	1012 Homann Dr SE	1940	2011			
Jensen House	809 Ulery St SE	1928	2011			
*WHR= Washington Heritage Register						
**NR= National Register						



Recent Acquisitions Review February 2025 Lacey Historical Commission

According to LMC 2.4.050, the Historical Commission has the supervision, along with the Museum Curator, of accepting gifts of property for historical purposes. To that end, the listed items have been accepted by the Museum Curator for inclusion into the Lacey Museum collection subject to the review of the Commission.

Commissioners should consider the museum mission, the museum acquisitions policy, and the usefulness of the item(s) for display and research.

ACCEPTED FOR THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

2025-001 Gift of Judy and Doug Karman

- Lamp and clock, both were purchased by Frederick J. Morisse from the Union Mills hotel auction after it closed in 1931. He purchased property on south Long Lake and built a summer cabin there. The property was inherited by his daughter, Marie, and her husband, Ernest Estes, who tore down the cabin and built a house there. Judy (Estes) Karman inherited the property and these items.

Relation to Mission: The story of Union Mills on Long Lake is an important part of Lacey's history. It was one of the earliest all electric mills in the country.

Relation to Collection: We have only one artifact from Union Mills and nothing from the hotel, so this is a significant addition to the collection.



The Lacey Museum enriches our community and engages visitors by sharing vibrant stories of the past through the preservation and celebration of Lacey and the South Sound region's cultural heritage.



*Shaping our
community
together*

420 College Street SE
Lacey, WA 98503

CityofLacey.org

PRESS RELEASE

LACEY MUSEUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2025

**LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION ACCEPTING
2025 HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS**

LACEY, WA: In preparation for Lacey History Month in May, the Lacey Historical Commission is accepting nominations for the 2024 Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year Award, now through Monday, March 31, 2024.

Nomination forms are available online at LaceyParks.org/Historian and at City Hall at the Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department, 420 College Street SE. The Lacey Historical Commission will consider award candidates at their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 16, at 6 p.m. The public may attend the meeting in person at Lacey City Hall or online via Zoom.

Established in 2002, the award recognizes local community members and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation or promotion of Lacey's history. The 2025 winner will join a distinguished group of recipients, including Shirley Dziedzic (2002), Roger Easton and the Lacey Women's Club (2003), Dr. William Ehlers (2004), Andrea Taylor (2005), Lyman Fleetwood (2007), Lanny Weaver (2010), Matthew Connor (2011), Diane Dean (2012), Susan Goff (2013), Richard Jones (2014), Ken Balsley (2015), Lori Flemm (2016), Nora Brown and Amy Turner (2017), Marisa Merkel (2020), Seth Huff (2022), Dr. Thelma Jackson (2023), and Paul Webb (2024). In 2023, the award was renamed in recognition of the late Ken Balsley's passion for Lacey history.

For more information on the Historian of the Year program, Lacey History Month, or the Lacey Historical Commission, please call the Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department at (360) 491-0857.

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