



Commission on Equity Approved Minutes

Monday, June 2, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Thelma Jackson, Vice Chair; Commissioners Clifton Brown, Annie Clay, Makieda Hart, and Jon Hegwood (remote); and Kieran Sills-Powell, Lacey Youth Council Representative (remote and present until 7:02 p.m.)

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Kim Sauer, Chair and Raul Garza, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager; Ryan Andrews, Community Planning Manager; Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager; Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner; and Brandy Legomina, Deputy City Clerk

3. Land Acknowledgement

Commissioner Brown presented the abbreviated Land Acknowledgment.

4. Approval of Agenda, Previous Meeting Minutes, and Consent Items

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of April 28, 2025, meeting minutes

Commissioner Hart moved to approve the agenda, previous meeting minutes, and consent agenda. Commissioner Hegwood seconded. The motion carried.

5. Public Comment

Verbal Public Comment

No verbal public comment was received in person or remotely.

Written Public Comment

Thirty-five (35) written public comments were received.

6. Inspirational Item

A. Annie Clay, Commissioner

Commissioner Clay presented a reading attributed to Archbishop Oscar Romero, called Prophets of a Future Not Our Own. Romero was an Archbishop in El Salvador and worked for Human Rights before he was assassinated in 1980. Clay intended this reading to remind individuals to remain strong during hard times.

7. Business Items

A. Comprehensive Plan Update: Goals and Policy Review

Ryan Andrews, Community Planning Manager

Andrews presented a Comprehensive Plan Update. This update included an overview of what a comprehensive plan is, what the goals of the comprehensive plan are, and details on community engagement efforts to highlight community priorities. The Commission reviewed the draft Comprehensive Plan elements, which include new and updated goals and strategies within the Climate Element, Housing Element, Land Use Element, Economic Development Element, Transportation Element, and Utilities Element. Discussion ensued.

B. Lacey Metropolitan Park District Presentation

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

Wilson presented information on the Lacey Metropolitan Park District (MPD). Proposition 1 is a ballot measure scheduled for the August 5, 2025, election, for registered voters within the Lacey city limits, to create an MPD. Wilson provided an overview of park acreage and development, detailed how Lacey parks are funded, provided an overview of Lacey Parks programs and events, and detailed maintenance hours. Wilson presented two main priorities of the MPD: New Park Features and Expanded Maintenance, and detailed several potential projects.

C. Thurston Forward: A DEI Summit for Progress Review

Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager

Hand presented a report from the Thurston Forward: DEI Summit for Progress. The Summit was a free event designed to bring community members together to

collaborate, share strategies, and engage with others committed to advocating for marginalized groups. The presentation included highlights regarding attendance, participation, summit goals, speakers, and plans for future events.

8. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Clay requested clarification on restrictions on using public facilities for ballot measures. Kelley-Fong provided additional context on relevant state law provisions.

Vice Chair Jackson highlighted the joint meeting with Lacey City Council and North Thurston Public School Board of Directors.

Vice Chair Jackson and Commissioners Hegwood and Hart shared perspectives from the Veterans, Active Duty, and Families Community Forum.

9. Director Report

A. Pride Night at Lacey Night Market

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Kelley-Fong invited the Commission to volunteer at the Commission on Equity booth during Pride Night at the Lacey Night Market, scheduled for June 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., at the Lacey Depot at 5700 Lacey Blvd SE. Schedules were shared with Commissioners who have expressed interest in volunteering for individual shifts.

B. Retreat Update

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Kelley-Fong noted challenges with scheduling a summer retreat and requested Commission direction on holding it on a Friday or postponing to September. The Commission expressed consensus to plan the retreat for September.

10. Adjourn

Vice Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Approved June 23, 2025