



Historical Commission Minutes

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Chair Jim Keogh, Vice Chair Kevin Wyckoff, Jon Halvorson, Ed Holm, Alan Tyler, Kimberly Goetz

Commissioners Absent: Tula'i Patane

Staff Present: Museum Curator Erin Quinn Valcho, Executive Assistant Carter Gibson

3. Land Acknowledgment

Commissioner Halvorson read the land acknowledgment.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Halvorson motioned to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Wyckoff seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of June 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Halvorson motioned to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Wyckoff seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Business Items

A. Recent Acquisitions

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho presented the new acquisitions. Vice Chair Wyckoff motioned to approve the new acquisition. Commissioner Halvorson seconded. Motion carried.

B. Lacey Museum Move and Hours of Operation

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho presented the intended hours of operation. Staff continue to prepare for the opening of the new museum space.

C. 2026 Budget Requests

Jen Burbidge, Director

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho reviewed the Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department's 2026 budget requests.

D. Historical Commission Term Expirations

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Commissioner Tyler's term expires September 13, 2025 and is not eligible for an additional term. Commissioner Halvorson is resigning from the Historical Commission effective August 21, 2025. The City of Lacey is accepting applications for both vacancies.

Commissioner Holm will be considered for an additional term during the September 2, 2025 City Council meeting.

7. Reports

A. Lacey Historical Society

The Society's 2025 priorities continue to be finding ways to honor Dr. Ehlers and revitalizing the memorial garden. The Society's annual membership meeting will be held on September 9, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at the Lacey Community Center.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

The committee is on hiatus.

C. Commissioners

Commissioner Halvorson shared his appreciation for serving on the Commission.

D. Chair

Chair Keogh shared his appreciation for the recent scavenger hunt program orchestrated by museum staff.

E. Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho reported the following.

- On July 19, 2025, the Museum, with support from local businesses Just Cuz and Fog & Fern, held a scavenger hunt event called Lacey Museum's Great Lacey Adventure. Thirty people participated. Staff plan to hold another scavenger hunt in 2026.
- On August 16, 2025, the Museum hosted Art Rocks!, a community rock painting event. Thirty people participated, despite the rain.
- Museum staff submitted its application to be considered for lodging tax funding.
- Thurston County will not be issuing its Heritage Grant in 2025.

F. Director

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho provided the Director's report.

- The Department celebrated *July is Parks and Recreation Month* with a social media campaign and presentation at the July 15 City Council Meeting.
- Final results are available from the Thurston County Auditor's Office relevant to Proposition 1, Lacey's proposed Metropolitan Parks District. Proposition 1 did not receive the necessary Lacey voter support in the August 5, 2025 primary election. Staff completed extensive community outreach, including 27 presentations and attendance at five major community events.
- The 2025 Quarter 2 program updates for the Lacey Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department were included in the agenda packet for Commissioner awareness.

8. Adjourn

Chair Keogh adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.