



Historical Commission Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgment

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 January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes*

5. Public Comment

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

6. Business Items

- A. **Recent Acquisitions***
Jen Burbidge, Director
- B. **Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year***
Jen Burbidge, Director
- C. **America's 250th Anniversary**
Jen Burbidge, Director
- D. **Lacey Historic Markers Map Layer**
Jen Burbidge, Director

7. Reports

- A. Lacey Historical Society

- B. Policy StEPs Committee
- C. Commissioners
- D. Chair
- E. Museum Curator
- F. Director

8. Adjourn

*Vote Requested

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_fqnNJTy3TpatP1Vf4EJwjQ
Website:	https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/
YouTube:	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yjr4ZYo8NY
Phone:	(888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 870 9542 2451)

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_fqnNJTy3TpatP1Vf4EJwjQ

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 21, 2026

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Chair Kevin Wyckoff, Vice Chair Jim Keogh , Ed Holm, Gary Montgomery, David Shipley

Commissioners Absent (excused): Kimberly Goetz

Commissioners Absent (unexcused): Avani Kumar

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

3. Land Acknowledgment

Vice Chair Keogh read the land acknowledgment.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Shipley moved to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of December 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Keogh moved to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Shipley seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Business Items

A. Bowker House Special Valuation Agreement: 10 Year Monitoring

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho detailed the Historical Commission's obligation for monitoring the Bowker House, as it pertains to the requirements outlined in the special tax valuation agreement.

B. Jacob Smith House Nomination Form: Lacey Register of Historic Places

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho provided an overview of the Jacob Smith House's nomination to the Lacey Register of Historic Places. The Historical Commission will be asked to vote on the nomination at a future meeting.

C. 2026 Historical Commission Work Plan

Jen Burbidge, Director

Director Burbidge shared the proposed updates to the Commission's work plan: the addition of the Commission's review of the City Council's Public Art and Monuments Policy and the correction of Chair Wyckoff's title.

Vice Chair Keogh moved to approve the work plan as amended. Commissioner Shipley seconded. Motion carried.

7. Reports

A. Lacey Historical Society

The Historical Society reported having nearly 150 members, a significant increase from recent years; the Society's board membership has increased to fifteen seats; and members continue to pursue ways to honor Dr. Ehlers.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

The committee is on hiatus.

C. Commissioners

Vice Chair Keogh visited the new Lacey Museum again, independently, now that it is open to the public. Commissioner Shipley shared appreciation for tour the Historical Commission was given of the new Lacey Museum.

D. Chair

Chair Wyckoff reported that Commissioner Patane resigned from the Historical Commission. Staff will recruit for the now vacant position.

E. Museum Curator

Director Burbidge provided the Museum Curator's report. January's HistoryTalks! event was hosted by Art Dolan who shared the history leading up to the Declaration of Independence. In lieu of a traditional HistoryTalks! event in February, staff will host *An Evening at the Museum*. The new Lacey Museum hosted ninety-five visitors in preview tours before officially opening to the public on January 15, 2026. Progress continues on setting up the Research Center.

F. Director

Director Burbidge reported staff will be scheduling time for the Historical Commission to tour the Bowker House soon; the roof replacement for the Jacob Smith House is nearing completion; the Historical Commission is slated to share its 2025 accomplishments and 2026 work plan with the City Council on February 24, 2026; and the Parks, Culture and Recreation department's 2025 Quarter 4 program updates are included in the agenda packet.

8. Adjourn

Chair Wyckoff adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.



**Recent Acquisitions Review
March 2026
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

2026-001 Tim Suess (via Myrna Lance)

- 2 photographs of the front of the Patterson Lake roller skating rink.
- 2 Lacey School Faculty photographs, 1955 and 1956

Relation to Mission: These are photographs of Lacey places and people.

Relation to Collection: This will add to our Resort and Lacey School collections. These are photos that we do not already have.

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.



Nomination Form

Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year



Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

- Historical Commission
- Staff
- Lacey Historical Society
- Citizen
- City Council

Describe the significant contribution by the Nominee to the preservation or promotion of Lacey's history (attach additional page if necessary):

Nominations will be considered by the Lacey Historical Commission at the regular monthly meeting in April. The selection shall be made by the majority vote of Commissioners present at the regular meeting. The Historical Commission is not obligated to select a Lacey Historian of the Year from the nominations submitted, if, in the opinion of the Commissioners, the nominee has not made a significant contribution to the preservation or promotion of Lacey's history.

Nominations are due by March 31st.

Submit to: Lacey Historical Commission
c/o Lacey Parks, Culture & Recreation Department
420 College St. SE
Lacey, WA 98503-1238