



## Commission on Equity Approved Minutes

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Monday, February 23, 2026

Council Chambers and Online

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### 1. Call to Order

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Thelma Jackson, Chair; Makieda Hart, Vice Chair; Commissioners Clifton Brown, Annie Clay, Raul Garza, and Michelle Ewig, Lacey Youth Council Representative

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Commissioners Jon Hegwood and Kim Sauer

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager; Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager; and Brandy Legomina, Deputy City Clerk

### 3. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Jackson presented the abbreviated Land Acknowledgement.

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

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of January 26, 2026, meeting minutes

**Commissioner Clay moved to approve the agenda, previous meeting minutes, and consent agenda. Commissioner Brown seconded. The motion carried.**

### 5. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

### 6. Inspirational Item

- A. Clifton Brown, Commissioner

Commissioner Brown recognized the passing of Reverend Jesse Jackson and noted his lifelong work in the Civil Rights Movement.

## **7. Business Items**

### **A. Lacey Youth Council Meeting**

Lacey Youth Council

The Lacey Youth Council (LYC) delivered a presentation titled Lacey Through Our Eyes. The presentation provided an overview of the LYC and highlighted what makes life in Lacey positive for young people. The LYC offered ideas to strengthen the community and detailed equity experiences that are working well in Lacey.

The Commission and LYC participated in small group discussions designed to encourage dialogue and engagement around equity and youth perspectives.

### **Recessed and Reconvened**

At 7:36 p.m., the Commission recessed for a 2-minute break. Chair Jackson reconvened the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

## **8. Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner Clay reported on the upcoming Lacey Museum History Talks! event about Chief Leschi, Governor Isaac Stevens, and the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854, on March 19, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., at Lacey City Hall.

## **9. Director Report**

### **A. 2026 Commission on Equity Work Plan Update**

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Kelley-Fong reported on Council's review of the draft Workplan. The draft Workplan will return for the Commission's review at a future date. Discussion ensued.

### **B. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Summit Update**

Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager

Hand shared planning updates for the 2026 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Thurston Forward Summit, scheduled for May 1–2, 2026, at the South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus.

### **C. Night Market Event Update**

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Kelley-Fong reported on the 2026 Lacey Night Market, which will take place every other Friday from April 3 through October 30, 2026, at the Lacey Depot Park.

**Additional Reports**

Kelley-Fong reported on the upcoming Lacey Cultural Celebration, scheduled for March 7, 2026, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at St. Martin's University.

Hand reported that members of the Parks, Culture and Recreation Board may assist with the review process for the Community Cultural Event Grant Program.

**10. Adjourn**

Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Approved March 23, 2026.