



Historical Commission Minutes

Wednesday, March 18, 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, Kimberly Goetz, Ed Holm, Gary Montgomery, David Shipley

Commissioners Absent (excused): Avani Kumar

Staff Present: Director Jen Burbidge, Executive Assistant Carter Gibson

3. Land Acknowledgment

Commissioner Montgomery 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 January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Shipley moved to approve the minutes as amended. Vice Chair Keogh seconded. Commissioner Goetz, who was not in attendance at the January meeting, abstained. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

One (1) person signed up to speak at the meeting.

TJ Tenari, Lacey resident, shared interest in joining the Historical Commission.

6. Business Items

A. Recent Acquisitions

Jen Burbidge, Director

Commissioner Goetz moved to approve the recent acquisitions. Vice Chair Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

B. Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year

Jen Burbidge, Director

Director Burbidge announced that nominations are open for the Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year award.

C. America's 250th Anniversary

Jen Burbidge, Director

Director Burbidge shared the City's involvement in efforts to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary.

D. Lacey Historic Markers Map Layer

Jen Burbidge, Director

Commissioners discussed objectives for the historic markers map layer and next steps for the project.

7. Reports

A. Lacey Historical Society

The Historical Society reported collected annual dues for 47 members. The Society continues to pursue ways to honor Dr. Ehlers, and seeks to fill their remaining two vacant board seats.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

The committee is on hiatus.

C. Commissioners

Commissioner Shipley shared interest in visiting Lacey's historic sites.

D. Chair

Chair Wyckoff shared excitement to present at the upcoming State of the City event.

E. Museum Curator

Director Burbidge provided the Museum Curator's report. March's HistoryTalks! event will be hosted by Drew Cooks who will present on Chief Leschi, Governor Isaac Stevens, and the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854. April's HistoryTalks! event will be hosted by Janine Gates who will present on her book *Saving the Nisqually Delta* and speak about the historical pressures to industrialize the delta. The Lacey Museum will host free craft events for all ages each month April through June during opening hours. The Historical Commission is invited to tour the Bowker House on April 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

F. Director

Director Burbidge provided the Director's report. A request for qualifications for a feasibility study is soon to be released that seeks to determine a longer-term location for the food truck plaza currently hosted at the Lacey Depot. The bid process has begun for the demolition of the house and dock at Long Lake Park. The City Council will consider next steps for the McKinney House at the March 24, 2026 Council Meeting. The new Lacey Museum location on 6th Ave opened on January 15th and is currently open Thursday-Saturday for drop-in visits.

8. Adjourn

Chair Wyckoff adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.