



Historical Commission Minutes

Wednesday, April 15, 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, Avani Kumar, Gary Montgomery, David Shipley

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

3. Land Acknowledgment

Commissioner Shipley 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 March 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes

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

5. Public Comment

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

John Dziedzic commented on the Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year.

6. Business Items

A. Public Art Donation Policy

Shanelle Pierce, Special Projects Administrator

Special Project Administrator Pierce presented the drafted Public Art Donation Policy.

Commissioner Shipley moved to approve the public art donation policy. Commissioner Montgomery seconded. Motion carried.

B. Bowker House Plaque Draft

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Commissioner Shipley moved to approve the drafted Bowker House plaque. Vice Chair Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

C. Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho detailed the nominees for the Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year.

Commissioner Shipley moved to select Window Seat Media as the 2026 Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year. Commissioner Goetz seconded. Motion carried.

D. Jacob Smith House Nomination

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

The Historical Commission conducted a public hearing on the Jacob Smith House's Nomination to the Lacey Register of Historic Places. Museum Curator Quinn Valcho detailed the application. No public testimony was received.

Commissioner Goetz requested that the application be amended to include the structure's corbels as a defining element.

Commissioner Keogh moved to approve the nomination, with the addition of the defining element. Commissioner Shipley seconded. Motion carried.

E. Recent Acquisitions

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho presented the recent acquisitions.

Commissioner Goetz moved to approve the recent acquisitions. Commissioner Shipley seconded. Motion carried.

7. Reports

A. Lacey Historical Society

The Lacey Historical Society shared appreciation for both the process of selecting the Historian of the Year and having been part of developing the public art donation policy. The Society reported its efforts in planning a celebration for the City of Lacey's 60th anniversary and America's 250th anniversary. The Society will soon unveil its new logo.

B. Policy StEPs Committee

The committee is on hiatus.

C. Commissioners

Commissioner Shipley continues to make progress on seeing all of the historic markers and signs in Lacey. Commissioner Montgomery, with support from Chair Wyckoff, has begun drafting a map of historic markers in Lacey.

D. Chair

Chair Wyckoff shared the State of the City event will be on April 29, 2026.

E. Museum Curator

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho reported that assisted listening devices are available for the Council Chambers; this season's HistoryTalks! series has hosted 415 participants; the Lacey Museum has hosted 243 visitors, and its volunteers have supported with 214.5 hours of service; April's Museum craft is painted wooden eggs, and May's will be paper jellyfish; seventy five applications were received for the Collections Assistant position; the City Council will present the Historian of the Year award, consider the Jacob Smith House's nomination, and receive a presentation on Lacey History Month at the City Council meeting on May 19, 2026; ballot stations for the America's 250 exhibit are posted in various locations; the Lacey Museum received an anonymous donation of approximately \$76,000; and the National Alliance of Preservation Commission is hosting a training on June 8, 2026.

F. Director

Museum Curator Quinn Valcho provided the Director's report. The Lacey Parks, Culture and Recreation 2026 Quarter 1 program updates were provided in the agenda packet; the City accepted bids for the removal of the Long Lake House; and the City Council concurred with the advisory board recommendation on the demolition of the McKinney Building.

8. Adjourn

Chair Wyckoff adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.