

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Economic Vitality Commission

6:00 PM
 May 20, 2026

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave.
 NW, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Chris Reichley, Chair
 Kelly Richardson, Vice Chair
 Anuradha Tanepalli (Virtual)
 Barb Pexa
 Jake Magill (Excused)
 Jennifer Larson (Excused)
 Kymberly Lee

Kimberly Kapustein, Alternate
 Robert Lerch, Alternate
 Sally Boyer, Alternate

Administration/Staff:

Alexis Fitzsimmons, Economic Development
 & Housing Manager
 Jack Pedlow, Economic Development
 Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR REICHLEY called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of March 18 & April 23

The minutes of March 18 & April 23 were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **New and Existing Commissioner Introductions**

Presented by:

All

Each commissioner gave an update about taking part of the EVC and their time with the EVC.

- b) **Approval of 2026 EVC Workplan**

Presented by:

Jack Pedlow, Economic Development Coordinator

The 2026 EVC workplan was approved unanimously with edits having been made.

- c) **Joint Meeting Follow Up - Housing Development Discussion**

Presented by:

Alexis Fitzsimmons, Economic Development & Housing Manager

The commissioners discussed the April joint meeting and the potential for Joint meeting with the PPC and other commissions. The next best step identified by the EVC is to ask the PPC what the best way to work together and assist with them. Follow up will be

REPORTS

a) **Industry Trends, Business Openings & Closures**

Presented by:

All Commissioners

The EVC will be writing a letter of support for Aire Craft's potential use of the Issaquah Middle School field.

Wingstop in the Issaquah Highlands is opening soon

Burgermaster is opening 5/26

Dave's Hot Chicken will be opening in the former Rio Café location

REI is eyeing a larger space as referenced in the PSBJ article published in May

b) **2026 World Cup Event Awareness**

Presented by:

All Commissioners

The EVC wants to be aware of any World Cup events to make sure the City can help promote and make the community aware of them.

c) **City Council Report Out**

[2025 City Council Motion Sheets](#)

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) **EVC Commission Attendance - Volunteers & Schedule**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 17.

INQUIRIES

Please contact the Economic Development staff at ED@issaquahwa.gov.