

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Fourth of July Commission

5:30 PM
 November 17, 2025

MINUTES

Coho Room, 130 E. Sunset
 Way, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Paul Winterstein, Chair
 Chris Reh, Vice-Chair
 Ben Armlin
 Missy Tubbs
 Francisco Garcia
 Brenda Spears (absent)

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
 Lindsey Marsh, Executive Department
 Coordinator
 Jeff Watling, Parks & Community Services
 Director
 Janie Bube, Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER

Paul Winterstein called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of October 13, 2025

Motion to adopt Minutes by Ben Armlin, Missy Tubbs seconded minutes. Approved 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Christina Bruning board chair of Downtown Issaquah Association, introduces herself to the executive director, and shares what DIA has plans for fourth of July events.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Introduction to Executive Director for Fourth of July Commission: Janie Bube**

Presented by:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Wally introduces new Executive Director, Janie Bube. Commission members introduce themselves to the new Exec Director. Wally shares her prior experience. Janie shares her vision for the commission and plans for next steps, building a volunteer coalition, etc.

- b) **Art Project Update**

Presented by:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Jeff Watling shares an update on the art project discussed last meeting. Amy Dukes, art manager, put out a feeler for any local artists that would be interested in our idea and got some positive response. Next step would be to have Janie and Amy Dukes get together to plan further. Arts Commission supports moving the chalk art festival date to coincide with the Fourth of July Events. City could use their current resources and wouldn't have to move much

around from currently planned chalk art festival. A theme should be decided for the art project and chalk art, maybe a general theme for both to tie them together.

Chair Winterstein asks Jeff to re-share the idea for the art project that we discussed last meeting. The commission talked about going to the neighborhoods but after discussion thinks it may be too logistically difficult for all neighborhoods. Next step would be to determine which HOAs or neighborhood communities would be interested in participating, figure out how many events we could support and put together. The commission thought it would be great to have the final culminating event of the artist putting everything together be the community event. Lots of logistics to figure out, on how many public meetings we should have, to have an art piece that is created by multiple communities/neighborhood groups. The overarching goal is creating that sense of community, but CM Reh emphasizes that we shouldn't get too bogged down on the art piece itself and rather gathering people together.

One idea for a theme from Amy Dukes- We, the People. Jeff says more to come soon!

Chair Winterstein thanks Amy Dukes for her work on getting this going and thanks Jeff for the chalk art festival idea.

Wally reminds everyone that there's also the World Cup match that week as well, so lots of events to coordinate. It could be teams that have strong ties to our community.

c) **Begin Discussion on Timeline of Events**

Presented by:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Parade, follow up with festivities in memorial park. Jeff is working with his staff on additional pieces, was waiting on Exec Director position to be filled, so now we can start talking about

Next Meeting- Discuss Date

Presented by:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Due to a conflict on December 8th, the next meeting will be moved to Monday, December 15th at 5:30pm.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ben Armlin asks about festivities following the parade, who will handle planning these festivities? Jeff Watling shares that Parks is taking the lead to organize this. Ben shares that he's heard other jurisdictions booking vendors already. Where is Issaquah on this? Wally shares that the talks are on going now. Ben shares that he heard from non-profits that they would like to have a booth at the fourth of July festivities. CM Reh asks if our next meeting could be focused on finalizing the parade and festivities so we could start recruitment as soon as possible.

Missy asks about the parade route and if that has been determined. Wally shares that we would use a previous parade route down Front St.

Lindsey will attend an informational meeting on the United States Conference of Mayors Art Poster Project to see if it is something we would want to participate in. Will report back next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, December 15 at 5:30pm.