

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Fourth of July Commission

5:30 PM
 January 12, 2026

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

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator (absent)
 Lindsey Marsh, Executive Department
 Coordinator
 Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER

Paul Winterstein called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of December 15, 2025.

Motion to approve minutes by Ben Armlin, seconded by Missy Tubbs. 6-0 approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DIA- Here to continue to support and look forward to hearing how to support Issaquah downtown businesses

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Updates on Artist, Theme/Design**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

Janie shares that the artist could meet before our next meeting on January 26th at 5pm to work on some theme ideas prior to our next meeting, and could also look at possible locations for the artwork- special meeting will be scheduled for January 26th.

- b) **Marketing & Outreach Plan Discussion**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

Janie discusses the plans for sponsorships and our new idea on promoting "Summer 250 in Issaquah" that would encompass all summer festivities in Issaquah to tie in with the America 250 festivities.

The idea is to have the top sponsor on the banner and this banner would be promoted on Front St throughout the summer.

Janie shared some notes from our meeting with Communications team on the timeline for announcing the events, and the bulk of the promoting should kickstart late spring, with smaller announcements starting as early as the State of the City address.

Janie shares the sponsorship levels: lowest level \$250, \$1500, \$5000, \$10000

Paul asks how sponsorships will be contacted and if the commission will be expected to do some of this work, and Lindsey clarifies that city staff will be contacting businesses for sponsorships.

Chris Reh asks about parking if the farmers market is moved from Pickering Barn to Memorial Field for the 4th of July, Janie and Lindsey share that parking hasn't been discussed yet.

Brenda comments that if we remove the field of fun then we won't have much activities for kids, so we should re-think that.

Ben shares that he's not sure how many vendors will show up if we have farmer's market on 4th of July as many vendors may stay locally or serve Seattle versus coming to our market.

Janie asks if he suggests that we don't have the farmers market at all, or if we should just expect to have less vendors.

Chris shares that Issaquah has a farmers market on 4th of July weekend every year so he's not sure how much different it will be this year. We should look at historical data to see if attendance was strong in past years. It may be different than for food vendors versus crafts/produce.

A question on overall timing of farmers market and the other events was made, will report back once known.

Janie confirmed that the student marching band will be there again this year. She reached out to 2 other music performers and will report back if they are confirmed.

c) Continue Planning Discussion

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

The parade route will be finalized at this meeting. Janie and Paul toured Olde Town to determine possible parade routes. Paul shares that they had originally envisioned having the animal staging area on Holly St, and he thinks that it's a little far from the parade staging area. Frank thinks making the parade route a little bit longer might be more enjoyable for viewers and participants, though we would need to figure out who else is impacted by this (Darigold, Fire Department, Metro). A Special Event Permit would cover all of this. Janie will meet with CPD on the permit later this week. There are two alternatives that are being considered for the route—a longer route and shorter route. Some commissioners recommend extending the parade route, while others think it should be shorter. A shorter route would be better for small children and for the crowds to gather. Ben shares that he thinks a shorter route is better because the further down N Front St, there won't be as many crowds gathering there, and it's farther away from the park festivities so it makes it difficult to direct people after the parade to the park. Chris thinks the shorter route is best. Start at Dogwood, turn right down Front St, with the left turn on Sunset Way. The majority of the commission agrees this is the best route.

The ask for our next meeting is to identify community organizations that we want to spread the word to for the wagons, Lindsey will send out the spreadsheet we used for last parade so we can update it for this year's event. Paul asks if we can reach out to the historical businesses here in Issaquah and encourage them to participate in the wagon, or somehow share their

history in the parade for example The Grange has been around since 1936 and they could highlight this in their wagon or by participating in this event. Janie likes the idea and will look into it.

Missy asks about swag and if we still plan to sell shirts, and Lindsey shares that it's still being decided.

Janie asks that we inquire about animals asap so we can get them booked. It would be good to have the animals spread throughout the parade lineup.

REPORTS

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 9, 2026.

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