

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Fourth of July Commission

5:00 PM
 January 26, 2026

MINUTES

Coho Room, 130 E. Sunset
 Way, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

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

Administration/Staff:

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and decide on the artist theme and design.

CALL TO ORDER

Janie Bube called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **Introduction to Artist for Mosaic**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

Cheryl Smith introduces herself to the commission and shares her previous work done for the City of Issaquah. Her company is called Cheryl Smith Mosaics.

Cheryl brought an example of how the mosaic is put together and shows how each piece is created. She also showed examples of the artwork she created for the United Nations International Day of Peace, HopeFest, and explained how the process works. The materials used often come from recycled or leftover pieces from other artists. Each tile piece has a sticky mesh that a community member will stick colored pieces to. After the event, Cheryl and her team go back through the tiles and seal the pieces to the tiles. Cheryl shows different examples of how the mosaics can be created using different methods. She also shares how these pieces have created community pride.

b) **Mosaic Theme Discussion**

Presented by:

Cheryl Smith, Mosaic Artist

The commission shares ideas for the overall theme. Highlighting Issaquah's History is important and to also honor our city's past of being a mining town.

Brenda asks about location and whether it would be outside or inside. Cheryl explains the differences between outdoor and indoor pieces, costs, and how to preserve it. The Pros are that more people are able to see it, the cons are weather impacts and vandalism. Amy Dukes shares what needs to be considered if outside, such as a structure to protect it, or

window/case that would protect it outside. It depends on the type of aesthetic we want and the location will inform how large the piece will be and if it will be outside.

Amy Dukes shares that the arts commission and the park board would need to determine where outside we could have the artwork. Cheryl also shares that if outside, having a professional metal frame made would help to preserve the art piece.

Janie shares that if outside, it may need to be smaller due to cost. Frank shares an idea on how to create more pieces to have the community do their own piece each, though Cheryl says the budget costs could increase quickly with that model.

Cheryl shares as a possible theme could be a large tree with roots, and add smaller pictures to symbolize Issaquah's history, or other things we want to highlight. The things we need to consider are size, location, indoor vs outdoor. She can provide two or three designs by our next meeting for the commission to decide.

c) **Discuss Community Participation**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

There would be one event for the community to come participate in making the mosaic. More than one event could be more costly. The art piece would be completed and finalized prior to the Fourth of July week and would be installed at its final location during the week of festivities in July.

d) **Discuss Overall Timeline**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

The art events would ideally be in April, and could be 2 or 3 events for the community to create pieces. We could find events already happening in the city, such as DIA art & wine walks. A "kick-off" event at the senior center could be a great idea to get intergenerational participation for the mosaic for mid-March, the artist already has most of the materials needed.

At our next commission meeting, we will finalize two or three possible theme options for the artist to finalize. The artist emphasizes that the design is relevant to Issaquah but is also simple lines, such as a coloring book image. Think simple and the artist can glam it up and make it look. We should also consider how we want the 250 logo to appear in the mosaic. The artist shares about the tree theme idea and to consider other trees, not just douglas firs, we could do some kind of silhouette of Issaquah behind the tree design. Brenda shares how Issaquah has heritage trees and how that could be a nice theme to tie into. One location that could work is the front/outside of the community center that is covered and is active.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank says that he has some horses secured for the parade but they are looking for a carriage. Brenda asks about the wagon situation and if there's been progress on that. Janie shares that right now she has been working on the sponsorships and our budget for the projects. The parade route was finalized and the permit is being worked on.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM.

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

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Fourth of July Commission

5:00 PM
 January 26, 2026

MINUTES

Coho Room, 130 E. Sunset
 Way, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

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

Administration/Staff:

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and decide on the artist theme and design.

CALL TO ORDER

Janie Bube called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **Introduction to Artist for Mosaic**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

Cheryl Smith introduces herself to the commission and shares her previous work done for the City of Issaquah. Her company is called Cheryl Smith Mosaics.

Cheryl brought an example of how the mosaic is put together and shows how each piece is created. She also showed examples of the artwork she created for the United Nations International Day of Peace, HopeFest, and explained how the process works. The materials used often come from recycled or leftover pieces from other artists. Each tile piece has a sticky mesh that a community member will stick colored pieces to. After the event, Cheryl and her team go back through the tiles and seal the pieces to the tiles. Cheryl shows different examples of how the mosaics can be created using different methods. She also shares how these pieces have created community pride.

b) **Mosaic Theme Discussion**

Presented by:

Cheryl Smith, Mosaic Artist

The commission shares ideas for the overall theme. Highlighting Issaquah's History is important and to also honor our city's past of being a mining town.

Brenda asks about location and whether it would be outside or inside. Cheryl explains the differences between outdoor and indoor pieces, costs, and how to preserve it. The Pros are that more people are able to see it, the cons are weather impacts and vandalism. Amy Dukes shares what needs to be considered if outside, such as a structure to protect it, or window/case that would protect it outside. It depends on the type of aesthetic we want and the location will

inform how large the piece will be and if it will be outside.

Amy Dukes shares that the arts commission and the park board would need to determine where outside we could have the artwork. Cheryl also shares that if outside, having a professional metal frame made would help to preserve the art piece.

Janie shares that if outside, it may need to be smaller due to cost. Frank shares an idea on how to create more pieces to have the community do their own piece each, though Cheryl says the budget costs could increase quickly with that model.

Cheryl shares as a possible theme could be a large tree with roots, and add smaller pictures to symbolize Issaquah's history, or other things we want to highlight. The things we need to consider are size, location, indoor vs outdoor. She can provide two or three designs by our next meeting for the commission to decide.

c) **Discuss Community Participation**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

There would be one event for the community to come participate in making the mosaic. More than one event could be more costly. The art piece would be completed and finalized prior to the Fourth of July week and would be installed at its final location during the week of festivities in July.

d) **Discuss Overall Timeline**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Executive Director

The art events would ideally be in April, and could be 2 or 3 events for the community to create pieces. We could find events already happening in the city, such as DIA art & wine walks. A "kick-off" event at the senior center could be a great idea to get intergenerational participation for the mosaic for mid-March, the artist already has most of the materials needed.

At our next commission meeting, we will finalize two or three possible theme options for the artist to finalize. The artist emphasizes that the design is relevant to Issaquah but is also simple lines, such as a coloring book image. Think simple and the artist can glam it up and make it look. We should also consider how we want the 250 logo to appear in the mosaic. The artist shares about the tree theme idea and to consider other trees, not just douglas firs, we could do some kind of silhouette of Issaquah behind the tree design. Brenda shares how Issaquah has heritage trees and how that could be a nice theme to tie into. One location that could work is the front/outside of the community center that is covered and is active.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank says that he has some horses secured for the parade but they are looking for a carriage. Brenda asks about the wagon situation and if there's been progress on that. Janie shares that right now she has been working on the sponsorships and our budget for the projects. The parade route was finalized and the permit is being worked on.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM.

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