

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Fourth of July Commission

5:30 PM
 February 9, 2026

MINUTES

Coho Room, 130 E. Sunset
 Way, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

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

Administration/Staff:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director
 Lindsey Marsh, Executive Department
 Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. Chair mentions that Vice Chair Reh stepped down from the commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of January 12, 2026

Brenda moved to approve minutes, Frank seconded, 5-0

Minutes of January 26, 2026 (no quorum, so no approval)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Christina Bruning from DIA will ask DIA if they will have a wagon.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Updates on Sponsorships**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

Janie provides an update on sponsorships levels and the benefits associated with each level, she is working with the City's Communications team on finalizing the communication plan.

Brenda asks about spreading the word about sponsorships and what the plan is for that.

Ben Armlin and Missy Tubbs left the meeting early due to technical difficulties.

Janie shares the City will advertise through newsletter, social media posts, etc. Frank says social media gets the word out quick. Paul shares that having the personal touch makes a difference on top of social media posts. Brenda asks for getting the word out to encourage businesses to participate in the parade/wagons, and hold a sign/advertisement.

Janie goes through each sponsorship level and benefits.

b) Art Mosaic Final Theme

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

Brenda shares that our goal is to have a theme that embraces the America 250 theme as well as include an Issaquah theme. Janie reminds the commission to keep the design/theme simple.

Paul asks if the idea that each neighborhood would participate went away. Brenda shares that the logistics for this idea wasn't feasible given budget and time.

Paul shares that the image could include specific Issaquah landscapes like a creek, tying in elements that Issaquah residents are familiar with in their neighborhood.

Brenda shares her ideas to the commission, such as light posts.

Paul shares his ideas for themes, using a map of Issaquah of bird's eye view.

Lindsey shared the "map of Issaquah" that was used during Salmon Days. Paul shares that we want to highlight Issaquah's history and also highlight as many voices of Issaquah as possible, highlighting our diversity that has always been here.

Brenda shares that it's very important to have as many cultural groups participate.

Janie narrows down everyone's ideas for the final theme. The mosaic will include a general map of Issaquah that would highlight elements of Issaquah using icons throughout the map to represent neighborhoods/areas of Issaquah.

c) Community Outreach Plan

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

The commission will start reaching out to community organizations to get the word out about the wagon parade and sponsorships. Paul asks if Janie can provide a template/cheat sheet for the commission to use when reaching out.

Paul asks if they should have people interested in sponsorships reach out directly to the City or if there is some other way recommended. Lindsey clarifies that we should have them reach out to us directly.

Paul reads the organizations on the list and points out that there's probably hundreds of businesses/companies we could add to the list.

Paul clarifies that if you add an organization to the list, you will be the one who reaches out to them.

Janie would like the commission to reach out to at least 10-20 organizations if possible by our next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**Misc. Updates**

Presented by:

Janie Bube, Volunteer Executive Director

Brenda asks if the police car can be moved earlier in the parade. Frank asks about the grand marshall, and if we will ask the astronaut or the Olympian, any other ideas for who to invite. Paul asks if there's any symbolic choice we can make. Brenda asks if he has any ideas. Paul shares that given our earlier discussion about groups to include/not include, and the current political climate may sour some people with this celebration, so it would be important to pick someone that would be symbolic. Brenda shares that's why it could be a good idea to highlight positive things. Frank shares that we can look at our history for ideas of historic families. Paul asks if there are any Seahawks in town that could be at our parade.

Janie asks if we want one car, two cars, one at the front and one at the end? It's totally up to us. Janie asks the commission to help to come up with a list of potential people to invite for the grand martial.

Janie asks the commission to share the word to join the commission as we are recruiting for 4 more members.

Paul asks if the city council members will be asked to attend as well, and Lindsey confirms.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 PM.

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