



Meeting Agenda

Heritage Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Heritage Commission
Contact: Brittany Gillia
(360) 753-8427

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

5:30 PM

Hybrid- Room 207 and Zoom

Registration link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PKShO4taSsaLxhwp0hKcUw

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

1.A **ROLL CALL**

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.A [26-0497](#) Approval of May 27, 2026 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Heritage 5.27.2026 Minutes draft](#)

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

During this portion of the meeting, community members may address the Advisory Committee or Commission regarding items related to City business, including items on the Agenda. In order for the Committee or Commission to comply with Public Disclosure Law for political campaigns, speakers will not be permitted to make public comments before the Committee or Commission where the speaker promotes or opposes a candidate for public office or a ballot measure.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

6.A [26-0482](#) Sea Level Rise and Cultural Assets Briefing

6.B [26-0496](#) Author Presentation- Janine Gates, Saving the Nisqually Delta

6.C [26-0495](#) University of Washington Student Presentations

7. **REPORTS**

8. **OTHER TOPICS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upcoming

Accommodations

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources. If you require accommodation for your attendance at the City Advisory Committee meeting, please contact the Advisory Committee staff liaison (contact number in the upper right corner of the agenda) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. For hearing impaired, please contact us by dialing the Washington State Relay Service at 7-1-1 or 1.800.833.6384.



City Hall
601 4th Avenue E.
Olympia, WA 98501
360-753-8244

Heritage Commission

Approval of May 27, 2026 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes

Agenda Date: 6/24/2026
Agenda Item Number: 3.A
File Number:26-0497

Type: minutes **Version:** 1 **Status:** In Committee

Title

Approval of May 27, 2026 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes



Meeting Minutes

Heritage Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Heritage Commission
Contact: Brittany Gillia
(360) 753-8427

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

5:30 PM

Room 207

Register to attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6t6BfKItSuOs9LC7voEqQQ

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cotter called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Commissioner Michael Bowman, Commissioner William Cotter, Commissioner Derek Foster, Commissioner Kyle Kimball, Commissioner Melissa Patrick and Commissioner Gary Stedman

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Stephen Becker and Commissioner Mark Shepard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Stephanie Nace

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the amendment that one of the student presenters was not present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A Approval of the April 22, 2026 Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Griffith spoke.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.A Certified Local Government (CLG) Training

The information was received.

6.B University of Washington Student Presentations

The information was received.

6.C Sandman Tugboat Briefing

The information was received.

7. REPORTS

Each committee provided updates on current business.

8. OTHER TOPICS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Upcoming

Accommodations



Heritage Commission

Sea Level Rise and Cultural Assets Briefing

Agenda Date: 6/24/2026
Agenda Item Number: 6.A
File Number:26-0482

Type: discussion **Version:** 1 **Status:** Other Business

Title

Sea Level Rise and Cultural Assets Briefing

Recommended Action

No action requested.

Report

Issue:

Briefing on Olympia sea level rise impacts and historic preservation

Staff Contact:

Natalie Weiss, Climate Resilience Coordinator, 360.570.5828

Presenter(s):

Natalie Weiss

Background and Analysis:

In the presentation, we will present background on sea level rise in Olympia, including the projected impacts and our adaptation strategy outlined in the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan (2019). We will discuss the City and Olympia Sea Level Rise Collaborative's progress on implementing near-term solution and our next steps. We will discuss briefly how projected sea level rise will overlap with historic buildings in downtown. There will be time for questions.

Climate Analysis:

The proposed projects presented in the briefing support the City's climate goals and policies by implementing Comprehensive Plan Climate Policy PC1.2 and PC2.2, focused on regional coordination for and implementation of sea level rise adaptation. Sea level rise will threaten critical infrastructure, services, transportation corridors, and local businesses over the next decades.

Equity Analysis:

Climate change affects everyone. However, some people and communities in Olympia (sometimes referred to as frontline communities) will experience greater impacts due to their age, race, gender, health, where they live, or what they do for work. The initiatives presented in the briefing provide additional data and guidance on how to implement sea level rise response strategies to protect critical services and infrastructure.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

There is considerable community interest in sea level rise planning and implementation of flood protection measures in downtown Olympia.

Options:

None - No action requested.

Attachments:

None



Heritage Commission

Author Presentation- Janine Gates, Saving the Nisqually Delta

Agenda Date: 6/24/2026
Agenda Item Number: 6.B
File Number:26-0496

Type: discussion **Version:** 1 **Status:** In Committee

Title

Author Presentation- Janine Gates, Saving the Nisqually Delta

Recommended Action

Information only. No action requested.

Report

Issue:

Presentation and discussion on "Saving the Nisqually Delta", a recently published book related to preservation history in the region.

Staff Contact:

Brittany Gillia, Historic Preservation Officer, Community Planning and Economic Development,
360.753.8427

Presenter(s):

Janine Gates, Author

Background and Analysis:

"Saving the Nisqually Delta," by Olympia-based journalist Janine Gates, tells how one of Washington state's most fragile and ecologically rich landscapes was rescued from development and preserved.

Blending an engaging narrative with deeply researched history, the book traces the decades-long struggle to protect the delta - the story of how this watershed home was nearly lost - and how determined local residents joined forces to save it.

Janine is a freelance journalist and photographer who lives in Olympia. She began her business, Little Hollywood, in 2009. From 2009 - 2019, Janine wrote over 500 articles for her blog, Little Hollywood, at www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com [<https://www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com/>](https://www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com/). Her stories highlighted issues in the public

interest, land use investigations, and local history.

Climate Analysis:

N/A

Equity Analysis:

N/A

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

N/A

Options:

1. Listen to presentation

Financial Impact:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A



Heritage Commission
University of Washington Student
Presentations

Agenda Date: 6/24/2026
Agenda Item Number: 6.C
File Number:26-0495

Type: information **Version:** 1 **Status:** In Committee

Title

University of Washington Student Presentations

Recommended Action

Information only. No action requested.

Report

Issue:

Presentation of historic preservation projects related to documenting historic resources and developing strategies for their protection in Olympia.

Staff Contact:

Brittany Gillia, Historic Preservation Officer, Community Planning and Economic Development,
360.753.8427

Presenter(s):

1. Nora Xzyao, University of Washington student

Background and Analysis:

The Olympia Historical Society has been working with students from the University of Washington (UW) to use properties in Olympia as case studies for their independent research projects for URBAN 586: Implementation of Preservation. The students have focused on the KGY Building and old gas filling stations that have gone through adaptive reuse. Information from the course description:

“The course objective is to provide practical experience in documenting historic resources and developing strategies for their protection. Theories, methods, and practices associated with historic preservation are discussed. Students will engage with relevant federal, state and local regulations,

and gain field experience in evaluating historic resources.

Through the course assignments, students will develop skills that are critical to successful employment in the fields of historic preservation planning and cultural resources management. These skills include the ability to conduct property research; to understand relevant laws and regulations; to assess the integrity and significance of properties; to compile information into clearly written documents; to create presentation materials and verbally present research projects in a clear and concise manner. Emphasis is placed on developing professional quality written documents, visual materials, and presentation skills.”

Climate Analysis:

One of the presentation topics will be about adaptive reuse. Following the NPS guidelines encourages repair of historic material as much as possible, which reduces the introduction of more waste to landfills. If repair is not feasible, use of historic, often natural, locally sourced materials, is then encouraged, which reduces environmental impacts of the work.

Equity Analysis:

The Olympia Heritage Commission is dedicated to improving the education and outreach opportunities to underrepresented communities. Every listing to the Olympia Heritage Register, Special Property Tax Valuation application, and design review project, is an opportunity for education and outreach.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

N/A

Options:

N/A

Financial Impact:

N/A

Attachments: