



## City Council

### Special Recognition - Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum 2024 Gerry L. Alexander Heritage Award for the Renaming of Squaxin Park

**Agenda Date:** 3/5/2024  
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#### **Title**

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#### **Recommended Action**

##### **Committee Recommendation:**

Not referred to a Committee.

##### **City Manager Recommendation:**

Accept Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum 2024 Gerry L. Alexander Heritage Award for the Renaming of Squaxin Park.

#### **Report**

##### **Issue:**

Whether to accept Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum 2024 Gerry L. Alexander Heritage Award for the Renaming of Squaxin Park.

##### **Staff Contact:**

Sylvana Niehuser, Director of Parks Planning and Maintenance, 360.753.8068

##### **Presenter(s):**

Greg Griffith, Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum Board President

##### **Background and Analysis:**

The Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum (OHS & BHM) preserves and shares the history and heritage of Olympia and the Bigelow House in a way that recognizes and values the diversity and rich cultures that gave rise to our community, is inclusive of all persons and perspectives, and informs and engages community members and visitors.

Each year the OHS & BHM presents awards that honor significant achievements in sharing, preserving, and shaping Olympia's history.

This year, the City of Olympia and Squaxin Island Tribe were selected for the annual Gerry L. Alexander Award for Outstanding Achievement in Heritage. The award honors the 2021 signing of the Accord between the Tribe and the City that resulted in the renaming of Squaxin Park in 2022.

**Climate Analysis:**

No impact to climate mitigation sectors.

**Equity Analysis:**

Among the many projects the OHS & BHS successfully produces to honor Olympia's diverse history, they recently secured a grant and partnered with the Squaxin Island Tribe and the City of Olympia to develop an interpretive sign about the Squaxin people that will soon be installed at Squaxin Park.

**Attachments:**

2024 Award Press Release  
Award