

## MINUTES

Meeting: Tourism Development Committee Regular Meeting  
Date: May 7, 2026 at 11am  
Location: Kirkland City Hall, Rose Hill Room, 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033

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### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Falcone called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

### 2. Attendance

Members Present: Amy Falcone, Scott Guthrie, Phil Megenhardt, David Lynx, Jackie Socha, and Brittany Baumgart  
Members Absent: John Tymczyszyn  
Staff Present: Jen Davis Hayes, Christian Lash  
Guests:

### 3. Public Comment

No Public Comment.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

#### a. April 2, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Member Baumgart moved, and Member Megenhardt seconded to approve the May 7th, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion was approved 6-0.

### 5. Business

#### a. Commission Recruitment

##### i. Congratulations to members – reappointed by Council on April 7, 2026

1. David Lynx (term expires 3/31/30)
2. Phil Megenhardt (term expires 3/31/27)
3. Jackie Socha (term expires 3/31/28)

##### ii. New member recruitment closed 4/29/26

1. Received (1) application for vacant payer of lodging tax fees

Economic Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes updated the Committee with details on the applicant and the next steps.

##### iii. Candidate interviews – Week of June 2

- Amy Falcone, Councilmember ▪ John Tymczyszyn, Councilmember ▪ Jackie Socha, Kirkland Urban ▪
  - Scott Guthrie, Woodmark Hotel and Still Spa ▪ Phil Megenhardt, Bold Hat Productions ▪
  - David Lynx, Kirkland Arts Center ▪ Brittany Baumgart, Courtyard by Marriott ▪

iv. New Commission member term begins – July 1, 2026

b. 2027 Grant Application Update - Christian Lash, Special Projects Coordinator

i. Updated Schedule

Special Projects Coordinator Christian Lash shared the updated schedule, noting that grant applications are open until June 1, 2026. The Committee discussed the implications of Marina Park closure in 2027 for the grant applicants. The Committee reviewed the timeline and discussed the possibility of adjusting the dates to be pushed earlier.

ii. Open House

Special Projects Coordinator Christian Lash updated the Committee that the Open House is scheduled for May 13, 2026.

c. Tourism Data – Placer.ai

Special Projects Coordinator Christian Lash updated the Committee on Placer.ai tourism reports for March 2026, including data on total trips in Kirkland, average trip duration, and top origin locations.

d. Permanent Downtown Lighting Update - Christian Lash, Special Projects Coordinator

Special Projects Coordinator Christian Lash updated the Committee that there were no applications submitted after the RFP was published; therefore, adjustments to the RFP will be made and then republished. The potential interview dates and selection dates have been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

e. Kirkland – Seattle Sports Commission Membership – Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager

Economic Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes updated the Committee on the cost for joining the Seattle Sports Commission and how it will fit into the TDC budget. The Committee discussed the benefits of joining Seattle Sports Commission.

Member Baumgart moved and Member Lynx seconded to allocate up to \$10,000 from the lodging tax fund for Seattle Sports Commission membership. Due to limited budget, staff was encouraged to negotiate the first year's membership fees lower. Motion was approved 6-0.

f. Tourism Minute – Scott Guthrie, Woodmark Hotel and Still Spa

Scott Guthrie presented his tourism minute on the Woodmark Hotel & Still Spa and Carillon Point Properties, highlighting the property's history, surrounding restaurants and shops, that its family owned and operated, hotel amenities, industry projections and more.

- Amy Falcone, Councilmember ▪ John Tymczyszyn, Councilmember ▪ Jackie Socha, Kirkland Urban ▪
  - Scott Guthrie, Woodmark Hotel and Still Spa ▪ Phil Megenhardt, Bold Hat Productions ▪
  - David Lynx, Kirkland Arts Center ▪ Brittany Baumgart, Courtyard by Marriott ▪

## 6. Good of the Order

Member Megenhardt recommended that the City of Kirkland attend as a panelist/presenter at an upcoming Washington Festivals and Events Association conference in the Fall. Member Megenhardt recommended watching a recent U District Street Fair historical video as inspiration for a possible future video project. The committee watched the video.

## 7. Adjournment

Chair Falcone adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.