



ISSAQAH HIGHLANDS

**HIGHLANDS  
COUNCIL**

Board of Trustees

## MEETING MINUTES

Dec. 2, 2025, 12 p.m., Blakely Hall

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Kashif Zahoor, President  
Lisa Soboslai, Vice President  
Ben Armlin, Secretary  
Chris Reichley, Treasurer  
Mary Anne Dillon\*  
Lynda Tamnone  
Alisa Taggart\*

### NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Zach Hall

### STAFF:

Lindsey Pinkston, Executive Director  
Maddie Coats, Communications Manager  
Betty Lee, Community Engagement  
Coordinator

### GUESTS:

Jeremy Fallt, HFN General Manager  
Chelsea Musick, Central Park Resident

*\*Attended virtually*

**Call to Order** – Kashif / Time: 12:05pm

**Introduce Guests** - Lindsey

### Consent Agenda – Kashif

- Minutes: Board of Trustees Meeting Aug. 5, 2025  
*Approve*
- Minutes: Board of Trustees Meeting Oct. 21, 2025  
*Approve*
- Appoint Albert Wang as Alternate Trustee following his resignation as Trustee. Alternate Trustees are encouraged to participate, but do not vote or count for quorum.  
*Approve Appointment*

Motion: *“to approve the consent agenda as presented.”*

*Motion: Lisa*

*Second: Linda*

*Result: Passed by unanimous vote.*

### New Business – Lindsey

- BOT Google Drive has been created to reduce amount of email attachments sent and increase transparency with documents easily accessible by all board members. Trustees should let Lindsey know if there's anything they'd like to see added.
- HFN Board Appointment
  - Highlands Council appoints two people to represent the organization on the HFN Board. Currently those appointees are David Ngai and Albert Wang. Albert will keep the seat until we can appoint a new representative to replace him.
  - Ben and Kashif expressed interest in learning more and will attend an HFN board meeting.

### Stakeholder Updates

- Grand Ridge Plaza – Alisa
  - Gamification campaign coming next year.
  - Wingstop still in progress – no update.
  - Grand Ridge Plaza is exploring becoming a World Cup Watch site.

## Committee Reports

- Finance Committee –Chris/Lindsey
  - We had a few CDs come up for renewal. We moved part out of Harborstone Credit Union so most money there would be insured, and put more into CDARS CDs through Mechanics Bank, which are insured for more since the investments are diversified (however they have a lower return). We are currently over the FDIC limit in our operating/savings accounts at Mechanics Bank, so working on opening 1-2 new bank accounts so we can diversify further and keep all funds insured.
  - Balance sheet shows a total of \$300k more than same time last year.
  - Still working with accountant on budget vs. actual reports and cleaning up old/incorrect Quickbooks entries.
- Communications Committee –Maddie
  - We are in the thick of magazine production this week and next. We will upload it for printing on Dec. 19, and it should be delivered on Jan. 7.
  - The theme of this issue is.....The Neighborverse. It's a play on "the metaverse" or the concept that infinite realities exist side-by-side, each shaped by different choices, relationships, etc. Similarly, our *neighborverse* reflects the many dimensions of community life in Issaquah Highlands because every neighbor brings a unique world of experiences, cultures and ideas. This theme will be tied into a lot of articles throughout.
  - New this issue, we plan to involve the Communications Committee (and any other volunteer editors) to assist with our editing process, especially as we near the busy holiday season. If anyone would like to join the team of reviewers, let Maddie know.
- Program Committee – Ben
  - We hosted 65 community events in 2025!
  - The Village Market: Holiday Pop-Up was a big success – over 300 shoppers came and most vendors reported record sales.
  - The Tree Lighting was heartwarming. We had way more attendees than anticipated at 700!
  - Planned event schedule for Jan-August 2026, which includes:
    - Two movies in the park sponsored by IHCA (we're engaging the community to choose the movies)
    - Continued "Are You Ready?" series
    - CERT Basics (30-hour course) in January and June
    - More New Neighbor Socials
- Board Development Committee –Lindsey (for Zach)
  - Started discussions regarding open seats and potential board members. If you have ideas, please let us know!

## Management Report

- Mark your Calendars for a happy hour holiday celebration on Jan. 15
- General Updates (Lindsey)
  - Closing Blakely Hall for the two weeks over the Christmas/New Year Holiday. Staff will be working remotely.
  - Garden patch leasing begins in January with renewals.
  - Treats & Tails Data shows:
    - 182 kids trick-or-treated
    - 81% were Issaquah Highlands residents
    - 57% were aged 3-6; 29% were aged 7-10

## Partner Organization Updates

- HFN – The backbone of the Fiber Upgrade has been finished and all equipment has been purchased.

**Open Business - Lindsey**

- Blakely Hall resiliency/generator
  - The work to connect partial Blakely Hall power to the existing generator is almost complete. The switch will be installed on 12/5/25 to make us a resilience center! Heat will work, both refrigerators, the island power, outlets, and bathrooms. No AC. Next step is drywall repair.
  - City purchased a repeater antennae and backup battery to place on the Blakely Hall roof. This will aid in communications city-wide (and beyond) and will help connect Issaquah Highlands to Issaquah EOC at Public Works. They also purchased GMSR Radios for all resilience hubs.
- Branding MOU/Rebranding - Reprioritized

**Adjourn to: Executive Session (w/Executive Director)** – Kashif / Time: 12:49pm – 1:34pm

**Adjourn** – Kashif / Time: 1:34