CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE
Community Engagement Commission Minutes
March 18, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting of the Community Engagement Commission was called to order by chair Bill Norman on March 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Position 1: Robin Bekkedahl **Present**
Position 2: Bill Norman **Present**
Position 3: Brittany Sitton **Present**
Position 4: Lori Merkel **Present**
Position 5: Ralph Carlberg **Present**
Position 6: Vacant
Position 7: Leah Stussy **Present**
Position 8: Logan Lankford **Online**
Position 9: Mark Saba **Present**
Communications specialist David Goehner **Present**
City administrator Mark McAvoy **Present**
Parks & Recreation director Jen Camp **Present**

APPROVALS:
Commissioner Stussy moved and Commissioner Saba seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stussy moved and Commissioner Carlberg seconded to approve the meeting minutes of Feb. 18, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
There were no public comments.

WELCOME:
Chairman Norman welcomed new member Lori Merkel, who briefly introduced herself to the group.

CITY HALL UPDATES:
Goehner introduced the City Hall Update that had been mailed out earlier in the week. He also added some details about the Liberty Lake Better Together Rock Garden dedication event (June 3), the Liberty Lake Comprehensive Plan team's Community Safety & Resilience Fair (April 30), and information from the previous night's City Council meeting about discussion on a potential revival of the Youth Commission and the council's passage of an upcoming public election vote regarding a criminal justice services tax. McAvoy also provided further details about the tax proposal.

DISCUSSIONS & BUSINESS:
A – City Parks & Recreation: Jen Camp and Parks & Arts Commission chair Nancy Hill shared some of the general findings from the city's recently concluded parks research from 2025. They also shared plans for upcoming locally-led public outreach for improvements planned for 2027 at Pavillion Park that the CEC could be involved with. Camp and Hill said they would like to have a plan for Pavillion Park

ready for August, in preparation for the city's budget discussions during September/October. They also mentioned the Rock Garden dedication coming to Pavillion Park, and a May 31 Liberty lake bike ride tour involving the city's parks.

B – Commission forecast for 2026: McAvoy offered remarks in which he encouraged the commission to proactively establish more meaningful conversations with the community on what the community wants to talk about that may not necessarily come from city staff or the City Council. He also encouraged the commission to look ahead in recommending budgetary recommendations.

C – Updates on 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey: McAvoy provided a preview on some of the findings of this year's recently concluded survey, which is expected to be posted in report form by the end of March. He also discussed this year's participation numbers and statistical validity, and how data was grouped together for the long-form questions.

D – Micromobility Town Hall: Following up on a topic discussed that has been discussed by the City Council, McAvoy provided information about a community town hall being scheduled for April 28 on the topic of e-bikes, electronic scooters, and golf carts. McAvoy provided an update on state legislation related to e-transportation. For the upcoming town hall, the LLPD will be providing educational information about these vehicles and future enforcement plans, and it will incorporate a community conversation about the LLPD's proposals to regulate those vehicles. McAvoy said the LLPD is producing the main agenda of the April 28 town hall, and that the CEC is being asked to help plan the logistics of executing the event. Commissioners Stussy, Norman, and Merkel volunteered to serve on a subcommittee for the town hall.

E – Capital Facilities Plan Work Group update: Commissioner Stussy provided updates of the work group's recent meetings, and said a report will be going to the City Council in April. The City Council will review the CFP in April and approve it in May, then the plan needs to be approved by the Dept. of Commerce. Stussy said that about 25% of the projects currently don't have defined funding, and that public engagement may help determine how the public wants to fund those. McAvoy also highlighted plans for the new City Hall building and the future use of the current City Hall. Commissioner Sitton asked if the city has considered asking HOAs to contribute funding to their roads, and Stussy said this wasn't talked about during the meetings she attended.

F – Sidewalk Master Plan Work Group update: Commissioner Saba reported that the group finalized a list of what sidewalks need to be fixed, and that 9 options have been presented as funding possibilities. There will be a 6-week period for the work group to survey the community about the funding options, which can be done during Farmers Market and online surveys. He said the CEC will participate in the outreach.

G – City logo redesign: Commissioner Bekkedahl reviewed the current proposal and its suggested phases. McAvoy said the proposal doesn't need to go back to the City Council for approval, but that the CEC should brief the City Council about the recommended plan. He also recommended that the CEC should bring the results of the plan's 1st phase to the City Council and then get some direction, as potential design concepts become developed. There was also discussion about considering using what existing data the city may already have that could contribute to logo-related concepts. Commission members voice agreement on the subcommittee's general proposals, and to flesh out the engagement plan at the April meeting. Commissioners Bekkedahl and Sitton plan to update the City Council at its April 14 or April 21 meeting.

H – Other upcoming opportunities: Commissioner Stussy said she would work with the LLPD to obtain further information for the April 28 micromobility town hall. In response to a question from Stussy, Goehner said subcommittee members are able to e-mail each other without that causing a rolling public meeting.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

Requested items were:

- Farmers Market scheduling and binder development
- City logo design update
- Sidewalk work group update

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Saba moved and Commissioner Sitton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., which was approved. The next regular meeting will be held on April 15, 2026.