CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE
Community Engagement Commission Minutes
June 17, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting of the Community Engagement Commission was called to order by chairman Bill Norman on June 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Position 1: Robin Bekkedahl **Excused**
Position 2: Bill Norman **Present**
Position 3: Brittany Sitton **Absent**
Position 4: Lori Merkel **Excused**
Position 5: Ralph Carlberg **Present**
Position 6: Vacant
Position 7: Leah Stussy **Present**
Position 8: Vacant
Position 9: Mark Saba **Present**
Communications specialist David Goehner **Present**

APPROVALS:
Commissioner Saba moved and Commissioner Stussy seconded to excuse commissioners Bekkedahl and Merkel, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Saba moved and Commissioner Stussy seconded to approve the meeting's agenda, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Saba moved and Commissioner Carlberg seconded to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2026, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
There were no public comments.

CITY HALL UPDATES:
Goehner introduced and provided additional details on the City Hall Update that had been mailed out earlier in the week. Commissioner Carlberg commented favorably about the Library Annual Report that was presented during the previous night's City Council meeting and requested that copies of it be shared with the commission members. Commissioner Saba asked for an update on the city's logo redesign process, and Goehner said Greater Spokane is expected to provide design drafts to the city by the end of the month and that the unveiling of a new logo is no longer being planned for the city's July 4th event.

DISCUSSIONS & BUSINESS:

A – Discussion on CEC purposes and responsibilities: Chairman Norman opened a discussion on the group's ideas and insights about the commission's role and opportunities for expanded public engagements. Among the comments presented:

- We've been waiting too much to have others give us purpose. (Norman)
- Other commissions seek the CEC's help, but the City Council doesn't to the same extent. (Stussy)
- Could we become the generators of conversations? (Norman)
- There's a desire for the commission to get information out, but not as much interest in the commission's feedback. (Stussy)
- The CEC needs to be more involved with other commissions and be put to work for them. (Saba)
- Suggestion that the commission chairs talk together about how the other commissions could use the CEC, including assistance for the LLPD, Library Board, Friends of the Library, and the Library. (Saba)
- Suggestion for Norman and Stussy to meet with representatives of the other groups, and provide an update to the full commission about those conversations. (Norman)
- Invite a core group of citizens to provide input on topics on things that are being driven by the commission. Also, establish a communication stream to learn about concerns that are coming from residents. (Norman)
- Commission members should get on the agenda for their HOA meetings. (Norman)
- Suggestion to create a calendar of themes for each month that the CEC could use to market specific areas of communication during each month. (Stussy)
- Suggestion to provide a welcome packet of city resources and volunteer opportunities for newly moved residents. (Stussy)

Commissioner Norman recommended that this topic be continued as a discussion point for future meetings. Commissioners Norman and Stussy said they would arrange for meeting with representatives of the city's other commissions and organizations. A monthly marketing calendar will also be discussed during the commission's next meeting.

B – CEC 2026 Annual Report & 2027 budget: The members present all expressed favorable comments on both the draft of the report and the draft of the budget. No changes were recommended, and no further official action was taken.

C – CEC table at June 18 Volunteer & Service Expo: Members briefly discussed what types of engagements the commissioners should have with the public during the upcoming event at the Trailhead Rotary Room. Commissioners Stussy and Carlberg have signed up to station the table, and Goehner will supply some materials to display.

D – Farmers Market and "Founders & Fireworks" table signups: Members were reminded to sign up to help station these sites. Goehner said the Founders & Fireworks table will include a rock painting area; youths will be able to take their rocks home or let them be used at Pavillion Park's newly opened rock garden.

E – CEC table at Volunteer & Service Expo: Commissioners Stussy and Carlberg volunteered to station the commission's table for the June 18 event at the Trailhead Golf Course building's Rotary Room. Commissioners suggested promoting the event through flyers at local sites.

F – Other upcoming opportunities: None were suggested.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

Commissioner Norman opened discussion on rescheduling the next meeting to another date that would not conflict with the July 15 Summer Soiree fundraiser. Commissioner Saba moved and Commissioner Carlberg seconded to reschedule the next meeting to July 22.

Stussy encouraged commissioners to think of ideas for a marketing calendar for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Norman closed the meeting at 7 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 22, 2026.