



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

SITKA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Monthly Meeting

Held at Harrigan Centennial Hall

330 Harbor Drive

November 13, 2019 6 p.m.

FINAL MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Littlefield called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Roby Littlefield (chair), Anne Pollnow, James Poulson, Ana Dittmar, Scott Saline, Candace Rutledge
Absent: Bob Sam, Kevin Mosher (assembly liaison)
Staff: Amy Ainslie
Public: None

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M-Pollnow/S-Dittmar moved to approve the agenda. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 11, 2019 minutes

M-Poulson/S-Dittmar moved to approve the September 11, 2019 minutes. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

IV. GUESTS &/OR PERSONS TO BE HEARD

V. REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Ainslie informed the Commission that the Assembly had approved her promotion to become the new Planning Director on November 12, which was effective immediately. The job opening for the Planner I position had been posted earlier in the day (on the 13th). Ainslie hoped to conduct interviews for the position in mid-December, with a new candidate potentially starting in January. Scott Brylinsky had been hired temporarily as the Planning Department Consultant. Brylinsky would be focusing primarily on the No Name Mountain/Granite Creek Master Plan, an initiative on Tiny Homes/Smaller Dwellings/Affordable Housing, and assisting with staff transition and mentorship for Ainslie.

Ainslie stated that the CLG Grants offered by the State of Alaska had been awarded. The projects at St. Peter's by the Sea and the Japonski Island Boathouse had been awarded the fully requested amounts. Details on the application by the Sitka Woman's Club (SWC) were being worked out; the State felt that SWC should focus on the national historic register nomination first before doing some

of the other stated objectives (the historic structures report, archival initiatives, etc.) and were considering awarding a reduced grant amount for the reduced scope. Ainslie reminded the Commissioners that as the City had not received grant agreements from the State and MOU's had not yet been signed, none of the grant recipients were to start work on their projects.

Poulson stated that a presentation done by Pollnow and Rutledge on vocational training at Mount Edgecumbe High School in 1950's and 1960's was very well done and offered congratulations to them both. Pollnow, giving background on the study and presentation, stated that students built many of the structures still on the campus. Aaron Isaacs, Marsha Strand, Jean Frank, Shirley Anderson, and Pat Hughes were a few of the participants. Pollnow and Rutledge's engagement with this project originated from SEARHC transferring ownership from federal (Indian Health Services) to private ownership. Pollnow and Rutledge's project was a part of the mitigation for impacts on historic preservation (and potential loss of it) that can occur when transfers of ownership take place.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

B. Historic Preservation Plan

Pollnow stated that she was working on the draft plan, primarily still working on formatting issues. Pollnow was hoping to review the draft with the rest of the Commission in December/early January. Pollnow also expressed some concern about how the plan will be received by the public and the Assembly, and if some outreach/education would be helpful. Rutledge asked what form(s) of outreach should be considered. Ainslie stated that the plan could be re-posted on the Commission page of the City website. Ainslie also thought a flyer/pamphlet outlining some of the features of the new plan and maybe having some FAQ's addressed could be helpful to have at the Planning Office, the Library, or other places around town. Saline stated that any outreach should highlight the consequences of ignoring historic preservation and emphasize the importance of the Plan.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

C. Waste Water Treatment Plant Remodel – 100 Alice Loop

M-Poulson/S-Dittmar moved to approve the plans for the Waster Water Treatment Plant Remodel. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

Ainslie described the driver of the project being the need to improve air circulation and ventilation for the building, which necessitated the exterior work and new vent stacks. Commissioners also inquired about grading, Ainslie responded that there would be some grading on the property. Pollnow confirmed that the building is within the Sitka Naval Air Station and U.S. Army Coastal Defenses national historic landmark. Pollnow stated the project managers should be advised of this and to look out for WWII artifacts.

VIII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S):

**(2nd Wednesday of the Month, 6 pm Harrigan Centennial Hall)
Wednesday, December 11, 2019 – Regular Monthly Meeting**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no objections, Chair Littlefield adjourned the meeting at 6:27 pm.