



# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

## Meeting Minutes - Final Sustainability Commission

**Officers:** Chair Aurora Taylor, Vice Chair Katie Riley, Secretary Erik de Jong

**Members:** Elizabeth Bagley, Gerry Hope

**Staff Liaison:** Bri Gabel, Sustainability Coordinator

**Assembly Liaison:** Thor Christianson

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Monday, July 7, 2025

6:00 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

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### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 P.M.

**Present:** Aurora Taylor (Chair), Elizabeth Bagley (left at 6:48), Gerry Hope, Erik de Jong

**Absent:** Katie Riley (excused), Thor Christianson (Assembly Liaison)

**Staff:** Bri Gabel (Sustainability Coordinator)

**Public:** None

### II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

Hope moved to **AMEND** the agenda to reorder items and address new business before unfinished business.

Motion **PASSED 4-0** by voice vote.

### III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Approve the June 2, 2025 minutes.

Hope moved to approve the June 2, 2025 minutes.

Motion **PASSED 4-0** by voice vote.

### IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics off the agenda)*

None.

### V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Approve of the Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy (SCRES) Guiding Principles and Sub-theme Definitions

Gabel introduced the item and explained the purpose of the definitions and how they were being used for qualitative data analysis and inform the development of the transformative scenario narratives. Commissioners discussed and asked questions about the definitions and about how the scenarios were to be used; Gabel clarified that narratives could be used to facilitate deeper discussion of recommendations in the SCRES. Bagley and Taylor offered to assist Gabel in refining the scenario narratives as needed.

Hope moved to approve the SCRES guiding principles and sub-theme definitions as written in the packet and as amended through Commission discussion to include:

- *Food Security and Waste Stream Reduction* as separate subthemes under *Self-Sufficiency*
- *Waste-to-Energy* under *Innovation*

Motion **PASSED 4-0** by voice vote.

**B. Consider Contributing to the Alaska Climate Alliance Policy Platform**

Gabel introduced the item and explained that she had received a request from the Alaska Climate Alliance to submit projects and/or actions to their policy platform. She added that she had received permission to submit City-led initiatives but sought Commission guidance if they would like to participate. Bagley expressed concern that the group was too outwardly political and saw minimal benefit in submitting publicly available information. Taylor and de Jong expressed similar opinions. Hope requested that a representative from the group attend a future meeting to discuss the opportunity in more detail, if possible.

**Hope moved to indefinitely table the item.**

**Motion PASSED 4-0 by voice vote.**

**C. Discussion/Direction/Decision on Aligning Sustainability Metrics with the CBS Strategic Plan**

Gabel introduced the item and requested guidance from the Commission on how to best proceed with this goal. Commissioners discussed options and provided input and suggested starting with pairing CBS strategic plan goals with the Sustainability Commission's duties.

**The meeting automatically ADJOURNED at 6:48 P.M. due to lack of quorum; no further action was taken.**

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****D. Discussion/Direction/Decision on the 2025-2026 Work Plan**

Not addressed due to lack of quorum; postponed to the next regular meeting

**VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics on or off the agenda)***IX. REPORTS** *(Staff, Chair, Assembly, Commissioners)***X. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA**

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., in Harrigan Centennial Hall.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes by: Erik de Jong, Secretary