



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

SITKA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Monthly Meeting

Harrigan Centennial Hall

December 9, 2020 6 p.m.

FINAL MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Littlefield called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Present: Roby Littlefield (chair), James Poulson, Ana Dittmar (Telephone), Scott Saline, Chuck Miller

Absent: Bob Sam

Staff: Amy Ainslie, Ben Mejia, Crystal Duncan (assembly liaison)

Public: Rebecca Poulson

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M-Miller/S-Poulson moved to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 13, 2020 minutes

M-Poulson/S-Dittmar moved to approve the November 13, 2020 minutes. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.

Poulson noted from reading the November 13th minutes, that the Historic Preservation Plan could be edited to include additional information on local historic districts.

IV. GUESTS &/OR PERSONS TO BE HEARD

V. REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

B. Heritage Newsletter

Mejia thanked Poulson for sharing the Heritage newsletter, a monthly historic preservation bulletin from Alaska's Office of History and Archaeology. Mejia noted that the budget proposals from the House and Senate increased the Historic Preservation Fund by approximately 20 million dollars which was potentially optimistic news for historic preservation grant funding.

C. Sitka Maritime Heritage Society - update on CLG grant on Boathouse
Rebecca Poulson reported that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, grant deadlines had been extended from September 2020 to July 2021. The project was to add new siding, four new doors, four new

windows, and to restore the exterior wall at the Japonski Island Boathouse. Rebecca Poulson explained that due to social distancing requirements, large volunteer work parties were not possible. Poulson said that she was working on changing the project scope. Poulson said that due to Building Code requirements for the intended use as a museum that would allow 50 or more guests, the doors needed to be widened to 36” by adding strips to the existing doors. Poulson said they were considering shifting the focus of contractor work from replacing siding to rebuilding the opening of the building.

Poulson said she was looking into fund matching opportunities from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Poulson explained that the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society (SMHC) had added educational content to their website and would distribute toy boat kits for children instead of hosting events.

D. Sitka Fine Arts Camp - update on work at Fraser Hall

Rebecca Poulson reported that the original plan for the project, with grant funding from the Office of History and Archaeology, was to update the electrical wiring and run new wire to the new hallway. The extension of the grant project deadlines provided time to include restoration of the hallway with Douglas fir wainscoting and replacing lighting with old-fashioned fixtures that match the originals. The project aimed to add electrical heating in the large room to allow for use as an event space that could generate income for further preservation efforts. Poulson noted that the electrical work was almost done.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

D. Historic Preservation Plan

Mejia reported that, due to Covid-19, the Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) Cultural Resources committee meeting was postponed. Miller confirmed that the elders had received their packets.

E. Commissioner Recruitment

Mejia reported that staff continued to advertise for the vacant at-large seat.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S):

(2nd Wednesday of the Month, 6 pm **Harrigan Centennial Hall**)

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – Regular Monthly Meeting

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no objections, Chair Littlefield adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm.