

# Sitka Bear Task Force Minutes

Thursday, September 1, 2022, 12:00 p.m.  
Harrigan Centennial Hall

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**Task Force Members:** Robert Baty, Stephen Bethune, Lillian Feldpausch, Harry Greene or Michael Harmon, Olivia Magni, Martha Moses, Alix Snelling, Andrew Thoms, Claire Turner

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Feldpausch called the meeting to order at approximately 12:05 p.m.

## II. ROLL CALL

Task Force members present: Lillian Feldpausch, Harry Green, Martha Moses, Olivia Magni, Alix Snelling

Absent: Claire Turner (excused), Robert Baty (excused), Stephen Bethune (excused), Andrew Thoms (excused)

Staff: Administrative Coordinator, Holley Dennison

Others: Liaison Crystal Duncan

## III. CORRESPONDENCE /AGENDA CHANGES

None.

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

None.

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. August 4, 2022

**Motion was made to approve the August 4, 2022, minutes.**

**Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.**

## VI. REPORTS

Chair Feldpausch told of not enough remaining time for a community survey. City Staff Dennison noted the Municipal Clerk added new business item C for discussion on final report to Assembly and reminded of one more remaining meeting.

## VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### B. Decision on scheduling a September Town Hall meeting and next steps

Chair Feldpausch discussed options for a town hall meeting, and if a survey might be included at the meeting along with a presentation. Member Magni suggested to set an objective for the town hall meeting, or to recommend a town hall as an Assembly recommendation. Liaison Duncan spoke to the town hall process, and members Greene and Moses were in support of community input but wondered of low attendance due to short notice. A discussion was had among the members, liaison, and city staff of holding a town hall, goals to include education, prevention, and protection, and logistics and

timing. Members discussed the timing of the task force in summer being a challenge to participate due to busy schedules.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### C. Discussion on final report to Assembly

Liaison Duncan spoke to hot button issues including the garbage fine, education of Defense of Life and Property, and Kodiak can recommendations. The challenge of producing recommendations to the Assembly in a 6-month time frame was discussed, as well as completing a report to Assembly.

Chair Feldpausch and member Magni told of potential to not be available, if the task force extended, to represent BIHA and the park service. Liaison Duncan considered a transition to a committee. She suggested to work with Chair Feldpausch on a report with recommendations for the Assembly, or possibility for the topic of brown bears to be included under Police and Fire Commission.

**A motion to extend the Sitka Bear Task Force through December was made and passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Member Magni noted that if the task force extended, she might be able to work on a GIS tracking map if she had continued employed with the park.

Additional discussion ensued amongst the members regarding bear sightings this year being lower, and difficulties working cohesively with limited time and busy schedules amongst the members.

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

None.

## X. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting was scheduled for October 6, 2022, at 12:00 p.m., Harrigan Centennial Hall.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Attest:  
Holley Dennison, Staff Liaison