
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 12:00 p.m.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members:

Michelle Kavouras, Crystal Duncan, Amanda Roberts,
Lawrence “Woody” Widmark, Amy Wilson, Sophia Schwantes
JJ Carlson (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kavouras called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and provided a land acknowledgement.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Crystal Duncan, Michelle Kavouras, Woody Widmark, Amy Wilson, Sophia Schwantes (arrived late)

Commissioners Absent: Amanda Roberts, Annette Evans (excused)

III. CORRESPONDENCE /AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, not to exceed 3 minutes)*

None.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 17, 2025

Duncan moved to approve the minutes of September 17, 2025. Motion passed 4-0 by a roll call vote.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – Kavouras welcomed new commissioners Wilson and Schwantes.

Commissioners – None.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – None.

Other(s) – None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Discussion/Decision on amendments to Sitka General Code Chapter 2.30 “Health Needs and Human Services Commission”

Members discussed proposed amendments to SGC 2.30. They agreed to reach out to the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, Sitkans

Against Family Violence, and the Sitka Homeless Coalition to determine each organization's availability and interest in providing biannual reports to the commission. Once this information is gathered, members will present their findings at the next meeting, at which time the commission will vote on the proposed changes to SGC 2.30.

C. Updates from working groups

None. New members Wilson and Schwantes joined working groups.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

D. Discussion/Decision/Direction on a resolution of the City and Borough of Sitka's petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses under Alaska Statute 04.11.405.

Kavouras summarized the resolution scheduled for the October 28 Assembly agenda and requested member feedback. Carlson provided background information and outlined the process for requesting additional restaurant eating place licenses. Members discussed next steps and expressed interest in obtaining more information. Concerns were raised regarding underage drinking and the lack of consultation with the Health Needs and Human Services Commission, while the Planning Commission and Tourism Commission were consulted. Kavouras encouraged members to attend the October 28 Assembly meeting to share public comments.

IX. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(For items on or off the agenda, not to exceed 3 minutes)*

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Member Widmark moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Attest:
Holley Bayne
Deputy Municipal Clerk