

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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SITKA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Regular Monthly Meeting Harrigan Centennial Hall May 14, 2025 6:15 p.m.

FINAL MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL Acting Chair Brady-Howard called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. Present: Acting Chair Yeidikook'áa Dionne Brady-Howard, Roby (Koolyéik) Littlefield (via Zoom), James (<u>Kushx</u>eet) Poulson, Steve Í<u>x</u>t'Ík Éesh Johnson, Karen Lucas, Nicole Fiorino (via Zoom), Scott Saline (Assembly Liaison) Staff: Kim Davis, Ariadne Will Public: None
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA M/Johnson-S/Lucas moved to approve the May 14, 2025 meeting agenda. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES a. March 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

M/Johnson-S/Lucas moved to approve the April 9, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

IV. GUEST &/OR PERSONS TO BE HEARD Scott Saline asked about the possibility of maintaining the Flume Trail beside Indian River, adjacent to the National Historical Park.

V. REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Will informed the commission that STA had submitted an appeal of the demolition permit for the property at 203 Kaagwaantaan Street, and that the following business day, the property owner had communicated with the Planning Office to withdraw the permit. A deed had been recorded by the State of Alaska Recorder's Office transferring the property to Katlian Collective. Will said further conversation was to be pursued between the city and STA.

Will also said the draft Historic Preservation Plan had been forwarded to STA for review, and that the email with the draft plan included a comment deadline of June

23, 2025. Acting Chair Brady-Howard said that she would follow up with STA staff to make sure the plan would be properly routed and returned to the city by June 23.

Will notified the commission of an open seat on the panel, which was to be advertised shortly.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

b. Memorial and Street Naming Policy

Commissioner Fiorino said she had not yet sent an email to schedule a time to meet with other commissioners, and that the group had not met.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

c. Review and recommendation of a detached garage at 301 Park Street The commission noted the proposed garage was in keeping with the neighborhood.

M/Poulson-S/Lucas moved to recommend approval of the foundation permit for a detached garage at 301 Park Street. Motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

d. Section 106 review of a cell tower at 404 Sawmill Creek Road

Will provided the commission with an overview of a request for comment on a proposed telecommunications tower at 404 Sawmill Creek Road. The proposed tower was a 70-foot monopole structure. Will said further review would be conducted by the Planning Commission.

The Historic Preservation Commission noted the impact the tower would have on viewshed and clarified with staff that it was not the city's role to consider environmental impacts related to radio frequency. It asked whether the tower would impact police and fire department radios and other essential communications devices.

No public comment was received.

M/Johnson-S/Poulson moved to send a letter in response to Section 106 review request by AT&T commenting on the proposed tower and contributing structures' impact on viewshed and the historic nature of the neighborhood. Motion passed 5-1 by voice vote with Littlefield opposed.

e. Review and discussion of past nominations for historic districts in Sitka Will introduced a memo with overview and analysis regarding historic districts in Sitka. She said two historic districts had been proposed in the past: the Sitka Indian Village and the Lincoln Street Historic Business District.

Commissioner Poulson said he thought the village district nomination had not been submitted for nomination to the National Register, and that the Lincoln Street district had been tied to the Main Street America program. He suggested STA submit the nomination to the National Register, and perhaps consider the Main Street America program for the district. The commission requested staff forward information on Main Street America to Katlian Collective.

M/Johnson-S/ Lucas moved to send a letter to STA suggesting the Tribe update and submit its application of the Sitka Indian Village Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

- VIII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S): (2nd Wednesday of the Month, 6:15 p.m. Harrigan Centennial Hall) Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – Regular Monthly Meeting
 - IX. ADJOURNMENT Acting Chair Brady-Howard adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ariadne Will Planner I