
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Agenda

Work Session

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 12:00 p.m.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members:

Rachel Worthey, Amanda Roberts, Annette Evans, Elise Davidson Kitka,

Woody Widmark, Crystal Duncan, and Paul Bahna

JJ Carlson (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussions on the Health Needs and Human Services Goals for 2024

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Rachel Worthey

Proposed Goals: 2024 Health Needs and Human Services Commission

1. Cost of Living

a. While it's true that the Health Needs and Human Services Commission was tasked with analyzing the problems facing Child Care in Sitka and provide recommendations, this work has already been done by Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Sitka's Early Childhood Coalition. We can communicate their recommendations to the Assembly, but I feel further research is needed into the City's budget before any financial recommendations are made.

b. However, the astronomical cost of Child Care could be a primary focus in a Cost of Living investigation, where, in combination with further research into the City's budget, we explore all areas where Sitkans are experiencing additional strain, and begin looking for solutions that we can recommend to the Assembly prior to the beginning of the 2025 budget period.

2. Elder Care

a. The rapid monumental changes being made at SEARHC, and the effects on all Sitka citizens, feels like a subject that needs immediate attention. I struggle with ideas on where to begin in addressing this problem, but I feel that our varied knowledge and backgrounds would be beneficial in monitoring these changes as they're occurring and initiating important conversations with decision-makers.

Paul Bahna

1) Early childhood care

2) Home Health plans

3) School children and Mental Health

4) Elderly care

5) Equity efforts (please kindly send me the Equity document).

Annette Evans

1. Childcare Resolutions

2. Elder Health & Care

3. Equity Report summarization