



# 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**

February 9, 2022 6 p.m.

### **FINAL MINUTES**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

**Chair Littlefield called the meeting to order at 6:14pm.**

Present: Roby Littlefield (Chair), Scott Saline, James Poulson, Karen Lucas, Danielle Pensley

Absent: Bob Sam, Chuck Miller (Excused)

Staff: Ben Mejia

Public: Zach Foss, Chandalar Pensley

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**M-Poulson/S-Lucas moved to approve the agenda with the amendments that New Business be heard before Old Business and that item D be heard before item C. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.**

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. January 12, 2022 minutes

**M-Poulson/S-Lucas moved to approve the January 12, 2022 meeting minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.**

Mejia recognized that Commissioner Pensley's excused absence had not been included in the roll call. Littlefield requested that under item C "Sam stated that he lived in the house." be changed to "Sam stated that he had lived in the house." The Commission agreed to the requested changes.

#### **IV. GUESTS &/OR PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

#### **V. REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

Lucas informed the Commission of events for Elizabeth Peratrovich Day on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Lucas explained that a walk, open mic, and essay submissions had been organized for the event.

Littlefield informed the Commission that the Assembly had requested for all commissions and boards to provide a brief report on their work and that she would report on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

B. Historic Preservation Plan

Littlefield provided a summary of the process the Commission had taken in drafting the Historic Preservation Plan and public comment and participation that had taken place. Littlefield explained that while not everything could be contained within the main body of the plan, several items were included in the appendix. Littlefield requested that staff digitize the Sitka Tribe of Alaska Historic Preservation Plan, as it had been listed in the appendix in earlier drafts of the plan. Lucas asked why a historic preservation plan was needed, Littlefield responded that a historic preservation plan was a requirement for certified local governments to receive grant funding for historic preservation projects.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

C. Construction of a deck at 240 Lakeview Drive

**M-Poulson/S-Saline moved to approve construction of a deck at 240 Lakeview Drive. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.**

The Commission asked staff for clarification on why this proposal required review. Mejia responded that the site was identified as a local historic district. Saline and Poulson discussed the location's development history as a neighborhood developed by the pulp mill for housing millworkers. Poulson acknowledged that the proposal for a deck had no impact to the character of the neighborhood. The Commission voiced their approval.

D. Renovation at 101 Metlakatla Street

**M-Poulson/S-Saline moved to approve renovation at 101 Metlakatla Street. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.**

Zach Foss, representing the applicant, informed the Commission that the building was likely constructed around 1903 according to applicant research. Foss stated that the home was constructed of rough sawn spruce and that the applicants intended to preserve what could be preserved. Foss explained that the proposal for the deck would allow for entrance to the home without encroachment into the right-of-way. The Commissioners considered the legacy of the home, Saline recognized the property as the former home of Louis Simpson. Chair Littlefield clarified that the property had belonged to Esther and Charles Littlefield, Chair Littlefield shared her experiences of the home. The Commission voiced their support of the applicants' work to preserve the home and their approval of the proposal.

E. Demolition and construction of a freezer building at 1292 Seward Avenue

**M-Poulson/S-Saline moved to approve demolition and construction of a freezer building at 1292 Seward Avenue. Motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.**

Poulson identified the project as part of the Sitka Naval Operating Base and U.S. Army Coastal Defenses National Historic Landmark and expressed disappointment that more detail had not been provided on the structure proposed for demolition and its relationship with the National Historic Landmark. Poulson recognized that the project location was at the rear of Mt. Edgecumbe High School's campus and there would be limited visual impact to the historic character of the site from Seward Avenue. The Commission voiced their approval of the proposal.

**VIII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S):**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 6pm **Harrigan Centennial Hall**)  
**Wednesday, March 9, 2022** – Regular Monthly Meeting

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**Seeing no objections, Chair Littlefield adjourned the meeting at 7:04pm.**