



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

Minutes - Final

Planning Commission

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

6:30 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

****Special Meeting****

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Chris Spivey (Chair), Darrell Windsor, Wendy Alderson, Katie Riley, Thor Christianson (Assembly Liaison)
Absent: Stacy Mudry (excused)
Staff: Amy Ainslie, Ben Mejia
Public: Rebecca Himshoot, Michael Harmon, Tony Rosas, Stefania Potrzuski, John Dunlap, Kord Christianson, Loren Olsen, Clint Daniels, Kristi Colthorp, Bruce Conine, Michelle Barker, Kaleb Astle, Theresa Jacoby Massei, Sabrina Jenkins, Shauna Thornton, Michele Martin, Cynthia Gibson, Ariadne Will (Sitka Sentinel)

Chair Spivey called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

IV. THE EVENING BUSINESS

A [MISC 21-09](#) Discussion/Direction on Short-Term Tourism Plan

Attachments: [DRAFT_Short-Term Tourism Plan](#)

Ainslie introduced the discussion on Harrigan Centennial Hall traffic and staging. Ainslie explained that the staff recommendation considered safety, space optimization, clarity, and parking lot pressure alleviation as its guiding principles. Ainslie explained that the enabling factors of the recommendation were efficient loading/unloading of passengers, permitting, and vehicle restrictions. Ainslie reviewed options 1 and 2 of the campus plan recommendations.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Trudy Pruitt and Michelle Barker voiced concern over option 1 as potentially detrimental to their excursion operations and pedestrian safety. Bruce Conine expressed support of the general concept to limit Harrigan loop to large busses and Harbor loop to small busses and vans. Conine suggested the Ride be moved from the Crescent parking lot and taxis take their place. Theresa Jacoby Massei expressed safety concerns of large and small busses operating in Harbor loop. Caleb Astle provided dimensions of shuttles at 45' and tour busses at 40'.

Spivey asked how the tabletop between Crescent parking and Harrigan loop could be closed. Michael Harmon, Public Works Director, explained that the area was designed for such a closure and could be closed using something as temporary as a sandwich board sign or could use bollards.

Spivey asked if the rear of Harrigan Centennial Hall had adequate space for pedestrian traffic and outfitter staging. Tony Rosas, Manager of Harrigan Centennial Hall, confirmed that there was. Rebecca Himshoot asked if there was access for emergency vehicles, Ainslie replied that there was. John Dunlap responded that, as a kayak outfitter, he saw potential benefit to the proposed location for outfitters at the rear of Centennial Hall. Thor Christianson expressed concern over the loss of the boat launch during the cruise season.

The Commission agreed to resume the discussion in the November 17 regular meeting.

No motion made

V. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no objections, Chair Spivey adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.