



# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

## Meeting Minutes - Final Sustainability Commission

**Officers:** Chair Aurora Taylor, Vice Chair Katie Riley, Secretary Erik de Jong

**Members:** Elizabeth Bagley, Gerry Hope

**Staff Liaison:** Bri Gabel, Sustainability Coordinator

**Assembly Liaison:** Thor Christianson

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Monday, February 3, 2025

7:00 P.M.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

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### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at approximately 7:22 P.M.

**Present:** Elizabeth Bagley, Gerry Hope, Erik de Jong, Aurora Taylor (Chair),  
Thor Christianson (Assembly Liaison)

**Absent:** Katie Riley (excused)

**Staff:** Bri Gabel (Sustainability Coordinator)

**Public:** Kay Kreiss

### II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

No changes.

### III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Approve the January 6, 2025 minutes.

Hope moved to approve the January 6, 2025 minutes.

Motion PASSED 4-0 by voice vote.

### IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics off the agenda)*

None.

### V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

### VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Approve the Sustainability Commission 2025-2026 Work Plan Goals

Commissioners discussed the shortlist of goals, and focused on how the Commission could support the development of a municipal solid waste strategy, support electrification of the municipal fleet, and utilize the greenhouse gas emissions inventory for strategic planning. Hope proposed to explore the idea of hosting a sustainability conference in 2026 and further investigation opportunities into hydroelectric projects.

Kay Kreiss commented on the potential impact of the new federal administration on sustainability efforts

**Bagley moved to prioritize operational goals over project-based goals.  
Motion PASSED 4-0 by voice vote.**

The discussion ended with the Commission positioned to support sustainable municipal operations. Gabel informed the Commission that she would update the draft work plan to reflect this direction.

**VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics on or off the agenda)*

None.

**IX. REPORTS** *(Staff, Chair, Assembly, Commissioners)*

**Staff:** Gabel attended the Alaska Forum on the Environment virtually that week. She announced that the first public Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy (SCRES) Workshop was scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup> and provided the Commission with updates on the status of the two items requested from the January meeting regarding youth commissioners and additional telephonic participation.

**Chair:** None.

**Assembly:** None.

**Commissioners:** Hope planned to attend the National Conference of American Indians (NCAI) and was going to explore additional philanthropic efforts between tribes and municipalities.

**X. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA**

The next meeting was scheduled for March 3, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., in Harrigan Centennial Hall.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting.**

**Seeing no objection, the meeting ADJOURNED at approximately 8:39 P.M.**

Minutes By: Erik de Jong, Secretary