



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

Meeting Minutes - Final Sustainability Commission

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

Members: Elizabeth Bagley, Gerry Hope

Staff Liaison: Bri Gabel, Sustainability Coordinator

Assembly Liaison: Kevin Mosher

Monday, September 9, 2024

6:00 P.M.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at approximately 6:03 P.M.

Present: Katie Riley (Chair), Elizabeth Bagley, Erik de Jong, Aurora Taylor,
Kevin Mosher (Assembly Liaison)

Absent: Gerry Hope (excused)

Staff: Bri Gabel (Sustainability Coordinator)

Public: Larry Edwards, Leah Mason

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

No changes.

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Approve the August 6, 2024 minutes.

Taylor moved to approve August 6, 2024 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. Discussion on Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy (SCRES) Fall Engagement Strategy

Gabel introduced the proposed approach to the calendar of events, and how they were intended to build excitement for the energy future workshops tentatively scheduled for early December.

Commissioners provided feedback on the proposed schedule cadence and described what a successful engagement might look like for the future energy scenarios workshop. Bagley suggested using an editorial calendar and asked how success can be measured. She suggested moving the December workshops to January as December was a very busy month for most people. Riley suggested involving youth, especially high school students, with the SCRES.

Leah Mason commented on engagement considerations.

B. Discussion on Sustainability Commission 2025-2026 Goals

Gabel updated the Commission on CBS staffing changes that should be considered in the goal setting process to set the next year up for success. Bagley requested that the Sustainability Commission have a joint work session with the Assembly post-election to help inform goal setting. Riley provided insight to new Commissioners on the goal setting process and this item was the beginning of that multi-month process.

Larry Edwards and Mason commented on potential goals.

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

Edwards commented.

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

Staff: Gabel informed the Commission that the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Award (EECBG) proposal had been approved by the Department of Energy and that the first reading for the ordinance to allocate funding was on to the next Assembly meeting agenda. She added that Sitka was selected for the EPA Act 2005 Section 247: Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentive to cover up to 30% of the cost of the Green Lake Rehabilitation Project which was estimated to be \$2.5 million. She went to Denver for the Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) annual summit where the CBS project was well received. She announced she would be go to Fairbanks for the Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) summit and attend the Alaska Rural Energy Conference in early October.

Chair: Riley informed the Commission that the Sitka Conservation Society would be working on the C2C project to develop an internship program for the CBS Electric Department.

X. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2024 at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Riley moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seeing no objection, the meeting ADJOURNED the meeting at approximately 7:38 P.M.

Minutes By: Erik de Jong, Secretary