
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2016 12:00 p.m.
Sealing Cove Business Center, 601 Alice Loop

Commission Members: Doug Osborne, Dr. Myron Fribush, Lauren Hughey,
Loyd Platson, Jeff Arndt, Clara Gray
Tristan Guevin (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Osborne called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Doug Osborne, Loyd Platson, Lauren Hughey, Clara Gray (arrived at 12:08 p.m.)
Absent: Myron Fribush (unexcused)

III. AGENDA CHANGES

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M – Platson/S – Hughey moved to approve the July 13, 2016 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE

Barbara Kendall introduced herself stating that she was considering joining the commission.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – Osborne thanked Commissioner Hughey for her service and told about a self-reported survey result of cell phone use down.

Commissioners – Platson gave an update on the grant for opioid and heroin use in Sitka and asked for help in establishing need. He also told of the coalition meeting on August 16th at 3:30 p.m.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – Guevin explained he might try to bring to the Assembly a change to the establishing ordinance of the commission to have one seat designated as a Sitka Tribe of Alaska representative seat.

Other(s) – None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Grand Bargain follow up

Chair Osborne explained the idea of the Grand Bargain and stated that the additional 4th goal as discussed from the July meeting did not go to the Assembly as their strategy had changed. Guevin told of ordinance/mill change, ballot proposition, ordinances to remove sales tax on groceries using SNAP guidelines and the electric subsidization, and the projected \$3.5 million deficit.

B. Sugar Sweetened Beverage Excise Tax Ordinance

Chair Osborne told of Philadelphia's \$0.015 tax per ounce which he supported. Hughey handed out a document from the Navajo Nation, a public ruling to eliminate sales tax on fresh fruits, vegetables, water, nuts, seeds and nut butters which the Commissioners read through. Discussion occurred on the document, strategy, and timing.

M - Platson/S - Hughey moved to pass the ordinance on first draft as is and postpone until after the October Municipal Election. Motion passed 5-0 by the following roll call vote: Y - Osborne, Platson, Arndt, Hughey, Gray.

C. 2016 Goals

- 1) Chair Osborne asked if the commission would be a sponsor of the 10th annual Health Summit. It would mean supporting it by coming and inviting people.

M - Osborne/S - Platson moved for the commission to become a sponsor of the 10th annual Health Summit. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Commissioners would continue to support healthy activities.

- 3) Discussion occurred on the three health policies (items B, D, and E), strategy, and timing.

2) Sample Ordinance of Minimum Legal Sales Age of 21 for Tobacco Products

Chair Osborne passed out a document titled *Tobacco 21 "Healthy Towns, Healthy Kids."* He told that the city of Chicago was the most recent city to adopt. Discussion occurred of false equivalence and a military exemption.

M - Platson/S - Hughey moved to approve the draft ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

M - Gray/S - Arndt moved to amend the ordinance to allow an exemption of active military personnel. Motion passed 4-1.

3) Banning Plastic Bag Ordinance

Commissioner Arndt told of his thoughts with having the film *Bag It* at the Library either October or November.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Agenda items for next meeting.

There was no new business placed on the next agenda.

B. Set next meeting date.

The next regular meeting was set for Wednesday, September 21, 2016.

M - Platson/S - Gray moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk