



City and Borough of Sitka

Parks & Recreation Division ▪ 100 Lincoln Street ▪
Sitka, Alaska 99835 ▪ ph: 907.747.1852 ▪ fax ▪ 907.747.7403
parks@cityofsitka.com

Date: 12/4/2007

To: Mayor Marko Dapceвич and Assembly Members
John Stein, City Administrator

From: Tim Riley, Chair and Members
Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee

Subject: Hames PE Center

The Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee (SPRC) passed the following resolution during their 11/1/07 meeting: “The Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee strongly support the efforts of Hames PE Task Force and recommend that the Assembly allocate funds for the staffing, operations and capital needs of the Hames PE Center until a long range financial plan for the Center is developed.”

Committee members believe that it is critical that the facility remain open, staffed and utilized as a community wellness center. The SPRC recognizes that it is equally important to keep the building open to avoid the certain damage that will immediately result if it is closed with the heat shut off and pool drained.

Further, the Committee members commend the efforts of the Hames PE Center task force to develop the interim management and operations plan to keep the Center open. SPRC support the proposed management model whereby the City maintains the facility and Community Schools oversees staffing and operations. Task Force members and volunteers will also be investing time and money into the maintenance and operation of the Hames Center during the lease period.

The Parks and Recreation committee believes that after the interim plan is in place, the Task Force will use the subsequent time period to develop a long-term strategy for ownership, financing and management of the Hames Center. This plan will likely take the form of a ballot proposition for a public vote.

The Parks and Recreation Committee members recognize the outstanding value of this facility to the community and economy of Sitka. Ninety percent of the Hames users are and have been community members. Committee members acknowledge and applaud SJC for operating this facility for the community for the last twenty years and believe the City and Borough of Sitka should now provide interim funding to support this facility for the subsequent time period.