



# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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## ***SITKA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION***

Regular Monthly Meeting

**Harrigan Centennial Hall**

August 14, 2024 6 p.m.

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

**Acting Chair Brady-Howard called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.**

Present: Dionne (Yeidi'kook'aa) Brady-Howard (Acting Chair), James (Kushxeet)

Poulson, Candance Rutledge, Karen Lucas, JJ Carlson (Assembly Liaison)

Excused: Roby (Koolyéik) Littlefield

Staff: Kim Davis

Public: Mary Miller (National Historic Park Service), Scott Saline

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**M/Poulson-S/Lucas, moved to approve the agenda. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.**

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **a. July 10, 2024 minutes**

**M/Poulson-S/Lucas, moved to approve the minutes of July 10, 2024. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.**

#### **IV. GUESTS &/OR PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

Saline commented zoning of Katlian Bay will be coming up and wonder if the historic preservation map should be updated to include this area. Staff would check on the process. Saline also commented on the orientation packet, staff would check with the Clerk's office to see if it needed to be revised.

#### **V. REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

Davis updated the commission on Pensley's resignation. The commission now had five members. Davis asked if the commission was interested in changing the code to reduce the commission from seven to five members. It would be added to next month's agenda for discussion. Davis informed the commission she had taken the Planning Manger position and the Planner I position, and Tourism Manager position were being advertised. No other correspondence had been received.

#### **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **b. Historic Preservation Plan.**

Davis provided an update on the historic preservation plan. Some editing and formatting had been done up to the historical section. Staff will provide hard copies to the commission. Page 16 had formatting issues and page 7 needed to be updated to St. Michael's.

**c. Memorial and naming policy**

Commissioners requested the document be made editable and sent to all commission members. Brady-Howard commented while revising the naming policy, Tlingit names and spellings be correctly updated and included on street signs. QRL codes could be used to assist with pronunciation. Staff was tasked with finding out how much it cost to replace a city street sign.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**d. National Park Service Update on Building 29 (Tilson Building)**

Mary Miller, Superintendent of Sitka National Historical Park (NPS), provided the commission information on current park activities and on their progress of acquiring and plans of restoration of Building 29, also known as the Tilson Building. Building 29 was an National Historic Landmark and had rare historical significance as one of four buildings still remaining from the Russian Colonial era.

Miller explained the complex process of acquiring federal property, including the need for a federal government appraisal, environmental investigations, and legal constraints. Despite these challenges, the NPS was prepared to proceed with the acquisition. The NPS would be working with a non-profit to fundraise the additional \$360,000 more than the appraised value to bridge the funding gap. The deal was not yet finalized, and the plan was to have the project lined out by December. The long-term hopes for the building that was currently in a state of disrepair, was it could be restored to its original condition it was in during the Russian Colonial era.

**e. Review replacement of deck and gable overhang at 617 Biorka Street.**

Davis introduced the replacement of deck and new gable overhang at 617 Biorka Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The applicant was wanting the new gable overhang to protect the deck from weather and make it safer. Commissioners determined there was no impact to the historical area and recommend approval.

**M/Poulson-S/Lucas, moved to recommend the gable and deck replacement project at 617 Biorka Street. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.**

**VIII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE(S):**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 6pm, Harrigan Centennial Hall)  
**Wednesday, September 17, 2024** – Regular Monthly Meeting

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Acting Chair Brady-Howard, hearing no objection, adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM