APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS **Board/Commission/Committee**: Tourism Task Force **Seat Applying For (select only ONE):** ☐ Sitka Tribe of Alaska Representative ☐ Business in General ☐ Ports and Harbors Commission Representative ☐ Tours and Attractions ☐ Sustainability Commission Representative ☐ Sitka Sound Cruise Terminal Downtown Business Corridor ☐ Community At-Large Name: James Michener Phone Number: Address: **Email Address:** Length of Residence in Sitka: 31 yrs Registered to vote in Sitka? 🗹 Yes 🗆 No Employer: Self Organizations you belong to or participate in: Explain your main reason for applying: Please see attached letter. What experience or credentials will you bring to the board, commission, or committee membership? Please see attached letter. Please disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment. These may include but are not limited to: • A substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment. An immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment. To be considered, your application must be complete AND include a letter of interest, or a resume. Return your completed application and letter of interest or resume to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: All information submitted is public and will be published online. Appointments are typically made during Assembly meeting open sessions. However, Assembly members may vote to discuss applicant(s) in closed executive session. In this case, do you wish to be present when your application is discussed?

Yes

No



Tourism Task Force Commission letter of interest

Explain your reason for applying:

The challenges and opportunities for Sitka's future need to be balanced. When everybody leaves the table wishing "their side" had gotten more but are happy enough, we have achieved a functioning society. The decisions made by the Tourism Task Force will affect the character and health of this community for years. I would like to have the hard discussions and brainstorm with others about the future of this town and leave the table happy enough.

What experience or credentials will you bring to the commission?

My wife and I have created a manufacturing business in Sitka that also has a presence on Lincoln Street. We are positively and negatively affected by tourism. I make hard business and life decisions regularly. With tenacity and a willingness to look at all options, I feel I can be an asset to the Tourism Task Force.

Intent to serve on the Tourism Task Force

I have a vested interest in the financial and emotional health of the residents of Sitka. We are a community with different challenges and opportunities than most municipalities. The resurgence of post pandemic cruise ship travel to Sitka with unprecedented numbers has left us no choice but to adapt.

There will be many hard decisions to make regarding:

- What infrastructure needs will be, who and how will those be funded.
- Retaining a vital downtown that is open all year for residents and "off season" visitors of Sitka.
- -Maintaining a quality of life for residents of Sitka that are not in industries directly tied to tourism.
- -Stable jobs and housing for workers and employers.
- -What is the will of the *entire* community? Who are we? What do we want to look like in 5,10 or 20 years?

If chosen to be a commission member, I will look at the issues from many perspectives and earnestly make decisions for the health of my chosen community.

James Michener

Rosylvania