



CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA
BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPLICATION

Municipal Clerk's Office, 100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3
Phone: 907.747.1826 Fax: 907.747.7403 Email: clerk@cityofsitka.org

Submit this completed application AND either a letter of interest or resume to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

Board/Commission/Committee Applying For: Tourism Commission

Name: Sherri Blankenship Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Length of Residence in Sitka: 20 years Registered to vote in Sitka? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Employer Business Name and your position: Highliner Coffee Co. / owner / Element Bod

Organizations you belong to or participate in: Defiant fish Co. / owner
Safeguard Sitka

Explain your main reason for applying:

I am applying to the tourism Commission because tourism plays a critical role in Sitka's economy and community life. As a long term resident and year-round business owner, I see both the benefits and challenges tourism brings. I want to help support balanced, thoughtful tourism policies that strengthen local businesses and our quality of life.

What experience or credentials will you bring to the board, commission, or committee membership?

I own Highliner, a locally owned, year-round business, employing local residents. With over 20 years in Sitka, I bring practical small business and workforce experience with a strong year-round community focus.

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

Potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment must be disclosed. These may include, but are not limited to, a substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment, or an immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment. **Do you have any potential conflicts of interest to disclose?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain:

I am a local business owner whose business may be indirectly impacted by Tourism. I will disclose any potential conflicts and recuse myself when appropriate.

I understand this is a volunteer position appointed by the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly and requires regular meeting attendance. I further understand this application is public information and the merits of my appointment may be discussed at a public forum. In addition, my name may be published in media outlets. If I am appointed to serve, I will follow all laws, procedures, and practices associated with my appointment.

I certify that the information in my application is true and accurate.

Date: 01/16/2020 Applicant Signature: [Signature]

January 16, 2026

City and Borough of Sitka
Board / Committee / Commission
Municipal Clerk's Office
100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3

Dear Assembly Members,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Sitka Tourism Commission. As a long-term resident and year-round small business owner, I care deeply about the role tourism plays in Sitka's economy and the responsibility we share to manage it thoughtfully and sustainably.

I have lived in Sitka for over 20 years and am the owner of Highliner Coffee Co. and Defiant Fishing Co., locally owned businesses that employ local residents and operate year-round. Through my work, I see firsthand how tourism intersects with workforce stability, small business viability, and quality of life for residents. This perspective has given me a strong appreciation for balanced approaches that support economic vitality while keeping Sitka livable and community-centered.

I believe I would be a good fit for the Tourism Commission because I bring practical, on-the-ground experience, a collaborative mindset, and a commitment to transparency and public service. I value respectful dialogue, data-informed decision-making, and solutions that reflect Sitka's unique character and long-term needs.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be honored to contribute my experience and perspective in service to our community.

Sincerely,

Sherri Blankenship