
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Thursday, March 12, 2020 1:30 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members: Charlie Woodcock, Loyd Platson, Doug Osborne,
Jeff Arndt, Holly Marban, Denise Ewing
Dr. Richard Wein (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Woodcock called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Charlie Woodcock, Loyd Platson, Jeff Arndt, Holly Marban
Commissioners Absent: Denise Ewing (excused), Doug Osborne (unexcused)
Assembly Liaison: Richard Wein
Others in attendance: Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

III. CORRESPONDENCE / AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

None.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 13, 2020

M - Platson / S - Marban moved to approve the February 13, 2020 minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the four members present.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – Woodcock reported he was back to work this week and was working on a plan for COVID-19.

Commissioners – Marban told of SEARHC's website, mitigation, screening, procedures taking place with regards to COVID-19. She stated the health fair was postponed. Platson noted the state website was helpful for COVID-19 information. He reported that Sitka may be getting narBOXes. He relayed that the sharps containers were installed in the harbor bathrooms. Arndt reported on the Cross Trail project. He told of the climbing classes at Hames PE Center.

City Staff – Henshaw mentioned there may be meeting options for social distancing in the future. She noted the City Seal review would be on the agenda in April. She reminded that there was an open seat and encouraged commissioners to reach out to fill it.

Assembly Liaison – Wein gave recommendations on where to find information on COVID-19. He reported on the Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting he attended

Other: None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Affordability

Marban stated there were students associated with the RAND group for a landslide study that would be in Sitka August or September for 4 to 6 weeks that would also be studying food security. Wein mentioned hydroponics as a possibility as a model. He felt it could that remote tax from online sales could eliminate and readdress tax on food products. Arndt

told of South Korea effort of eliminating food waste. Marban thought stakeholders should be identified and invited. Wein suggested Building, Grounds, and Parks Supervisor, Michael Colliver. Platson asked each member to come up with creating 2 to 3 ideas for the community to move this item forward and gave the example of aquaculture through the Sitka Sounds Science Center. Marban told of hydroponics growing facility group outside of Bethel in a shipping container. She stated there were smaller systems that were a cabinet size that the Pioneer Home in Ketchikan had. She stated there was a master gardener class launching that was upcoming. She thought to invite Colliver to the next meeting or meeting after to ask suggestions from him and to share information.

C. Substance abuse especially regarding binge drinking in youth

Wein told of Federal government flavor ban in effect. Henshaw read from the minutes of December 5, 2019 in which this item was last discussed. Platson noted that single use products were still allowed with regards to the flavor ban. He told of community canvas and stated most were purchased online. He would collect information from Amanda at SEARHC for the next meeting. Platson stated that the original goal was to increase taxes for tobacco, marijuana, and/or alcohol. Woodcock noted that children were obtaining marijuana from the local stores most likely through other individuals reselling the product and wondered how to block that path. Wein stated there was a limit to purchasing. Platson was concerned of the possibility of businesses selling to underage persons. He thought to invite the Police Department to strategize on what could be done and what they are doing to enforce. He wondered if the marijuana stores had the compliance checks like liquor stores.

D. Support creation of a collective impact board

Platson asked Commissioners to read though the information of what a collective impact board was. He thought to identify community stakeholders and make a list of 10-17 people to meet 3 to 4 hours quarterly. Marban mentioned a list was generated. Henshaw would send out the previous list. Platson stated that Sitka Health Summit Coalition was also working on this topic as one of their goals and thought it would be good for them to facilitate.

E. Three-foot bike clearance

Arndt stated he saw a petition at Yellow Jersey bike shop for the 3-foot rule. Commissioners went through the draft ordinance and made the following changes.

M – Marban / S – Platson moved to change line 127 to delete, “To make cycling easier and safer by placing the focus on yielding the right of way.” and replace on line 128, “and a red light as a stop sign” with “only if traffic is clear.” The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the four members present.

The ordinance part V now read: Cyclists may treat a stop sign as a yield sign only if traffic is clear.

F. 2020 Commission goals

Previously written goals were reviewed. Marban suggested including food security for goal 3.

M – Platson / S – Marban moved to include the following changes to goal #3: strike “in the Sitka solid waste system especially with regards to” and after improvements add, “related to food waste, food security, and composting.” The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the four members present.

Discussion occurred around goal 4. Some Commissioners thought it to be vague, others noted that in order to execute the three-foot bike ordinance, it would fall under this goal. It was determined to leave the goal broad in order to continue work on the three-foot bike ordinance.

M - Platson / S - Marban moved to accept the goals with the change made to goal three and forward them to the Assembly for approval. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the four members present.

1. Research, discussion and find specific action to address substance misuse, especially regarding binge drinking in youth.

2. Support the creation of a collective impact board for Sitka. Note: A collective impact board is a group of people from different sectors who gather regularly to solve specific social problems using a structured form of collaboration.

3. Continue to pursue, discuss, research improvements related to food waste, food security, and composting.

4. Research, discuss, develop to forward on to the Assembly, public policy to improve the general welfare, reduce injuries, and improve health outcomes of Sitka.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting was scheduled for April 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., Harrigan Centennial Hall

Agenda items to add: City Seal

M - Platson / S - Marban moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk