

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
- Ports and Harbors Commission Representative
- Sustainability Commission Representative
- Downtown Business Corridor
- Business in General
- Tours and Attractions
- Sitka Sound Cruise Terminal
- Community At-Large

Name: Phyllis Hackett **Phone Number:** [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Length of Residence in Sitka: 50 yrs **Registered to vote in Sitka?** Yes No

Employer: retired

Organizations you belong to or participate in:

Braveheart Volunteers(volunteer), Sitka Conservation Society(member), KCAW(member), Sitka Trail Works(member)

Explain your main reason for applying:

I have a very keen interest in and have closely watched tourism and its impacts on Sitka and the region for many years. I worked for the Visitors Bureau as director of the Convention Sales and developed that position.

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

6+ years on the Assembly. Conference coordination and shoulder season sales. I've worked in many positions over my years in Sitka and have a broad sphere of knowledge and represent a substantial sector of our community.

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.

Date: April 17, 2023 **Signature:** Phyllis Hackett

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

RETURN TO: Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk/Records Specialist
Municipal Clerk's Office, 100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3 ~ Fax: 907-747-7403 ~ clerk@cityofsitka.org

Dear Assembly Members

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my application for the newly created Tourism Task Force.

I have been a year round resident of Sitka for 45+ years. I have worked in and have gained perspective of many different industries from fish processing and commercial long lining to Director of Sail, Sitka, Director of Convention Sales at the Sitka Visitors Bureau and Director of Sitka Whalefest, among others.

Having served the community of Sitka as an Assembly member for 6+ years my education on how the City functions, our financial condition as well as the benefit and challenges of many of our residents was greatly enhanced.

I have traveled a fair amount to quite a few different countries. I have always had a keen interest in the tourism industry and the effects it has on communities. In many cases I have been very sad to see the changes that have come about as a result of high numbers of visitors, in others the effect appears fairly minimal, or at least less obvious. One thing is constant, there is change and change can be difficult.

In Southeast Alaska the changes, due to the visitor industry, and primarily the cruise ship sector, have been remarkable. Several of our communities are nearly unrecognizable from what they were even 30 years ago. We in Sitka have so far been able to hold off some of the most dramatic changes. Only a few of our store fronts have their windows papered over and doors locked as the cruise ships pull out and there has been a fairly slow decline of businesses operating year round. But, there are more each year and every one counts.

I believe we are at a huge turning point in the industry and time is of the essence to do all we can to secure a future for our community that can coexist with tourism and still maintain the high quality of life that keeps so many of us here. I would like to work together with others to hopefully find that critical balance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Phyllis Hackett

