



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

January 13, 2016

Dear Parks and Recreation Committee,

I am sorry I am unable to attend this meeting, but I have a conflict with the SEDA meeting.

By way of this correspondence, I would like to provide comments on item V. B. of your agenda: Update on the Parks and Recreation Manager Position.

As you are aware, CBS anticipates major budgetary shortfalls as we develop the FY2017 budget. As such, I am carefully reviewing each vacancy that occurs at City Hall and determining if the position can be eliminated and the functions redistributed to other positions or dropped. In the case of the Parks and Recreation Manager, I have directed the Public Works Director not to recruit for this position. In turn, Michael Harmon has proposed a reorganization of duties and positions. This has resulted in the development of a Buildings, Grounds and Parks Supervisor position which will be recruited for in the near future. We feel this restructure will maintain a healthy focus on managing our high priority maintenance activities and deferred maintenance planning. As we lose management staff, there will undoubtedly be areas of reduced oversight and perhaps less engagement in various external meetings. Maintenance will be the priority. We will also look towards public/private partnerships to fill any gaps in developing plans and perhaps coordinating recreation activities. This can be addressed on a case by case basis.

I hope this helps clarify our direction on this matter. I value your input and I'm thankful for your service to the Parks and Recreation Committee and our Community.

Sincerely,

Mark Gorman
Administrator