POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Health Needs and Human Services Commission member, Jennifer Herrera, serving as an official City and Borough of Sitka liaison to the H.O.P.E. Coalition.

Note: This item was postponed at the April 24th meeting. Ms. Herrera and the Chair of the Health Needs and Human Services Commission, Doug Osborne, will be present to speak to the item.

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Hunter and Members of the Assembly

From: Doug Osborne, Chair of the Health Needs and Human Services Commission

Subject: Approve a HNHS Commissioner to the H.O.P.E. Coalition

Date: April 13, 2018

At their April 12, 2018 meeting, the Health Needs and Human Services (HNHS) by general consent recommended that the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly approve HNHS Commission member Jennifer Herrera serve as the official city liaison to the H.O.P.E. Coalition for a Drug-Free Sitka.

Background Information: As a pre-requisite for applying to the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations' (SAMHSA) Drug-Free Community grant program, Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services has organized the H.O.P.E. Coalition for a drug-free Sitka.

The H.O.P.E. Coalition's mission is to "reduce and prevent youth substance use and abuse by empowering individuals and organizations through knowledge, skills and options to grow resilient, substance free youth."

Under SAMHSA's requirements, the H.O.P.E. Coalition must have representation from 12 different sectors of the community, with one of these sectors being an official representative from the local city government. Given the required time commitment to serve on the H.O.P.E. Coalition and the already full schedules of city staff and Assembly, the HNHS Commission members felt it would be best for a HNHS Commissioner to serve in this capacity. Commissioners Lauren Hughey and Anthony Treas held this position previously, but both have since moved out of state.

The only commitment the City and Borough of Sitka is making through this appointment is to have a member of city government serve on the coalition.