



Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions City and Borough of Sitka

Board/Commission/Committee: Climate Action Task Force

Name: Catherine Riley Preferred Phone: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Alternate Phone: _____

Email Address: [REDACTED] Fax Number: _____

Length of Residence in Sitka: 28 years Registered to vote in Sitka? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Employer: Sitka Conservation Society

Organizations you belong to or participate in:
Sitka Conservation Society (member, employee)
Sitka Sockeyes Rugby Team (player and board member)
AFS Intercultural Exchange Volunteer
Planning Commission

Explain your main reason for applying:

I would like to provide my time and volunteer capacity to help the City of Sitka find and adopt climate solutions that will not only lower our local greenhouse gas emissions, but stimulate local economic development opportunities, contribute to our tax base, and not overly burden our citizens with expense or implementation. I want to help find solutions, identify funding streams, and make recommendations to the assembly on policies/programs that lead to these outcomes. I think that I can help this task force in identifying and applying for grant funding for program implementation, identifying legislative solutions, and supporting/identifying private investment opportunities.

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

I have sought to work on climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts throughout my education and professional career. I have a background in sustainable economic and social development, as well as policy research, community organizing and government relations. As a lifelong Sitkan who is committed to building an ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable future for our town, I would bring the perspective of a young Alaskan who is invested in our fishing economy and has a pragmatic approach grounded in community priorities and collaboration. I would also like to look for opportunities to collaborate with the Planning Commission, of which I am a member, to identify how climate action can correlate with capital improvement projects, infrastructure development, etc.

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.

n/a

Please attach a letter of interest, outline, or resume which includes your education, work, and volunteer experience that will enhance your membership.

→ (To be considered, your application must be complete AND be accompanied by one of the above supporting documents.)

Date: 1/5/2021 Signature: Kate [Signature]

Your complete application and resume should be returned to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

Please note: all information submitted will be made public and published online. Appointments are normally made during open session of an Assembly meeting, 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:

Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk/Records Specialist, 100 Lincoln Street
Fax: 907-747-7403 Email: melissa.henshaw@cityofsitka.org

Catherine (Katie) Riley



Profile Dedicated and hard-working fisherwoman and policy advocate with a focus on sustainable community development, natural resource and land management, effective and pragmatic consensus-building, and community engagement in both local and international settings.

Education

2011-2015 Master of Arts (with Honors) in International Relations and Italian, *University of St Andrews*, St Andrews, Scotland

2009-2010 AFS Year –Long Study Abroad Program; *Liceo Scientifico Vittorio Veneto*, Milan, Italy

2007-2011 *Mt. Edgecumbe High School*, Sitka, Alaska

Work Experience

Policy Director, *Sitka Conservation Society*, Sitka, Alaska. August 2019 – Present.

- Responsible for managing policy engagement, legislative action, and advocacy campaigns for SCS on a local, state, and federal level
- Works with a broad coalition of advocacy groups, tribal governments, Alaska Native corporations, local business owners, and youth to create and promote collaborative solutions for land management and community development
- Responsible for supervising and management of 3 policy team members and interns
- Fundraising and grant writing for SCS policy work
- Messaging, communications and strategy development for Tongass National Forest policy

Policy Engagement Coordinator, *Sitka Conservation Society*, Sitka, Alaska. November 2018 – August 2019

- Managed SCS's Roadless Rule campaign with a focus on engaging a diverse range of stakeholders to participate in public policy process
- Increase in responsibilities of managing staff and internships, fundraising, strategy development

Policy Researcher, *Sitka Conservation Society*, Sitka, Alaska. March 2018 – November 2018.

- Research grassroots solutions to long-standing policy issues with a focus on collaborative engagements and encouraging community participation in decision-making processes
- Track legislative action related to Tongass land management, analyze impacts on local use areas
- Create talking points, white papers, and messaging strategies
- Assist with advocacy efforts in regards to implementation of the 2016 Amendment to the Tongass Land Management Plan

Commercial Fishing Experience

Deck Boss, *F/V Montana*, Bristol Bay, AK. June 2020- July 2020

Dive Tender, *F/V Vulcan*, Craig, AK. September 2017-November 2017

- Assist with commercial diving operation for sea cucumbers; responsible for operating and maintaining a 22' aluminum skiff in addition to product quality

Deckboss, *F/V Anita*, Sitka, AK. June-October 2015

Deckhand/Deckboss, *M/V Eyak LLC*, Sitka, AK.

July 2019

July-September 2018

June - September 2017

October 2015

June-September 2014 (deckboss)

May-September 2013 (deckhand)

- Manage the daily operations of summer troll tendering program (including training and supervision of all deckhands)
- Engine maintenance, wheel watch, mail and freight deliveries to remote communities on South Baranof Island

Volunteer Coordinator / Community Project Coordinator, *ReefDoctor.Org LTD (RD)*, Ifaty, Madagascar. June 2016 – May 2017

- Responsible for management and on-camp support of all RD volunteers/interns
- Gather feedback with volunteers/interns, present correlated results to staff
- Coordinate and chair all general meetings on camp, including agenda setting, timekeeping, and recording of minutes
- Create project tracking system and evaluation system for ReefDoctor community projects

Volunteer Experience

January 2018 – Present

AFS International Student Exchange Program Volunteer

January 2018 – Present

Team Development Director, Secretary/Treasurer, Sitka Sockeyes Rugby, Inc.

October 2020 – Present

Commissioner, City and Borough of Sitka Planning Commission

Professional Development

September 2020

USCG Master of Motor Vessels 100 Tons: Inland Waters

January 2020

Facilitation Training, Seattle, WA. *Training Resources for the Environmental Community*

September 2019 - February 2020

Stepping Up to Leadership program, Montana. *Training Resources for the Environmental Community*

September 2019

PADM 635: Natural Resource Policy (Graduate class at UAS)

References

- Andrew Thoms, Executive Director, *Sitka Conservation Society*.
[REDACTED]
- David Castle, Owner/Operator of *M/V Eyak LLC*.
[REDACTED]
- Ashley Young, Chief Financial Officer, *NXL Group, Inc.* Captain of *F/V Montana*.
[REDACTED]