

Ketchikan Historic Commission

February 23, 2023, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Tongass Historical Museum

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Communications

- a. New Borough Planning Commission representative, Sharli Arntzen

4. Persons to be Heard

5. Changes to the Agenda

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve January 26, 2023 minutes

7. New Business

- a. DOT notices (none rec'd as of 2/16/23)

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Colorful Character signage update
- b. Aleut Memorial project update
- c. Historic Preservation plan: next steps

9. Commissioner comments

10. Adjourn

Next meeting: (4th Thursday monthly, 3 pm) March 23, 2023

Ketchikan Historic Commission
Meeting Minutes: January 26, 2023 **DRAFT**

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

The Ketchikan Historic Commission meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. at the Tongass Historical Museum.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call

(x) Christa Bruce	(x) Anita Maxwell
(x) Deborah Hayden	(x) Irene Dundas
(x) Kristina Hill	(x) Pat Tully
(x) Alethea Johnson	(x) Amanda Welsh
(vacant) KGB Planning Comm rep	(x) Stephen Reeve

Agenda Item #3 Communications

Anita notified the Commission that our SHPO contact Maria Lewis is no longer with that agency. Our new contacts are Katie Ringsmuth (CLG) and Kathleen Tarr (grants). Our quarterly Colorful Character grant report is due 1/31 with a final report due after our 2/28 deadline.

Stephen showed the Pioneer Hall sign as an example of the high quality production with an estimated 30 year lifespan. He is finalizing exact locations for installation with each property owner as well as securing sign permits. Deborah noted the need for possible installation assistance. Commissioners agreed that the next grant might focus on an equal number of new signs with replacements. Irene mentioned that KIC's maintenance department might be able to help with installation.

Agenda Item #4 Persons to be Heard

None.

Agenda Item # 5 Changes to the Agenda

Kris asked that we discuss a Commission mailing list – added to 8a.

Agenda Item #6 Consent Agenda

Amanda moved to approve the December 1, 2022 minutes. Seconded by Pat. All in favor.

Agenda Item #7 New Business

- a. DOT notices - None received.

Agenda Item #8 Unfinished Business

- a. Preservation Party

Commissioners thanked Amanda for taking the lead on a successful first event (20 attendees). Christa felt the location was good. Kris encouraged the Commissioners to do this event again and it was decided that twice a year was reasonable. Irene noted that we needed a draw like trivia or a speaker. Kris felt that we shouldn't combine a social event and the Historic Preservation planning process. Pat offered that a presentation could be followed by a social hour. Anita thought that we could rotate through different historic buildings to showcase their work, like the Pioneer Hall, given their current restoration efforts. Commissioners agreed that we'd shoot for end of September/beginning of October on a Tuesday for the next event (avoiding Planning Commission's 2nd Tuesday meetings).

Mailing List

Kris recommended that we keep adding to an outreach list. Anita will create a mailing list and send out a thank you note via email to the attendees. Alethea added that Sharli Arntzen was selected to serve as the Borough Planning Commission representative.

b. Historic Preservation Plan: next steps

Kris feels that we need to start with a database. That will identify what info exists on and would include historic structures, archaeological sites and cultural resources. Recommended steps are to 1. Define parameters. 2. Check the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (State inventory database). 3. Update AHRS with USFS records, DOT, Tribes, Corps of Engineers, Historic Ketchikan surveys, etc. to ensure Ketchikan's records are comprehensive. Amanda affirmed that professionals go to the AHRS first so it's good to supplement that inventory first and then see how to create a public database as appropriate. Anita will ask SHPO staff about how public access might work. Alethea noted that there may be a grant for data entry. Sidwell might be a potential contractor for such work. Amanda said that the KGB GIS database includes historical sites. Data entry could be done by a college intern as well. Stephen emphasized that while the data is important, we're losing properties now. Amanda agreed and suggested starting a Google Doc to identify emergency properties so that we can prioritize grant opportunities. Amanda reminded the Commission that we also need to address the SHPO goals noted during Maria Lewis' visit.

Agenda Item #9 Commissioner Comments

Stephen invited the Commissioners to a Historic Ketchikan social for the release of their new *Our Town*. Date TBD.

Agenda Item #10 Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.