

**Haines Borough  
Planning Commission  
February 8, 2024  
EXCERPT OF MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Patty **BROWN**, Brian **O'RILEY**, Rachel **SAITZYK**, Eben **SARGENT**, Erika **MERKLIN**.

**Absent:** Dan **SCHULTZ**, Derek **POINSETTE**

**Assembly Liaison:** Craig **LOOMIS**

**Staff Present:** Alekka **FULLERTON**/Borough Clerk, Kiersten **LONG**/Deputy Clerk, Shawn **BELL**/Harbormaster.

**Visitors Present:** Don **TURNER** Jr, George **CAMPBELL**, Pete **DORN** and others present on zoom.

**11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. Heliport Moratorium – Proposed Resolution 23-09-1064**

**CAMPBELL**- Believes a PC member should recuse themselves from the conversation since she is a litigant.

Chair **BROWN** asked **MERKLIN** to disclose her position as a litigant in the pending heliport litigation with the Borough. **MERKLIN** complied.

**TURNER** – Grandfathered right for cell tower maintenance.

**MERKLIN** requested to be recused from the vote and such recusal was accepted.

**Motion:** **O'RILEY** moved to convey to the Assembly that "the esteemed Planning Commission does not support the proposed resolution" and the motion carried unanimously.

I certify that the above is a true and complete excerpt of agenda item 11A from the February 8, 2024 planning commission minutes.



Alekka Fullerton, MMC, Borough Clerk  
Haines Borough, Alaska

Haines Borough  
Planning Commission Meeting  
February 8, 2024  
MINUTES

Approved

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/ROLL CALL:**

Chair **BROWN** called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm in the assembly chambers and on zoom, and led the pledge to the flag.

**Commissioners Present:** Patty **BROWN**, Brian **O'RILEY**, Rachel **SAITZYK**, Eben **SARGENT**, Erika **MERKLIN**.

**Absent:** Dan **SCHULTZ**, Derek **POINSETTE**

**Assembly Liaison:** Craig **LOOMIS**

**Staff Present:** Alekka **FULLERTON**/Borough Clerk, Kiersten **LONG**/Deputy Clerk, Shawn **BELL**/Harbormaster.

**Visitors Present:** Don **TURNER** Jr, George **CAMPBELL**, Pete **DORN** and others present on zoom.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The following Items were on the published consent agenda indicated by an asterisk (\*)

3 – Approve Minutes from 1-11-24 Regular Planning Commission Meeting

**Motion:** **SARGENT** moved to “approve the agenda and the consent agenda” and the motion carried unanimously.

**\*3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Note: The Minutes were approved by approval of the consent agenda: “Approve minutes from 1-11-24 Regular Planning Commission Meeting”*

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**DORN** – Wants the project at his house to progress

**TUYNMAN** – Cell towers, heliports, noise ordinance

**5. COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

**SARGENT** – Housing unit development

**SAITZYK** – Preserving night sky

**MERKLIN** – Interested in Downtown planning

**6. CHAIR'S REPORT:** Chair **BROWN** reported on KHNS program on public comments; attending landslide conference in Sitka; seats available on the Housing Working Group and Waerfront Aesthetics Committee; Bear/Human interactions- creating a Bear Task Force

**Motion:** **SAITZYK** moved to “Recommend to the assembly to create a bear conflict mitigation task force,” and the motion carried unanimously.

**7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

**8. ASSEMBLY LIAISON REPORT:** Assembly member **LOOMIS** was present and willing to answer any questions.

**9. STAFF REPORT:**

**A. Planner Report** – Provided in a supplemental document

**B. Comprehensive Plan Update** – Update provided by Shelly Wade of Agnew::Beck

**C. Update on Resouce Extraction CUP** – postponed unti the next meeting

**10. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. Heliport Moratorium – Proposed Resolution 23-09-1064**

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Chair **BROWN** asked **MERKLIN** to disclose her position as a litigant in the pending heliport litigation with the Borough. **MERKLIN** complied.

**TURNER** – Grandfathered right for cell tower maintenance.

**MERKLIN** requested to be recused from the vote and such recusal was accepted.

**Motion: O’RILEY** moved to convey to the Assembly that “the esteemed Planning Commission does not support the proposed resolution” and the motion carried unanimously.

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Harbor Used Oil Shed 95% Designs**

**Motion: SARGENT** moved to “approve the harbor used oil shed 95% designs” and the motion carried unanimously.

*\*\* Clerk’s Note: During discussion Assembly liaison LOOMIS and Commissioner O’RILEY expressed concern that commitments to the harbor improvements appear to have been abandoned and with the Letnikof dock expected to be out of commission has impacted the community use for subsistence, recreation, and transportation.*

**B. Managing Floodplain Development Through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Course: L0273**

*\*\*\*Clerks Note: The Planner has indicated he cannot attend the course. Planning Commissioners were invited to apply to attend.*

**13. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**TURNER** – Supporting the harbor

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

**O’REILY** – Keep priorities in sight

**15. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**16. SET MEETING DATE:**

**A. Joint Planning Commission and Borough Assembly Meeting re Comprehensive Plan Draft Review - Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Library Community Room.**

**17. ADJOURNMENT: 9:08 pm**