

Agenda of the City and Borough of Juneau
Historic Resources Advisory Committee
 Special Meeting – August 15, 2022
 MINUTES

MEMBERS	
Name	Attendance
Zane Jones	
Shannon Crossley	X (attending as consultant)
Shauna McMahon	X
Gary Gillette	X
Don Harris	X
Sarah Hieb	X
Olivia Lihou	X
Dorene Lorenz	X
Chuck Smythe	X

STAFF	
Name	Attendance
Beth McKibben	
Scott Ciambor	

- I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 5:07
- II. Approval of Agenda
Motion Lorenz/Second Smythe to approve the agenda as presented.
- III. Minutes
None
- IV. Public Comment
Laurie Craig said she is very impressed with the report. She has some comments to offer when the time is appropriate.

Sanguinetti noted that she is no longer staff at the museum and is attending as a member of the public.

V. Juneau Townsite Survey-Review and Comment

McKibben introduced Anjuli Grantham and Shannon Crossley as the consultants who have been working on the survey and inventory. She then asked the consultants if they had preference for how to take comments on the draft.

Grantham suggested if commission members had a lot of written comments and/or notes to please provide those directly.

McKibben suggested the commission stay focused on content and not spend time on spelling, punctuation, grammar and that sort of review. She also suggested going around the room and taking comments.

Lorenz saw some opportunity to add some details and will reach out the Pioneers of Alaska to see if they can help fill in some details. She is very impressed with the report.

Gillette has a number of format questions. He agrees the report is informative and well done. He suggested the cover acknowledge the update and phase 1. He recommended the acknowledgements page similar to other city plans and historic inventories. He also wondered if there is a requirement for a statement regarding the source of funding. He recommended an executive summary at the beginning providing an overview and introduction to the report. He will send a copy of his written comments. He recommended adding a map that shows all four of the quadrants of the Townsite. Several dots do not have numbers, and wondered when they will be added. He recommends including both the city number and the state number. He expressed concern that some information may need to be confidential. He recommended adding a column to the table to include the ARHA number. He questioned the name of the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.

Sanguinetti said she had checked with the church and they want "Russian" included.

He suggested they double check when St. Nicholas was listed, and whether it was individually listed or part of a multiple listing. He recommended adding an explanation of what the criterion that are used for evaluation at the beginning of the document. He believes some of the information included is beyond the scope of the survey.

Crossley said that the State has confirmed that integrity discussion should be included in the report.

Grantham clarified that the survey identifies individual buildings are determined to be eligible for listing as well as contributing to the district.

Gillette suggested that a building that is not eligible for individual listing is not contributing to the district.

Grantham said that some buildings are not significant enough on their own merit for individual listing, yet have significant integrity to contribute to the district.

Gillette suggested that if a building meets criteria A then it is eligible for individual listing. He also recommended that any building appropriate for individual listing should be considered as contributing to the district.

Gillette questioned a few “style’ listings. Crossley confirmed they are listed in the style guide. Gillette recommended highlighting the specific building being discussed when a photo includes more than one structure. Overall, he thinks the survey is well done.

Lihou likes the background historic information and high detail. She appreciates the historical perspective provided by using archive photos with current photos.

Smythe said the amount of work and level of detail is admirable. He recommends a map with the entire Townsite and four quadrants. He struggled to understand the reference to some of the early Townsite maps (plats) and suggested they be included. He questioned the description of the three eras in the documents. He would leave out post WW2 and just call it government expansion. He offered some clarification about the context of the Tlingits being moved and felt it is important to note they were excluded from downtown. He questioned some information about the hospital that did not align with some of his personal knowledge.

Grantham said she would look into more. Sanguinetti suggested it might be a time period issue.

Smythe will email other comments that are more style and grammatical in nature.

Harris he questioned the boundaries of the Juneau Townsite district and the Chicken Ridge district. It seems arbitrary to have the boundary line run down the middle of the street.

Sanguinetti also remembers the boundaries looking slightly different in the past.

Gillette said the first report done in 1986 looked at the entire borough. This study came up with historic neighborhoods and the lines were developed using original survey lines topographic features and a few more criteria. The state determined these areas and they do not represent original plats. This is one of the reason there are some overlaps.

Crossley thought Juneau Townsite was the “left overs” from the other downtown neighborhoods.

Hieb thinks the report is well done and will be very helpful in the future.

Sanguinetti said overall its well done. She has question about layout, and some editing notes, such as font and headings. She made some suggestions for formatting. She noted some have a “historic context” section and was not clear what it referenced. She reminded

Crossley clarified that information will be in the forms in the appendix and it will be removed from all the areas of the body of the text.

Sanguinetti noted that most entries are blank on “integrity discussion” but not.

Crossley said the intent is to include it in all the entries.

Sanguinetti suggested another map showing all the historic neighborhoods moving down in scale to this district and then the individual properties. She noted that the history entry for St. Nicholas isn’t as complete as some of the other entries and recommended looking at the church’s website for additional information. She suggested including St. Ann’s Center as one of the names for that building because that name is on the building.

Laurie Craig asked if it was possible to elaborate the story about the people that built the Behrends Department Store because they had such an impact on the development of the Juneau community. Is it possible to get a new photo of the Mendenhall Apartments. She wondered if the historic photos could be dated. She was curious about the context discussion stopped in the 1972.

Grantham explained that the survey is for historic buildings and the date of significance is 50 years and including history more current than 50 years ago does not fit within the scope of the project.

She asked about Linn Forest architect and wondered if there is a way to include him. She would love a study that included the history of the people that make the buildings special. She thanked everyone for their work and recognized the survey as a gift to the community.

McKibben said her comments are more organizational, editing and terms of art. She noted the document will flow better once the information for the forms is moved into the appendix.

Sanguinetti reminded the consultants to let “Historical Collections” know the survey will be using photos from their collection. The photos are meant to be used but they ask to be notified.

VI. Annual Retreat Planning

McKibben asked the Commission what they traditionally do for the annual retreat and what is needed from her to make this happen.

Gillette said in the past they have done the retreat in the fall or the spring. Crossley suggested winter, on a Saturday.

Smythe said the SHI building might be available for a hybrid meeting.

McKibben said she would explore a venue that would allow for a hybrid meeting. She recommended the commission pick three things they want to work on and use the Historic and Cultural Preservation Plan for project ideas, with the goal of the commission picking three things to work on for the next year.

VII. Committee Comments

McKibben thanked Sanguinetti and noted that she was integral in CBJ receiving the grant for this Juneau Townsite Survey and Inventory. Also, that Crossley had been acknowledged as woman promoting disk golf in Alaska. The Blueprint Downtown Area Plan is out for public review.

Craig pointed out that McKibben had been promoting Blueprint Downtown on a Saturday.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion Gillette/Second Lorenz to adjourn the meeting at 6:35.