

Sitka Alaska Permanent Charitable Trust
Meeting minutes
May 17, 2011

7:05 PM Thad Poulson calls meeting to order.

7:06 PM Roll call - Members present: Thad Poulson, Steve Reifenthuhl, Cmdr. Doug Cameron, Holly Reeder, Stan Filler. Members absent: John Holst, Dr. PJ Ford Slack

7:07 PM Review of year-end reports moved to May 18th meeting.

7:08 PM Thad explains the process and that there is a total of \$110,000 to be awarded, board agrees that each applicant has 4 minutes to present.

7:09 PM Steve Reifenthuhl reminds everyone that non-profits need to submit their tax forms proving they are indeed non-profits.

7:10 PM Sitka Summer Music Festival – Focused on offering free events so that people representing all levels of socioeconomic statuses could enjoy music, as well as wanting to continue their community outreach and educational programs with the funds requested.

7:15 PM Dr. PJ Ford Slack arrives.

7:18 PM Jazz Festival – Would use the funds requested to bring in more musicians and continue to offer quality performances and educational outreach programs within the schools during their unique festival

7:20 PM Greater Sitka Arts Council – The money sought would be used to pay 3 internships for artists, used examples such as the wearable arts show and the Ode To Sitka

7:22 PM SAIL (Southeast Alaska Independent Living) – Their motto is to inspire personal independence for adults with disabilities. They believe in the “teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime” mantra. Specifically this money would fund their program to get disabled adults out into the community on a summer excursion (kayaking, hiking, rock climbing, etc). SAIL provides services to 93 people in Sitka

7:26 PM Sitka Fine Arts Camp – 550 students are coming to camp this year. The money requested will go to provide scholarships for students who cannot afford camp as well as continuing to revitalize the Sheldon Jackson Campus.

7:31 PM Hames Center – Hames currently has 323 members, 175 walk-in customers and is open 78 hours a week, completely staffed by volunteers. There are many community groups who use this space (SEER School, Pacific High, SCAPS, YAS,

SPC, etc). The specific project is to repair the gym floor. They have a match of \$10,860 and all labor can be done by people in Sitka.

7:37 PM Island Institute – The funding requested would go to bring in 5 residents in writing next year. A portion would also fund the international writing program. In the past international writers have included people from the Island of Morisha, Russia, Ireland, etc.

7:44 PM Friends of Sheldon Jackson – Funding was requested to continue the Native Artists Demonstrations program, which are primarily held in the schools. This has been a very successful program at all the public schools in Sitka and they would like the opportunity to continue the program.

7:49 PM BraveHeart Volunteers – This program has 100s of volunteers and 12 programs, with only 2 staff members who are each paid for 30 hours a week. Currently 78 people are being served by this organization, 8 are benefiting from the “end of life” services. They would like funding to continue their programs (hope through healing, end of life services, bereavement follow-up, senior programs, and learning through service, etc).

7:57 PM ArtChange – This program is currently working on the Respect Mural, to give a voice to the dialogue around the issue of respect. They are trying to make a proactive approach to dialogue and they want to create a mural on the face of the courthouse to provide a space where they can begin this process. This money would support the mural.

8:02 PM Library – Social Sciences request for books. There is cooperative collection development between all the libraries in town (including SHS, BMS, MEHS, KGHS and Kettleton) with books ranging from 5th grade reading level all the way through college reading level. This request would grant the SHS librarian to purchase social science books published after 2006 (currently 77% of the books were published before the year 2000).

8:05 PM Library – this money would fund the purchase of the photos and prints from the former Sheldon Jackson collection. There are an estimated 700 prints of the history of Sitka. Some were added to the digital pipeline for all to view, but many have not been added or purchased. This money would go to rescuing these photos and prints so everyone in Sitka can enjoy them.

8:15 PM Sitka High School Spanish Club – Each year this club (students must be in Spanish 3 or 4) takes a trip to Guatemala, where they experience a wide variety of cultural interactions. Students attend school 4 hours a day, live with a local family, cook, hike, visit ruins and learn about Mayan culture. Every year students who wish to go, but do not have the money are left out. The teacher has requested funds to provide a scholarship for these students.

8:22 PM 3-5 Preschool, Inc. – This program serves 50 students in Sitka, with about 20% of them are low income students. They would like to use their funds to promote their early reading/guided reading programs. These funds to go to purchasing more books, to improve their check-out system, to help with parental instruction for when kids bring these books home, and to hire a part-time person to help implement these programs.

8:28 PM Swan Lake Senior Center – No presentation

8:29 PM Whale Fest – This program provides a variety activities using science in the classroom (art combined with science, the Sea Chantey, squid dissections, marine ecology on the docks, necropsy, etc). Funds requested would go to supporting all of these programs in all of the public schools in Sitka.

8:38 PM Sitka Sound Science Center – This program requested funds specifically for students to perform a necropsy on a killer whale that recently washed up on Kruzof Island.

8:46 PM Sitka High School Science Department – No presentation

8:48 PM Keet Gooshi Heen – This program requested funds for the starlab project, which has been very successful. This year they would like to keep the rented starlab for 3 weeks so that MEHS and BMS can also benefit from it. Some of the money would also be used to train other teachers how to use the starlab at their schools.

8:55 End presentations.

Dr. PJ Ford-Slack commented on how amazing all of these groups in Sitka are and how impressed she is with what is going on in Sitka

Ariel explains what the normal procedure is (what each person needs to do to award funding), and what has been done in the past.

Steve comments that column A (culture/arts) is slated to receive 43% of the funding they requested while column B (science) is slated to receive 83% of the funding they requested. He also suggests that the library's social science request be moved to column B. Motion made by Stan, seconded by Steve, all agreed.

9:02 – Thad asks if there are comments from the audience. 1 question was asked: Are people expected to be present for tomorrow's meeting to comment? Thad answered, no, but the meeting is open to the public.

9:05 – Meeting adjourned by Thad.