

**CITY OF UNALASKA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
2019 ANNUAL REPORT**



This annual report is designed to serve multiple functions: to summarize the historic preservation activities of the Unalaska Historic Preservation Commission; to serve as a resource document; to note future historic preservation related activities; and to meet the requirements of § 2.60.090, Unalaska Code of Ordinances.

The following residents of Unalaska served on the City of Unalaska's Historic Preservation Commission throughout 2019:

Chair Billie Jo Gehring (Elected at meeting of January 20, 2019; Resigned December, 2019)
Vice Chair Travis Swangel
Vicki Williams
Helen Brown
Tom Bell
City Manager: Erin Reinders
Planning Director: Bil Homka

The Historic Preservation Commission is supported by the City of Unalaska's Planning Department, which consists of:

William Homka, AICP, Planning Director
Thomas Roufos, Associate Planner
Cameron Dean, GIS Administrator (Hired January, 2019)
AnnMarie Rafer, Administrative Assistant (Resigned January, 2019)
Delanney McConnell, Administrative Assistant (Hired February, 2019; Resigned, July 2019)
Jasmine Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant (Hired July, 2019)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION 2020-01

In accordance with § 2.60.090 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances, the City of Unalaska's Historic Preservation Commission officially adopts the following annual report, filing the same with the Unalaska City Council.

CITY OF UNALASKA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

BY: _____
Travis Swangle
Acting Commission Chair

Bil Homka, AICP
Secretary of the Commission

DATE OF ADOPTION: _____

INTRODUCTION

City Council approved Ordinance 2014-05 in 2014 which amended various sections of Title 2 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances, including sections related to Historic Preservation. The Planning Department and Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department consulted with the City Attorney regarding the selection process of Historic Preservation Commissioners. Approved changes created a new UCO 2.76.015, stating that the Historic Preservation Commission membership is the Planning Commission membership, including the Planning Commission's *ex officio* members (*i.e.*, the City Manager and the Director of Planning). While remaining non-voting for Planning Commission decisions, the City Manager and Director of Planning would be full members of the HPC.

Unalaska Code of Ordinances §2.76.040 identifies the duties and responsibilities of the HPC. This is based on the requirements of local governments participating in the Alaska Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Program. The duties and responsibilities are listed below.

- To survey and inventory community historic resources including historic, architectural, and archaeological resources within the community;
- To review nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and consulting with federal and State authorities in section 106 reviews under the National Historic Preservation Act;
- To act in an advisory role to other officials, and to City Departments regarding the identification and protection of local historic and archaeological resources and historic preservation planning;
- To enforce state historic preservation laws. The Historic Preservation Commission shall support the enforcement of the Alaska Historic Preservation Act;
- To review, and where it is deemed appropriate, recommend nominations to or deletions from the Unalaska Register of Historic Places to the Unalaska City Council twice yearly.

§ 2.60.090 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances requires each board and committee to submit an annual report which summarizes the activities which have occurred during the previous year. The Annual Report is a mechanism for monitoring those activities and for presenting to the City Council the goals and objectives for historic preservation in the coming year.

SUMMARY OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ACTIONS FOR 2019

I. General Statistics (January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

The Historic Preservation Commission, with support from the Planning Department, took the following actions. One meeting was postponed due to lack of quorum in September; the follow-up meeting was cancelled due to October 17th plane crash.

HPC Summary of Activities	2016	2017	2019
Ordinance Changes	-	-	-
General Resolutions	1/1	3/3	1/1
Survey/Inventory of Historic Properties	1/1	-	-
Preservation Planning Activities	-	-	-
National Register Participation	-	-	-
Historic Property Protection	-	-	-
Public Education Projects	-	-	-
Historic Preservation Grants	-	-	-
TOTAL MEETINGS	3	3	1

II. Historic Preservation Commission Recommendations to Council

There were no recommendations to Council.

III. Historic Preservation Commission Actions

The Historic Preservation Commission approved the 2018 annual report and had several discussion items.	
<i>January 31, 2019: Approved of Annual Report and filed with City Council.</i>	The Historic Preservation Commission approved Resolution 2019-01 , a resolution approving the HPC 2018 Annual Report.
<i>Scheduled: September 19, 2019, postponed to October 17th, ultimately cancelled: Discussion item</i>	Discussion on the removal of WW2 materials from the Unalaska Valley site.
<i>Scheduled: September 19, 2019, postponed to October 17th, ultimately cancelled: Discussion item</i>	Discussion on Amaknak Pre-WWII Tank Farm Groundwater Monitoring Draft Work Plan

IV. Historic Preservation Goals for 2018

- Improve public engagement with historic preservation, including website improvements, celebrating Preservation Month in May, and improving kiosks/signage/wayfinding.
- Suggest list of sites to City Council for the Unalaska Register of Historic Places and explore ideas for a Historic Preservation Ordinance Amendment.
- Continue working toward addressing the action items identified in the 2011 Comprehensive Plan as they relate to Historic Preservation.
- Consider creation of Historic Preservation regulations and protections.