

Hillside Community Council

Draft Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 6:30pm-8:00pm

1. **Welcome/Call to Order-6:40 pm** due to technical issues.
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Sign-in & membership verification for voting
 - Voting Requirement – Must have attended one Council Meeting in the preceding 12 months
 - **Board members present:** Carmela Warfield, Dr. Helena Wisniewski, Bruce Vergason were in person, Daniel Robbins, Sandy Blomfield and Todd Brownson were online, Bob Redlinger was absent, excused.
 - **A quorum was established.**

2. **Approval of April 2024 HCC Meeting Agenda**
 - Marc June moved to approve.
 - Seconded Jason Warfield.

3. **Approval of the October, November, and December 2023 HCC Meeting Minutes**
 - Marc June moved to approve.
 - Seconded Jason Warfield.

4. **Business Updates**
 - **Treasurer’s Report – Daniel Robbins**
 - Ending balance \$1,778.46, no deposits or withdrawals.
 - Coming up – donation to HALO and Signage payment.

 - **FCC Delegate Report – Carmela Warfield**
 - FCC hired a new director.

 - **HALO Delegate Report – Bob Redlinger (excused)**
 - Carmela Warfield – HALO event at the Zoo was well attended.

 - **President’s Report – Carmela Warfield**
 - Work item – revise and update by-laws.
 - Surveying priorities and capital projects
 - A survey in April.
 - Submit survey in June.

5. **Reports from elected officials and community representatives in attendance (5 minutes each)**
 - a. **Legislative updates.**
 - **District F – Senator James Kaufman**
 - Met with anchorage delegation.
 - Mayor - critical funding of \$4M needed.
 - Keep waste station open for a homeless shelter.
 - Submitted capital project priority items within the Hillside, to include pedestrian safety improvements at O’Malley and Rockridge, and Abbott and Birch (near the schools).
 - Working on house operating budget – by April 12th.
 - Energy – with respect to Cook Inlet – squeeze more gas out – long-range plan more gas from the slope.
 - Education funding update:
 - SB 140 passed. However, the Governor vetoed it. It came back for veto override but failed, so SB 140 did not move forward.
 - New bill HB 392 is a replacement for SB140, with an addition of teacher

bonuses of \$60M.

- **District 11 – Representative Julie Coulombe** – Rep Coulombe is in Finance Committee meetings, staff member Preston presenting for Rep. Coulombe.
 - Chugiak Park Bill passed.
 - HB 392 – taking teacher bonuses out.
 - Crime restitution bill is in the Senate.
 - Childcare Bill in health and human services.
 - HB 116 in House finance committee.
- b. **Anchorage Assembly Reports, District 6 - Assembly Member Zac Johnson**
 - Passed ordinance for short-term rentals, but Mayor vetoed it.
 - AO 224 abatement policy for homeless - Cannot be near homes.
 - Ordinance protection for transit employees.
 - Be careful when disposing of lithium-ion batteries – a fire occurred in a dump.
- c. **Anchorage School District Board Representative, Board President Margo Bellamy, represented by Board representative Higgins provided the report.**
 - School Board, the three incumbents were voted back.
 - Question: based on projections, will we have school closures?
 - Perhaps we can use closed schools for Charter Schools.
 - Dimond school issue on teacher dress being addressed.

6. Presentation

a. Community Improvement Project: Karl Eid Ski Jumps near Hilltop Ski Area

Presenter: Andrea Samuel, parent of Team AK Ski Jumper. Provided overview of proposed project with pictures.

Voting item: Consideration for resolution of support for the project.

Proposed Project: Repair of the wooden stairs leading up to the 40 & 60-meter jumps at the Karl Eid Ski Jumps, near Hilltop Ski Area. The Community Challenge Grant application has been submitted to the Anchorage Park Foundation for this project by the presenter.

- Marc June moved to approve the motion to authorize Hillside CC Board to write a letter of support for stair repair, provided no financial resources are pledged or implied.
- Seconded Jason Warfield.
- Motion carried unanimously.

b. Discussion: Hillside Community Council Survey for the 2024 MOA Capital Improvement Project (CIP)

- CIP survey from prior years are available online.
- Cleaning up of holdover projects from previous years.

7. Candidates (3 minutes each + HCC member Q&A as time allows)

- **Lee Ellis – District 9** – shared his background. He decided to run as he felt having more small business owners was important, and he is fully vested in Alaska’s long term success. He would address issues and share his ideas regarding staggering rates of crime, underperforming schools, housing shortages, and a stagnant economy. Outmigration is limiting our economic future, and we need to be serious about competing with other states for talent, and finding new ways to develop Alaska's natural resources for the benefit of all Alaskans. For additional information visit: Ellisforalaska.com.
- **Walter Featherly – running for House, District 11.** He discussed his background. He is an attorney and

has held leadership roles in various community, civic, and local government organizations, including co-founder and first president of the Friends of the Library, president of the Anchorage School Board, Vice President of the Anchorage Hillside Home and Landowners Association (HALO) and president of the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra (currently serving for the second time. He would ensure an exceptional education system and a smart sustainable plan for Anchorage. For more information visit: electfeatherly.com.

Motion to extend meeting to 8:10

- Marc June moved to approve.
- Seconded Jason Warfield.

Carmela Warfield – for information purposes, President Warfield showed communitycouncils.org, Hillside CC's page and resources found therein.

8. **Open Discussion** (3 minutes per person, time permitting) HCC Members and those that are eligible for membership within the HCC boundaries have priority to address the Council before non-member guest attendees.

- Roger Marks – Discussed Glen Alps service area road service and the priority to repair the poor condition of upper De Armoun Rd. He plans to bring it up at the ARDSA meeting.
- Dr. Helena Wisniewski – announced the upcoming – Digital Twins in Alaska - AI Webinar at UAA. Clay Koplun will discuss how Cordova used digital twins to modernize their electrical grid and Jay Bryn will discuss Kartorium.

9. **Adjournment – 8:07 pm.**

For inquiries: hillsidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com

HCC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HillsideCommunityCouncil>