

HALO Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 1, 2024 at 7 pm
Shepherd of the Hills (corner Klatt Rd & Elmore Rd)
Zoom Meeting ID 455 419 5765 Passcode HALO

I. I. Call to Order and Welcome by President Katie Nolan. Other Board Members present: Gail Morrison, Christine Monette, Lizzie Newell, Peter Johnson, Marc June, Mike Kenny, David Michael, Joan Priestly, Carmela Warfield and Jason Warfield.
Members absent but excused: Frank Pugh, Rachel Ries, and John Weddleton
Absent: Sarah Denson

II. Agenda. An item was added to New Business; agenda was accepted as adapted.

III. Presentations

A. State

- Senator James Kaufman
 - Keeping an eye on the funding
 - Running for re-election
 - Q - why didn't the Defined Benefit pass?
 - Couldn't get through the House
 - The actuary reports weren't lined up (financially)
 - Pension - teachers
 - Teachers' pay did not withhold social security
 - Teachers cannot afford to work for the School District
 - Seniors cannot afford to retire on the Teacher's Retirement pay
 - It has the equivalent of Soc Sec and 401K
 - Defined Contribution - gotta get it right the first time
 - Still backfilling the deficit
 - There is a piece missing
 - The type of retirement
 - The parts and pieces needed for a secure, full retirement
 - 3rd party miscalculated
 - Stedman sponsored this bill?
 - Mike Kenney would like to see the Defined Benefit "try again"
 - Representative Julie Coulombe
 - Child care for workers passed
 - Energy bill passed / transmission bill
 - \$200K for firewise passed - need to get the Assembly to part with the money
 - \$ for evacuation routes - passed - trying to get the \$ to make the evacuation routes
 - Zoo event - was well attended

- Senator Cathy Giesel
 - Board of Education will monitor the use of the home school monies
 - The governor said the allotment should match the BSA
 - Maintenance of equity - federal money from Covid. Supposed to be used for education around the state was spent in an equitable way. AK was found to be in deficit. ANC, FAI, JUN Find is \$11.5 million. Fed may withhold \$11.5 million from future funding.
 - Energy bills -
 - AK Energy Authority is hiring to install the transmission line
 - The undersea cable will provide redundancy - to keep transmission line from fire risk
 - Wind project might go in to produce hydrogen. 3 million acre person

B. Assembly

Assembly Representative Randy Sulte

- Rep for Anch Economic
 - The Anchorage Economic Forecast is a great luncheon
 - Project ANC initiative - around taxes
 - Non resident
 - Co Chair on Homelessness
 - Pulling all NGO's and everyone to coordinate to solve homelessness
 - When a camp gets to 10+, that's when crime kicks in
- AK Regional are building an emergency room on Industrial and OSH
- AR for low barrier shelter for State
- Tax incentive low income housing / muldoon corridor
- Updated cop body camera policy
- DOT's going to look at Upper Huffman and Birch for pot holes
- ValliView LRSA

C. ASD

- School Board Member Pat Higgins
 - People are moving out of ANC
 - School kids are lessening; 2% every year
 - For foreseeable future, a small increase followed by continued decrease
 - BSA - if it were fully funded,
 - School closures - maybe 2 more closures in the near future
 - Abbott loop closed 2023
 - Made this school available to a Native charter school - successful
 - This school does need lots of maintenance
 - What to do with other schools that will be empty?

- IV. Minutes
 - A. June 2024 accepted

- V. Treasurer Report
 - Our checking account balance is \$306.84. There are outstanding PayPal credits not included in this amount.
 - Savings/Legal Fund is \$14,640.25.
 - Approx \$\$\$ in fees.

- VI. Community Council Reports
 - A. Abbott Loop
 - Lizzie - held picnic and weed smackdown event at Adkins Park near Native Charter school
 - Next meeting is last Thursday in August + elections
 - B. Bear Valley - NA
 - C. Glen Alps - NA
 - D. Hillside
 - Bob - Didn't have meetings in June or July. Next is Aug 7.
 - E. Huffman/O'Malley - NA
 - F. Rabbit Creek
 - Mike Kenney - meeting in July
 - July - reviewed assembly rezone
 - All zones can have a duplex on their land
 - Duplexes no longer need be attached
 - ABU's can be attached
 - 2024 population projections -
 - Stewart Trail - ongoing issues.
 - No august meeting

- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Firewise/Resilience (Nolan/Ries)
 - \$200K for HALO to work on fire prevention projects on the Hillside
 - Asked Hillside Comm Councils and LRSA
 - What are your priorities
 - What would you like to do with this money
 - New water sources to refill tankers
 - Bigger turnarounds for emergency vehicles
 - Safe Trails to School Routes - need more
 - We have an expert advisor (Chris G) leading the effort.
 - Work is being done by a local veteran company / non-profit
 - A safe trail to hillside elementary and other schools
 - Going to widen the trail to increase visibility including for moose and bear
 - Trail is muddy with any amount of water

- Will hire a wood chipper
- Take trees down; chip the trail; put chips on the trail
- Wood chipper would be available to local homeowners who want to clear up their property (trees, bushes). Chips would go on the trail.
- AFD could do school education program/fire drill during the event.
- Camilla W - the outdoor learning lab - 5th grade students - to install a learning platform over the creek. Informative plaques throughout the woods. Need this path (above path) widened for safety / wildlife.
- Christine - The state will be managing the money. The money is for HALO to spend. The Assembly wants to get in the middle of everything - they have no right to do this. The assembly is slowing down this process of HALO getting their money.
 - Is there any legal recourse for HALO if the assembly slows down this process?

B. ByLaws (Johnson, Monette)

No comments received. Christine will mail out to membership to vote on during the Sept meeting.

C. Land Use (Priestly)

- Joan refiled the appeal of Hulquist homes company proceed. Filed on July 22nd. It's up to the Board of Adjustments to decide on the issues. This won't affect the development but 1) Who has the authority to allow residential driveways dump directly onto a main road. The Planning Director made this decision without consulting / going through the proper steps.
- The road board has commissioned a company to do repairs on Upper Deamoun. The repairs are patches - not a true repair. The repairs that need to be done will cost \$1 - \$1.5 million.
- Joan's appeal has been sent to the AK supreme court for Lewis and Clark subdivision. Sept. 17th will be when Joan hears about what the AK Supreme Court decides on.

D. Ad-Hoc Hillside Protection Committee (Weddleton, June, Monette) Report done under Old Business.

VIII. Old Business

A. HOMES 2023-87S update. HOMES went through several revisions; ended up simply allowing duplexes and apartments (up to three housing units per lot) on all zoning districts.

- R6 allows a duplex or mother-in-law already
- R7 8 9 10 - allow depending on lot size
- Marc June - the ordinance
 - Economist said housing prices will drop only slightly
 - Connie Y - it doesn't pencil out to build duplex on ADU lots; not cost effective (poor ROI)
 - Marc - doubts anyone who buys a hillside lot isn't interested in building a

- duplex
 - The 3 sponsors changed after too much kickback from community
 - The process is that it elevated planning to the assembly
- Mike Kenney - what about Hillside?
- If you're in a HOA, the HOA rules control the land use
- If a person can get 2 assembly people on their side, then this person can drive planning / development to suit their needs

IX. New Business

A. Candidate Forum October 3rd @ Ak Zoo

- Katie sent out notices to candidates.
- Same format as every year
- Everyone, please send questions to Katie

X. Open Forum

- A. We need an audio system
- B. James Kaufman running for re-elections - District F
 - a. kaufman4alaska@gmail.com
- C. Julie Coulombe
 - a. Running for reelection
 - b. julie4alaska@gmail.com
- D. Janice Park
 - a. Background in nursing
 - b. Invest in education; wants more funding
 - c. Invest in funding senior center, mental health
 - d. Pension for teacher, fire fighters, emergency personnel
 - e. janice4alaska@gmail.com
- E. Guy in the orange shirt -
 - a. Laddie shaw's spot
 - b. Wants economic growth
 - c. alaskans4kyholland.com
- F. Walter Featherly
 - a. Energy - need reliable, sustainable, affordable energy.
 - b. Economy - employment for all ages
 - c. Schools - make them better (funding)
 - d. House Dis 11
 - e. electfeatherly.com
 - f. 907.802.9087
 - g. walter@electfeatherly.com
- G. Ky Holland
 - a. Help get the word out regarding the Wood Lot