

HALO Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 4, 2024 7 pm
Shepherd of the Hills (corner Klatt Rd & Elmore Rd)
Zoom Meeting ID 455 419 5765 Passcode HALO

I. Call to Order and Welcome by President Katie Nolan. Board Members present: Walter Featherly, Marc June, Mike Kenny, David Michael, Christine Monette, Gail Morrison, Lizzie Newell, Joan Priestly, Carmela Warfield, Jason Warfield, John Weddleton.

Board Members absent but excused: Peter Johnson, Frank Pugh.

Board Members absent: Sarah Densen, Rachel Ries

The President mentioned the death of long-time Board Member and founder Wayne Westberg.

II. Agenda was accepted with several additions.

III. Presentations

A. Assembly. N/A

B. State

- Representative Julie Coulombe - attending many energy meetings; Granted \$206 million to upgrade the Railbelt.
- Education - how to get \$ to teachers, classroom, standards up, training
- Wants to deal with BSA within the formula; wants to settle on long term results;
- Amended \$ to Chugach Park Access; the funding is going to the Senate? Working with Muni on the parking and roads; working on what part of road and parking in MOA and what is State responsibility; this topic isn't high on the Gov's agenda so ... slow progress; Upper Dearmoun is Rep Shaw's district; a meeting on Tuesday for? ; all Chugach access points are a big issue (Eagle River to Girdwood); trails, trail clearing, garbage control, etc. ; Rep Coulombe and Sen. Kaufman are doing a coffee this Saturday at Steam.dot 9 - 10 am.
- Does Bradley Lake have enough water running in the winter to provide energy? Can't take too much water out because the fish will die; Julie - the intertie needs the upgrade first; or do we get the energy source then upgrade the intertie? Chu Elec needs a steady source so gas is here to stay.
- Deficit - the gap has to be filled somewhere - Gov is proposing it comes from CBR . It's about \$3.3 billion now. Mike - Taxes - collection from O&G, natural resources (timber, mining); dropping the PFD to \$0 should not be an option; Julie - there are proposals around oil taxes ... Industry wants stability and predictability on oil taxes ... when taxes fluctuate Industry is less apt to do business here.

- C. ASD.
- Pat Higgins - \$150 million dollars behind; teachers salaries are 30% behind of what they should be; can't get teacher positions filled; The Pike Autumn study was done about 10 years ago, lack of forward funding; classroom sizes are larger than those in the lower 48; generating funding goes to the State; students are underperforming; kids who are not emotionally or intellectually ready to go to Middle school have to go.
 - Trying to make do with minimal funding; Dunleavy prefers homeschool and private schools; no cuts on schools this year but next year might be bad; using savings from inability to hire teachers; how to use the savings?; need to figure out how to use the federal funding; crisis is statewide.
 - With 6th graders moving into middle school in most instances with some exceptions - the plan hasn't been released - with 6th graders have classes with 7th graders? Lottery process for alternative programs is opening soon - when will this information be available to teachers and parents? Higgins will research and get back to us.

IV. Minutes

- A. Minutes for August and October 2023 were accepted with additions/corrections. June and September minutes are awaiting reformatting
- B. Treasurer Report. Monette reported checking account balance \$1108.84; savings / legal defense \$14,627.97.

VI. Community Council Reports

- A. Abbott Loop. Lizzie Newell reported that they had no Dec meeting but will be meeting in Jan.
- B. Bear Valley N/A
- C. Glen Alps. Carl Portman gave update on neighborhood issues. The CASA bond is up for PH at Tuesday's meeting. This will allow improved access to Chugach SP. The Upper DeArmoun access has been removed from the bond. Glen Alps has urged that this access be returned to the bond.
- D. Hillside. Carmela Warfield reported on Rockridge Dr and O'Malley Elementary access. This has been an issue this year. Legislative priorities must include an O'Malley and Rockridge safe pedestrian crossing.
- E. Huffman/O'Malley. Gretchen Stoddard gave an update. HOCC has taken some time off, but has had discussions about ASD funding. They meet on the third Thursday monthly.

F. Rabbit Creek

Mike Kenny reported that ASD School Board Rep Margo Bell discussed the problems with funding issue and with remote learning. With all the snow and lack of neighborhood snow removal, the kids weren't able to go to school; the remote learning wasn't working.

- Supported Rogers Park funding for education
- Talked about sewer, safer SH project
- Talked about Connie Y subdivisions
- Talked about the 3 and 4 plex issues going to P&Z
- Mountain Aire estates; received a letter notifying them that Mission Hills LLC has applied for water rights for the subdivision.

G. FCC. Gretchen Stoddard - FCC is probably heading into a period of transition. Additional funding to the FCC this year. A job announcement for Mark Butler's replacement went out; looking for a higher level person; there will be at least 1 board change within the FCC.

Q. How to get more people involved in comm councils; there is so little funding; this goes back to an Assembly change from 10 years ago where councils were no longer allowed to charge dues. Has there been any talk at FCC to help councils be seen - gain participation - and go back to charging \$5 or \$10 membership dues; FCC - mandatory membership fees can't happen ... can't exclude people who can't afford it; Each CC could request \$75 from FCC; not 100% sure this is still an option; FCC works under a grant from the MOA;

Gail suggested posting CC meeting information / meetings / agendas to Nextdoor

VII. Committee Reports

A. Firewise/Resilience (Nolan/Ries)

- Meeting with Team Rubcon's national people

B. ByLaws (Johnson, Monette)

- No updates; send suggestions to Christine

C. Land Use (Priestly)

- Superior Court of the platting board's decision regarding Canyon View Estates; won! The judge said the BOA ruled in error to deny our appeal ; BOA has to hear the appeal to allow driveways contrary to Title 21; collector roads should not have driveways directly into them;
- P&Z - called during a meeting regarding hearing at that moment the slightly revised Rezone ordinance; suggested speaking so can appeal later; Joan spoke of the different R zones in upper hillside; In upper Hillside there could be multiplex units. A 6 plex would need: a commercial well, 6 septic systems; fire

suppression (sprinkler system); considered commercial not residential, renter's attitude not conducive to a quiet, cohesive single family home neighborhood.

- D. Ad-Hoc Hillside Protection Committee (Weddleton, June, Monette)
- We've been thrown with many issues over the last few months:
 - John W - On Tuesday the Jan 9th - tri and 4 plex building codes ... trying to make it cheaper to build a 3 plex than a 2 plex; the lot sizes have decreased by 2, 500 sq ft., changes to Title 23 building codes, the 2018 housing poll was small and didn't use a good geographic / demographic sampling;
 - The poll was read through their own bias for high density. Question asked was should we have more high density? Answer was yes, but for someone else. The most popular and desired form of housing is single family with a garage and a yard.
 - 87S, 66x - 87 is the one on the plate - scheduled for Marc; consolidates the zoning districts into 5 districts;

IX. Old Business

- A. AO 87 and AO 87S update was discussed under Committee Reports.
- B. Microphones. There are several possibilities. JBL for \$400. 2 bluetooth handheld microphones with 1 speaker box that fits into a backpack.

X. New Business

- A. Wayne Westberg recognition. How can we recognize the contributions of our long-time members and founders? An annual award? Lifetime membership? How do we honor these people?
- B. Vice President has stepped down.
- C. Dues are due. They can be paid online, send a check to Christine or the mailbox, or paypal; donations are accepted of any amount and are tax deductible. Dues are just \$10 per year.
- D. Shepherd of the Hills - when was the last time we cut them a check? Motion Marc second Carmela to cut them a check for \$100 every January and July. This time check for \$200 to catch up.
- E. Mission Hills LLC is a Spinell company - to develop Spruce Terraces. Sandpiper is on the South side, access is Sandpiper; Goldenview Drive ; up to 167th that becomes Sandpiper that runs into ShangriLa subdivision; the new subdivision is almost adjacent to the Shangri La area; 27 lots (each 1 acre?); 13,500 gallons per day via community well; letter written to Johnathan Tucker - DNR? - asking for assurance that this amount of water would not adversely impact neighbors

(aquifers that others are using), the 15 day comment ends Jan 5, 2023 - the water right request went in in 2021. There is a date/year discrepancy. There was 1 day to submit concerns. Letter sent to J Tucker asking for more time.

XI. Open Forum

- A. Walter Featherly is stepping down from VP. He is running for office. House Rep. District 11
- B. Camilla - Who maintains the roads leading to Bear Valley Elem School? They do a great job.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Morrison, Secretary