

HALO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 2, 2020 7 pm OnLine Meeting

***Please Note:** This meeting was held online. Due to time restraints, reports were sent to the Board prior to the meeting, and will be attached to these minutes. We thank you for your patience as we struggle in our dealings with this new normal.*

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Katie Nolan at 7 pm. The President began the meeting with a thank you to those Board Members who worked so hard to make the Candidate Forum a success, including those that provided refreshments. She especially thanked Christine Monette, whose hard work brought in vital membership dues, and Frank Pugh, who stepped in to fill the President's absence, including finalizing the script for the evening. The President then called the roll. **Board Members present were:** Peter Johnson, James Kaufman, Nancy Kaufman, Mike Kenny, Gail Morrison, Frank Pugh, Susan Richards.
Board Members absent but excused: Christine Monette and Rodney Powell.
Board Members absent: Pat Abney, Sarah Denson, Brena Doolen, Albert Fogle, Marc June, and Kurt Rein.

II. The Agenda was accepted

III. Presentations

- A. **Assembly: Suzanne Lafrance District 6 South Anchorage.** She submitted her report in writing and was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. It is shown below:

Hope that you are doing well and staying healthy during this unprecedented time of sheltering in place. On the city side, a number of projects have been postponed in order to prioritize public health and safety during the crisis, as well as critical government functions.

- The muni web page <https://covid-response-moa-muniorg.hub.arcgis.com> has lots of information about COVID-19, the mayor's emergency orders, dashboards showing which businesses are open and the status of childcare providers, as well as links to State of Alaska and CDC information. Questions about COVID-19-related issues can be emailed to covid-19@anchorageak.gov. Voicemails with questions can be left at 907-343-4019. Residents may call 2-1-1 with non-emergency health questions.
- As a result of a code change made last month, during a state of emergency, such as now, Assembly members who are telephonically present are allowed to be included when establishing a quorum. In keeping with the shelter in place and hunker down orders, most of us have been dialing into assembly meetings.
- Also, as the Assembly Chambers are closed to the public, community members are encouraged to provide testimony by email or telephone. Email written comments to Testimony@anchorageak.gov by 2:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. These comments will become part of the meeting record. In the subject line of the email please include the agenda item you are providing testimony for (Example: 4.A. Ordinance No. AO 2020-3). Those who want to provide testimony on the phone should email Testimony@anchorageak.gov by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting with Name, Phone Number, Agenda Item Number/Title for which you wish to provide testimony and Subject

Line: Phone Testimony. The Clerk will phone you at the number you have provided. You will have 3 minutes to provide testimony on each item you wish to speak on.

- Most assembly committee meetings and work sessions have been cancelled for now, though some work sessions for critical items will be held telephonically.
- A number of commission meetings have also been cancelled. The plan is to resume those soon telephonically.
- While the top priority is to get through this crisis, efforts are underway to deal with the economic impacts, which have already been tremendous with so many businesses and members of the workforce suffering. An Economic Resiliency Task Force has formed to find solutions and it consists of five working groups, with each one focused on an area: 1) local policy, 2) state policy, 3) federal policy, 4) ideas and tactics to keep businesses standing, and 5) communications. The task force is co-chaired by Bill Popp and Julie Saupe, and owners and representatives of large and small businesses are participating. If you have ideas that you want to share with the task force, you are welcome to send them to me or John and we can pass them along.
- We passed AO2020-34(S) to include provisions for public health emergencies concerning the mayor's powers during a civil emergency. This AO permits the mayor to declare a public health emergency as well as among other things, authorize investigation and tracking of illnesses and ordering isolation and quarantine, with concurrence of the MOA medical officer.
- Some of you may have heard about the Pay for Success program and the \$4.95M that was approved at the 3/24 meeting. Pay for Success is a social financing model where payment is linked to positive outcomes. In the project being proposed, the MOA seeks to expand the current pilot program of 20 people to 190 people over time. It's intended for the homeless individuals who stress the system, as it's estimated that the indirect cost to taxpayers is around \$50k per year per individual in this targeted group because of the high rate of use of emergency services. This project involves creating a borrowing program for \$4.95M; however, investors would pay upfront costs to service providers and the MOA would only pay back these costs if the providers show that their programs have been successful in ending homelessness for those in the program. The MOA would determine the metrics for establishing success. Working with the social service providers, non-profits and churches to get homeless people who need supported housing stabilized is a more efficient use of resources as we would be able to leverage private money and federal and state funding as well. There's also some evidence that it may also save money in the long run. We needed to move forward with the borrowing program to show investors that we're serious; however, before any money is spent, the contract will come before the assembly for approval. If we aren't happy with the terms and reject the contract, the MOA isn't out of any money.
- There's still a plan to put forward an AO to tax eCigarettes like other tobacco products as right now they're not taxed, but that too, has been pushed out.

Please let me know how I can help. Suzanne LaFrance, 907-351-7199 mobile/text

B. ASD: Andy Holleman. The Board was updated Monday on how the change up is going as we start our first real week of distance instruction.

The most focus has been on high school - particularly seniors, as we want them to graduate on time with all the credits they were working towards. For high school, attendance will be mandatory, on line, and grades will be kept. If a student can't participate on line, other accommodations will be made. The end of the school year may be extended to give everyone time to complete their work.

There is no decision yet on graduation exercises or whether we'll return to buildings this spring, but we're moving ahead with a system we think we can sustain if that's not possible.

At middle and elementary, it will be less formal and the focus will be on the transition. Any parent that's having problems getting their student connected and tuned in should contact the teacher first.

This really has been a huge change up. Teachers have been in personal touch with almost every family to assess needs and get every student ready to learn under very difficult circumstances. I would urge all parents to monitor students when they're on line. We do already have some reports of misbehavior. Obviously teachers don't have the same levels of control they would in the classroom.

While there has been some discussion about how "This proves we don't need school buildings!" I've not heard a parent say that. Some students will do an excellent job this way but many will not. We do hope you support the repair and upkeep of our buildings, as we anticipate being back in them at some point, and a LOT happens at school (that's very positive) that we cannot emulate on line. If anyone has questions, feel free to shoot me a note at Holleman_Andy@asdk12.org .

IV. Minutes. The minutes of February 2020 were accepted.

V. Treasurer Report. The Treasurer Report was submitted in writing and distributed to the Board prior to the meeting as shown below:

Savings/Legal account

Bank Balance ending Dec 31, 2019: \$15,611.28

Dividend credit Jan 31, 2020: \$1.33

Dividend credit Feb 29, 2019: \$1.24

Dividend credit Mar 31, 2020: \$1.33

Bank Balance ending Mar 31, 2020: \$15615.18

Checking account

Bank Balance ending Dec 31, 2019: \$1573.18

Membership dues deposit: \$95.00

Mailbox renewal debit: **-\$216.00**

Office Max Forum materials

Materials and supplies debit: **-\$33.35**

O'Malley on Green rental: **-\$350.00**

Membership dues collected: \$305.00

Anticipated April balance: \$1373.83

Forum expenses \$383.35

Forum donations

Dues collected \$305.00

-\$ 78.35

HOCC \$50.00 donation was received and is included in the above total.

VI. There were no Community Council Reports

VII. Committee Reports

A. Firewise/Resilience (J. Kaufman) Update on the 2020 Hillside Security Fair.

The previously scheduled April 11th event at the Alaska Zoo Gateway Hall has been put on hold. The new date is TBD pending cessation of CoronaVirus mitigation that is now in effect. In lieu of the actual event, a virtual event is being planned in cooperation with RCCC. The exact date/time/content is to be announced via social media and community notification systems.

- B. Land Use & Parks (Pugh)** Pugh asked that more volunteers are needed for this committee. Committee is Pugh, Morrison and June. Q. Are there people from other Community Councils who may be willing to participate? A. Topics are limited in scope. Pugh agreed to Nolan's suggestion of trying a teleconference or Zoom meeting together to come up with ideas to present at our next meeting.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Homelessness Resolution** - Katie asked for feedback regarding information provided by Ric Davidge to Pugh on the Homelessness problem in Anchorage. Frank had nothing to report and stated he will redistribute the information again for comments.

IX. Open Forum

Q. Discussing the Ballot Proposition that would have redistribution of the Assembly (Prop. 12). This Prop would allow Downtown to have 2 representatives in the Assembly (at this time it only has one member while the other districts have 2). Downside is that it would make it harder to achieve a majority. It was noted that Downtown has far less population than the other districts. If the Prop passes, we would also have a budget increase for another Assembly salary and administrative support as well as creating additional office space in the Muni building. For the Ballot Prop, it was noted that the Muni Charter calls for an eleven-person Assembly with rotating one-person districts. This was stopped decades ago. An argument against the Ballot Prop is that Hillside and Eagle River/Chugiak Assembly Members have a difficult time finding majority votes for items that affect R-5 and above zoning areas. Chugiak/Eagle River and Hillside areas have similar needs and large-lot zoning districts, and on issues concerning more rural areas, tend to vote the same way. Large-lot zoning areas have different needs than "flatlanders", and finding a majority vote of six for is easier to reach than a majority of seven. It was also noted that, with an even number of Assembly Members, ties would occur and would require the vote of the Mayor.

Nolan stated that HALO will need to continue having Zoom meetings for the next few months. Anyone can email the Vice President to get the link and attend the meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at: 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Kaufman, Secretary

Action Items:

Homeless Resolution redistribute for Board comments (Frank Pugh)