

HALO Meeting Agenda
Thursday, April 7, 2022
7 pm Live & Zoom Meeting
Shepherd of the Hills Church (Elmore & Klatt)
Zoom Meeting ID 455 419 5765

I. Call to order and Welcome. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Katie Nolan, President.

Board Members present were: Julie Coulombe, Marc June, Nancy Kaufman, Mike Kenny, Christine Monette, Gail Morrison, Lizzie Newell, Katie Nolan, Carmela Warfield

Board Members absent: Pat Abney, Sarah Denison, Brena Doolen, Peter Johnson, Rodney Powell, Frank Pugh, Susan Richards

II. Agenda. April Agenda - no changes or additions

III. Presentations -

A. Assembly - John Weddleton - Pretty clear with the numbers that I did not win the Assembly seat. Big news - 1000 person shelter, putting money for that - we bought the Sockeye Inn. Putting also \$800,000 into a design; a sprout shelter. With regards to infrastructure funds we've been very active. Working very closely with Rep Kaufman and Senator Revak regarding LRSA/RRSA projects and other projects along the hillside. I have a list of Road Service Areas in tax district 2 and are working with them on their infrastructure needs. Will do a mailing about these things, but wanted to wait until after the elections with all of the other mail going out

B. State - Roger Holland, State Representative, Senate District N.

Contact: #907-465-4843 or #907-351-8277 Senator.Roger.Holland@akleg.gov

Does anybody have a question for me? Q. Status of money for Port? A. All on board SB26 how much money we are legally allowed to draw. We can write that \$600 million check anytime. But senate finance is always interested in saving the permanent fund - but this is critical infrastructure. We need more signatures in the Senate and House to do this. Email the staff of Senate Finance - beat the drums about overdraft - but we shouldn't leave the port hanging like that. Also, the Port Authority is trying to retool to come up with funds based on tariffs. They'll turn the argument to matching funds for the port. Q. Reapportionment - 2 of them - one of them is combining us with Eagle River - this doesn't make sense. Reach out to the Redistricting Committee. Thought I'd get questions on SB 140! Terrible stories floating around - that are untrue. Technical small argument and Shelly drafted the amendments - and we moved the Bill out of Committee. We'll try to finish in 120 days. The SB111 is a step forward to fix some of the problems with getting the K-3 to read....trying to get the House to pass it. Would be a big win to get SB 111 through.

C. James Kaufman, State Representative, House District 28.

Contact: #907-465-4949 and 907-538-5262 Rep.James.Kaufman@akleg.gov

Newsletter: akrepkaufman.com

Matthew Harvey - Operating budget on the floor right now along with mental health budget. The house will finish up the amendments by Saturday and vote on moving the budget to the Senate. After that, the budget will go to the Senate Finance who will release their own version, and then after amendments it will go to the Senate Floor for final changes and the vote. After passage on the Senate floor, delegates from the House and Senate will meet to agree on the differences between the Senate and House versions. We've also been working on the capital projects for a few months now - Senator Holland, Senator Revak, Assemblymember Weddleton and Zac Johnson, and Community Council/RSA members have been extraordinarily helpful. We're not sure if there will be funding for many of these projects, but having the projects developed and folders created is important for the future and for getting some projects into the area plan, AMATS. Also our bill, House Bill 187 is sitting in Senate Rules and will hopefully go to the Senate Floor next week. This is the Document Reduction Bill that will improve reports and publications and can save roughly \$500,000 - \$1 Million a year. A few example projects that were put in are Hillside Fire Mitigation, Hillside emergency evacuation routes,

LRSA and RSA road pavement and resurfacing, and a few more area-wide things. Rep Kaufman and I are going to be meeting with Mayor Bronson and his team this week regarding the port. We are in full support of Port, but we have to be clear regarding project strategy, clear project execution. We're also meeting with Jacobs next week to get more insight into the assurance plan, ensure a proper level of oversight, and look into whether there is another way to repackage it. .

D. Emma Torkelson for Senator Revak., State Senate District M.

Contact: 907-465-3879 or 888-269-3879 Senator.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov

We've excited about the Capsis submissions and hopeful that we'll see some funding. Nothing is guaranteed but we're working on our end to get what we can. We have a couple bills that have passed the Senate - SB143 helps homeowners who live in HOA and SB203 which extends the Purple Heart Trail highway designation. We're waiting for the Budget to come over from the House. Q. Senator has been out of town for the past two weeks - correct? A. Been gone for a few days but still very involved - back in Juneau this week. Q. How many days outside Juneau - probably week to a week and a half. He'll be back in Juneau next week.

IV. Minutes of February were accepted.

V. Treasurer Report - \$997.39 collected via cash/mail/paypal since our email request and Forum. Credit Union balances as of 1 Mar: \$574.96 checking and \$15,146.26 savings. Checks written in March \$400.00 HOCC, \$301.00 mail box annual fee, and \$300.00 Zoo payment. **Reminder:** Membership dues of \$10.00 per year can be sent to: P.O. Box 110096, Anchorage, AK 99511 **or** go to the HALO website www.anchoragehalo.org and pay through the paypal account.

V. Community Councils

A. Abbott Loop - Lizzie Newell - June picnic 6/30 at Abbott Loop Community Park at the Pavilion. Discussion about Winchester park - working on walkways into the park. Report from DOW on Spruce Street extension to ease traffic in that neighborhood - some oppose it. **B.**

Bear Valley - none present

C. Glen Alps- none present

D. Hillside - Carmela Warfield. A 3rd grade teacher from O'Malley Elementary requested a letter of support for enhancement for Forsythe Park - kids will be labeling trees and building a viewing platform; applying for a grant. We will be issuing a letter of support! A daughter of the Forsythe homesteading family (who donated the park) spoke in support of the project. We also asked her to participate in our December HALO Founders Forum in December. HCC is hosting the 2022 Firewise Saturday event along with HALO. It will be at the Hilltop Ski Area on Saturday April 30th 11- 3 pm inside and outside. Jen Schmidt from UAA will be demonstrating. Lots of other vendors will attend and offer mini-seminars. Need help getting the flyers out to the Hillside; they will be posted on Hilltop's Facebook page. Requesting that each Community Council send volunteers to assist and share individual council information. Please reach out to Carmela to volunteer.

E. Huffman/O'Malley - Gretchen Stoddard- Jason Graham with Rank Choice Voting gave a good presentation on the new election format. Next month's speaker will be from the Equal Rights Commission. Q. Tax assessment map? HOCC made the request under FOIA for information on how our property tax values were determined on our land. We were given an estimate, but then the costs were finalized at about triple what we expected. We decided to request the items separately in order of importance, and asked for donations. As you know, HALO made a significant donation to this worthwhile cause. That information can now be reached from our HALO website home page. We do need to get that information out to the entire Municipality. HALO will be taking over the project, as it will require more donations to afford the other information we as a community need to bring transparency to the entire property tax assessment methodology.

F. Rabbit Creek - none available.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Firewise/Resilience Committee - Contact Carmela for further discussion.

B. Land Use - Looking for volunteers for this committee. Contact Frank Pugh.

VII. Old Business

A. Property Tax Appraisals - Need to get this report to more people. Will prepare a Newsletter and hopefully get some more donations to purchase the next batch of FOIA requests.

B. HALO signs, business cards, promo materials. Rough draft of business cards and signs and putting on shared screen. Q. What are we trying to include? A. More meeting information. C: The idea with the Banner - add the website info. A. Good idea. Q. Need to get these available before the Firewise Event. Motion Mike, second Carmela, to spend up to \$500 on business cards and/or banners. Motion passed. President asked Gail to lead this effort.

C. Redistricting Update Everyone had a chance to look at the redistricting maps 2 and 3B. The important part is that we need to be forceful that we are not Eagle River and one of the largest parks in the nation is in between us. President asked for a motion to that effect. Motion Kurt, second Lizzie to support Map 2. C. Holland said he will forward some comments received to the President. They are in support of keeping Hillside together. Discussion. Neither map is great, both are drawn politically instead of constitutionally. Vote was 8 for motion, three abstain.

D. Spring Candidate Forum Recap. Letters of appreciation from the candidates were shared with the members.

F. Firewise Saturday at Hilltop Ski Area April 30th. Hillside CC and Rabbit Creek CC are hosting with HALO. There will be many vendors, demonstrations and Team Rubicon will participate. Volunteers from every community council are encouraged.

IX. New Business

A. March 3rd Candidate Forum. Our next Candidate Forum will be the first Thursday in October before the November election.

IX. Open Forum

Q. What's up with all the "no" votes on the Permanent Fund? A. Rep. Kaufman: The current House Finance budget includes the equivalent of the Governor's proposed 5% POMV 50/50 PFD which is in the range of \$2500. The only problem is that the Majority decided to split that amount in half and call one half of it the PFD and the other half an energy rebate. Separate checks that will be sent to all PFD recipients. I proposed an amendment on the floor that would combine the amounts being sent out as a PFD because I don't like the game being played by naming half of the PFD an energy rebate. The amendment failed, so the budget still contains the two amounts.

I objected to adding additional money to the PFD/Rebate checks because the fiscal models that we have run while analyzing the proposed budget indicate that the Governor's 5% 50/50 plan balances this year. The larger amounts that were in the amendments that I voted "NO" on would have required drawing more than the 5% POMV, or created a deficit that would bring on calls for new taxes.

My campaign promise was that I would seek balanced budgets conforming to the 5% POMV formula that did not dip into savings, and avoid creating the need for new taxes, especially when we don't have a functional spending cap in place. I would have been breaking core campaign promises by voting to exceed those limits.

The need for better cost control is why I am proposing a better spending cap:

<https://akrepkaufman.com/spending-cap/> and reforming the Executive Budget act to improve how we manage cost/benefit of government operations: <https://akrepkaufman.com/executive-budget-act/>

Lastly, I will be a no vote on the entire budget, because there are not currently adequate cost/benefit controls in place.

The meeting adjourned at: 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Kaufman, Secretary

Action items:

- *Design HALO media material (Gail Morrison) or send your ideas to presidenthalo@gmail.com.*
- *Contact Frank - volunteer help needed on Land Use Committee*
- *President and Vice President: Reach out to ASD and AFD reps to attend HALO meetings. • Reach out to RCCC and Hillside CC to recruit volunteers to Firewise event 4/30 report back to Carmela.*