

## HALO Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 1st, 2021 7 pm Zoom Meeting

**I. Call to order and Welcome.** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Katie Nolan, President.

**Board Members present were:** Peter Johnson, Nancy Kaufman, Mike Kenny, Christine Monette, Gail Morrison

**Board Members absent:** Pat Abney, Sarah Denson, Brena Doolen, Marc June, Rodney Powell, Frank Pugh, Susan Richards.

**II. Agenda.** April Agenda accepted.

**III. Presentations** - Ian Moore presented a PowerPoint "Assessment Transparency" (detailed below III. B)

**A. State** - Dirk Craft in for State Senator Josh Revak provided an update on legislation SB 69 Renewable Energy Project, SB 40 Veterans Benefits, and SB Intensive Game Management & Fees for Hunting Licenses. Representative Calvin Schrage stating the House passed HB 76 Disaster Relief. Comment: vaccinations only decrease severity of symptoms and they do not prevent the virus. Comment: But there is less spreading of virus with the vaccination. Q. Emergency order? A. Federal funds will continue to be provided to social programs such as tele-help services and pop up clinics. Rep. Kaufman: HB 76 was passed by the House majority after they rejected attempts by the minority to offer amendments that would have aligned the House bill with the Senate bill which was what the Governor actually wanted according to his letter to the House. The letter states that he no longer needed a "Disaster Declaration". The minority feel we need to get back to work and get AK to business again with reasonable precautions rather than continuing under a belief that we need to perpetuate the disaster mentality. Q. Proposal for Dept of Public Safety to allow ATV on public roads? What are the details concerning licenses, insurance and ages? Comment: Snow machines only on state routes at 45 mph. Rep. Kaufman: This is not being addressed in any of the committees, yet but will look into it. General discussion/conversation: After further discussion it was determined that this is a regulatory consideration within the executive branch, not a legislative question at this time. Rep. Kaufman: Concerned residents along Rabbit Creek contacted his office about troublesome ice berms left blocking in driveways as a result of DOT plowing. Kaufman was able to get the problem resolved for residents. Comment: Additional information DOT. Go to the public notice site to make your comments

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/operations/streets/WinterMaintenance>

State Senator Josh Revak representing District M can be reached at 907-465-3879 or via email at [Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov](mailto:Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov). State Representative Calvin Schrage representing District 25 can be reached at 907-465-4931 or via email at [Rep.Calvin.Schrage@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Calvin.Schrage@akleg.gov). State Representative James Kaufman representing District 28 can be reached by calling 907-465-4949 or via email at [rep.elect.james.kaufman@akleg.gov](mailto:rep.elect.james.kaufman@akleg.gov). Everyone is encouraged to sign up for his newsletter at: [akrepkaufman.com](http://akrepkaufman.com). All contact information for State Representatives and State Senators can be found at [akleg.gov](http://akleg.gov).

**B. HALO Member Ian Moore** re: property tax issues. Moore provided a power point concerning land valuation by the Muni Assessor's office and his experience with his property valuation. Comment concerning property valuations: City is not transparent about the way they value land and big discrepancies how they are valued. His contact number is #348-0237. Hard to argue because their valuations are subjective. Rep. Kaufman and several others mentioned they also had very similar experiences with their property valuations. Q. Do Assembly members know about this problem; and what was their response? Yes they know, and they have not commented.

**IV. Treasurer Report** - Current savings/legal account balance is \$15,030.86. The current checking account balance is \$1,190.76.

#### **V. Community Council Reports**

**A. Abbott Loop** - Lizzie Newell discussion about proposal to stand against violent rhetoric - voted down.

**B. Hillside** - Bob stated 4/19 Zone committee meeting led by Todd Bronson; discussion B3 zoning for homeless shelters; working through that issue now.

**C. Huffman/O'Malley** - Julie stated they had a Doctor willing to do presentations on vaccinations, locations and answer questions. FCC can connect with that doctor. B3 zoning voted not to support changing homeless shelters to B3. Comments to Assembly about Sky Ridge to rezone. It is now back to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Nominations committee elections on May 2 for Board Members.

**D. Rabbit Creek** - Mike Kenny stated Village C Parkway development - to be litigated. See Minutes at RCCC for details. A member has volunteered to detail our social media platforms. Ky Holland to speak with Rep. Kaufman to forward Resilience/Firewise program information. Rep Kaufman noted that the Firewise slides and graphic are still stored on the Google drive where they were originally placed.

#### **VI. Committee Reports**

**A. Communication (Monette)** - Website with facebook updated.

**B. Sky Ridge Rezone Ad-Hoc Committee (Morrison & Monette)** The Assembly sent the cases back to the Planning and Zoning Commission to correct the errors they made in their decision. They also asked if the applicant could request a rezone to smaller lots only on the Lake Otis lot, leaving the balance of the lots with current R-6 zoning and create access via Lake Otis and O'Malley instead of Hane Street.

**C. Resilience (Nolan)** Another volunteer chair is needed. Will have a Firewise virtual event again 4/20, next meeting for committee 4/19. Q. What is Resilience? A. Readiness committee able to withstand natural disasters. Morrison volunteered to chair the committee.

#### **VII. Old Business**

**A. Candidate Forum Recap** - overwhelming delighted with help and assistance provided. Mark our new moderator - our timer - everything went so smoothly and lots of feedback especially school board candidates. Very complimentary.

#### **VIII. New Business**

- A. Motion by Joan Priestly, second by Morrison to have HALO look into property assessments, methods, regulations. Q. Work through Community Councils - who do we need to contact? A. Get more information from a "Freedom of Information Act" request about perimeters and how they value properties and prior appeals. First step would be data gathering. Comment: several years ago started charging for appeals; how does a 30 year old house appreciate? Comment: a member appealed the assessment, it was dropped that year and tripled the following year. Q. What are the regulations for assessment? A. They supposedly use a book they refer to and Ian has a page, but not the whole book. Ask for Muni to give us the perimeters for valuing property. Q. Worth having an assessor give a talk to HALO? A. Ian is useful to do eventually. Comment: Julie from HCC stated Jack Gadamus, an assessor for Muni. came and spoke stating they must follow policies and procedures. We should in our formal request ask for this information. If you don't have the manual, then what is the criteria used? Comment: Just Hillside or is it widely spread? More challenging to assess big lots of Hillside, Eagle River, and Turnagin Arm as they will all probably have similar issues. The motion passed with no opposition.
- B. **B. Board appointments** - Carmela Warfield G-2 Seat B (shared seat with Doolen); Julie Coulombe G-3 Seat B (shared seat with Nolan) **C.**
- C. **Nomination committee** - election at annual meeting in May. Seats "A" are elected in even numbered years, Seats "B" in odd. Need nominating committee chair to confirm everyone's interest in running again. Julie Coulombe volunteered to head the committee.
- D. April 20th Resilience/Firewise event** - Flyer went out with newsletter and agenda. This event checklist to grade your own house to be eligible to win some great door prizes. Get your neighbors involved as well.
- E. ByLaws update** - Are covered, meet in person and on zoom and see in the future a combo meeting. Those minor tweaks. Updating to President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer responsibilities to maintain their designated email accounts, transferring the account to anyone taking over that position in the future. There are borders changes as well that need updating. Have to publish bylaw changes 30 days before the Annual Meeting. Suggest we wait on boundary changes until we can gather in person. Comment: how we notice meetings....leave original wording. Motion by Peter Johnson, Christine Monette 2nd the motion, Passed with one objection. Morrison stated we haven't had time to review all this information yet - would like to delay till the next meeting. Comment: We are submitting the changes 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting in May and will vote to adopt them at that time. Comment: Basically vocabulary to include in person and zoom meetings. Try to get retailers to donate to our Annual Meeting. Ex: restaurants gift cards, services. Everyone - try to get donations from retailers or restaurants.

## IX. Open Forum

Annual meeting in person - no one will let us in so we might meet outside and/or zoom.

Lizzie appreciates delay in boundary change. Intersection boundaries are very confusing.

Morrison: thinning about creating a well GIS portal - maybe Ian will volunteer to help prepare. IAN wrote our Well Water Quality Report and will be updating that report in the next few months.

Priestly: update on court case Lewis & Clark R10 rezone. Filed complaint to the muni - assigned attorney. Case is active, but L&C is progressing in their development. Looking for an attorney for advice on procedure. Please email Gail or myself at: [onecreativedoc@yahoo.com](mailto:onecreativedoc@yahoo.com).

Gail: 2021 notice of Foreclosures - Holquest is in there.

David: waiting for final spring snowfall!

***Action items:***

- Prepare Open Records Request
- All members should try to get retailers to donate to our Annual Meeting in May

The meeting adjourned at: 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Kaufman, Secretary