

HALO Board of Directors Minutes

Thursday, August 5, 2021 Zoom & In Person Meeting

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, Nancy Kaufman, Mike Kenny, Christine Monette, Gail Morrison, Katie Nolan, Frank Pugh, Carmela Warfield

Board Members absent but excused: Pat Abney, Marc June, Susan Richards

Board Members absent: Sarah Denison, Brena Doolen, Peter Johnson, Lizzie Newell, Rodney Powell

II. Agenda. June Agenda - no changes

III. Presentations -

A. State - James Kaufman, State Representative, House District 28.

Katie introduced Rep K. saying that he would deliver the Juneau report: Rep. Kaufman: Well I would much rather be known as the "District 28 guy" than the "Juneau guy", but I take your point! Anyway, the big stories right now are:

The ongoing hearings and meetings of the bipartisan/bicameral fiscal policy work group. The latest session that I partially attended on August 5th was a presentation by Lucinda Mahoney, Commissioner of our Department of Revenue. The subject was the proposed constitutionalizing of the 5% of market value, 50/50 split PFD plan and a broad variety of taxes that could be used to increase revenues required to fund the state at current spending rates when combined with the proposed PFD calculation. The internet went down, so the rest of the hearing had to be postponed, (joking) that maybe someone forgot to pay the bills). Rep. K. noted that the meetings are available online, and many of them are held in the Anchorage LIO and they are open to attend real-time and in person if anyone wishes to.

The other big story is the upcoming special session which was delayed, now to commence Monday the 16th August to give the working group more time. Special sessions are constrained to specific subject matter and the Governor's call is that we consider the following three items:

- HJR6/SJR5 or similar, to amend our constitutional appropriation limit. (would require a supermajority of legislature and subsequent vote of the people to pass)
 - HJR8/SJR7 to amend the constitution to provide a 5% POMV 50/50 split in the dividend. (would require a supermajority of legislature and subsequent vote of the people to pass)
- An act or acts to increase state revenue. (requires only simple majority vote in each body)

Rep. K noted that of the three items, the call for increased revenues is the simplest thing to pass, because it is standard legislation, not requiring the higher threshold needed to pass constitutional amendments. It was also noted that there are interesting omissions in the Governor's call, items that were on the agenda previously and items that could have been added to address recent developments, so it remains to be seen what actually gets put on the table for this special session. Possible that yet another session will be required to address the recommendations of the working group.

Rep. K went on to discuss pending legislation that he is sponsoring to address the first item on the call, which is to amend our constitutional spending limit which is now set at such a

generously high limit that it has never been effective. Rep. K's legislation is in draft form, so he is not openly discussing the details, but will be providing much more information after it is filed early in the week of August 9th in advance of the special session. As an appropriation limit is on the call, it is possible that this legislation will be among others being presented in the special session. Future legislation that is being worked on is focused upon transparency, accountability and efficiency. The appropriation limit will be an important piece of the improvement plan.

Contact: Rep.James.Kaufman@akleg.gov or call #907-465-4949 and newsletter: akrepkaufman.com

B. ASD - Andy Holleman - Schools plan to open with a mitigation strategy of mandatory masks for all students. Running about 60% in favor of, 40% opposed to masking. There was a lot of testimony this last Tuesday. Look at covid numbers everyday; trending sharply upward. We do hope all adults and kids stay at home if not feeling well. The Delta variant spreads quickly. Q When does registration start. A. Check the website Asdk12.org website for more specifics but the 1st day is August 19th. Q. Masks required? A. Yes everyone will mask up at the beginning of year, but may come off with certain situations. Q. Private school mandating masks? A. Most are not requiring them. Q. What is the medical rationale to mask the young kids, what is the evidence for requiring it - can you send it to me? A. Kids get it, and get sick but that hasn't happened in Anchorage because of our mitigation. Kids have died in other states in lower numbers but it is shifting with change of transmission right now. Q. Any contrast how the original and the delta variant spread - does wearing a mask even work? C. Keeping our kids in-person teaching so vital, especially young learners and the numbers of suicide numbers in our youth.....I know they are being looked at but as a parent and Community Council President, for children at risk for abuse and neglect, please keep our kids in schools! I don't hear it talked about as much.

Contact: Holleman_Andy@asdk12.org

IV. Minutes of June were accepted with the published additions.

V. Treasurer Report - Current savings/legal account balance is \$15,636.08. The current checking account balance is \$641.87. Membership dues of \$10.00 can be sent to: P.O. Box 110096, Anchorage, AK 99511

VI. Community Councils

A. Hillside - Carmela Warfield - Meeting for August will be on 8/19 (normally held on the 3rd Monday of the month). Likely to be an in-person hybrid meeting.

B. Huffman/O'Malley - Julie Coulombe - We supported the HALO comments on SkyRidge subdivision and working on hybrid in-person and zoom meetings this month.

C. Rabbit Creek - Mike Kenny - A few things going on: There was a meeting presentation on Windy Point by DOT making it safer for pull outs. And a Brewery to be built at Huffman business park. Also, noise concerns from the Rugby field at the south side of Potter Creek canyons. A great soccer field, good international branding, quite popular for rugby and other events. Q. On private property? A. Yes. C. The field was used to stage fighting the McHugh Creek fire. Q. The Community Council does not have enough information yet for a solution yet about the noise issue.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Firewise - A huge thank you for all who participated - Nancy, Christine, Robert Redlinger

from Hillside CC, Frank, James K., Carmela, Julie, Ky and others. Heard from Team Rubicon; they were very impressed with the program. Also, a lot of information was captured from Community Councils. Q. Did RRCC have some representation there too? A. Don't know. We haven't had a meeting since then. C. Working with CC the idea was we could get info capture from CC. Late April, early May for next year for the same type of event, potentially at Hilltop Ski Area. Same idea of focusing on non-profit institutions and senior citizens who would have difficulty treating their property. This event was a service to the community and removed many dead and dying trees. Carmela: Hillside was happy to support the event and look forward to the next event. Nancy: Weather was perfect and the use of the district map was very helpful. Christine: AFD there and rushed out at the end to attend an actual traffic event. Frank: helped with cleaning up the branches along with Keith Geier RRCC and Pete Nolan and the Pastor. Team Rubicon is a very good organization to support. t their skill sets in purpose and comradery.

B. Resilience committee - meet again 8/23 put ideas together for next year's event.

C. Sky Ridge Rezone - It passed the Planning and Zoning commission, who apologized to developers for making them come back. Property owners within 300 feet of property have an opportunity to file a protest citing reasons. The protest will cause the Assembly to need a supermajority vote to pass the proposed rezone. Applicants told by Assembly to correct errors, especially the error of the claimed area nitrate problem (there are no nitrate problems in the area); this was not done. Application is a combo of private wells and public sewer. C. Historically, no one is allowed to put in one without the other. C. Also, water pressure is too high for public water. There is a good basis for a protest. C. Hulquist doing this where Hane Rd. meets 112th. He owns all the property at Cange and 112th to prevent loss of his view.

C. Land Use - Still looking for volunteers for this committee. Contact Frank Pugh.

VIII. Old Business

A. Property Tax Appraisals - John Weddleton is not here this evening so we will have to delay on this topic. Q. Do we have a committee? A. Yes.

IX. New Business -

A. HALO Signs. Very obvious from the Firewise event; We need signs! Pop up signs, canvas signs, business cards and banners for HALO. Something that identifies us for our community events. Need ideas for business cards, pop up and banner signs. New logo? Business card that gives a brief mission statement? Sign "HALO Community Event"?? Send ideas to presidenthalo@gmail.com. Will discuss ideas at the Oct meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Kaufman, Secretary

Action items:

- *Design media material - (see IX. A. New Business above)*
- *Contact Frank - volunteer help needed on Land Use Committee*