

HALO, Inc Minutes for November 4, 2004  
O'Malley School

Pres. Chris Hamre opened the meeting at 7:10pm. Other Board members present were Dianne Holmes, Jeff Lentfer, Rodney Powell, Jerry Guay, Judy Moerlein, & Jim Barnett

Undergrounding Ordinance—This ordinance was heard by the P/Z Commission last week but failed for a lack of four positive votes, but will be brought back up for reconsideration next week. Chugach Electric is supportive of it because it allows the electric companies to write their own five-year plan of where they will underground lines. MOA Planning Dept would review their plan but would be in a position to change it and the companies must report annually what their projects have been during the past year. ACS was not supportive of the revised ordinance. There is already an undergrounding ordinance on the books but it is not being followed. This new ordinance will fix some of the loopholes and should result in progress being made towards getting some of the current overhead distribution lines underground.

Short Plat Ordinance—this one passed the Assembly but lacks the best language to meet the needs of parts of Anchorage where infrastructure is not yet built. The ordinance disallows any parcel over 10 acres from being short platted (no public hearing) and there are other restrictions such as the four year limit on short platting the same parcel or one that is owned by the same person. When the Hillside District Plan is completed, it should cover the concerns that the short plat ordinance might miss.

Assembly Report

Hillside District Plan—Assemblywoman, Janice Shamberg said there has been an informational meeting on this topic and there may be about \$100,000 to get it off the ground as a joint community and Planning Dept project. The city will be hiring two new planners and one will be dedicated to the HDP. There should be more news on the progress of the HDP later.

CIP list—Janice would like to now our list for CIP projects as the budget process for next year is occurring.

Janice is on the AMATS Policy Board and she said the new scoring process has been adopted. This affects the criteria that are used in ranking the road projects.

Janice is currently working on a new bicycle ordinance

Motion by Rodney Powell and John Weddleton to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

Motion by Rodney Powell and John Weddleton to approve the September minutes. Passed.

Terraces Subdivision (off Lake Otis)—no report.

Bulk Mail Permit—Chris reported that we pay \$150 to renew our permit with the Post Office, but we can use Great Original's permit at no extra cost because they mail out our newsletters.

Newsletter—another HALO newsletter should go out soon because we didn't have enough room on the last one to print the articles everyone had written because the candidates' answers to our

questions took up all the room. Jeff offered to help with his copy of “Publisher.” There was discussion on when to sent the newsletter out—now or after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. Sooner was the consensus.

Mailing list—there was discussion on when and by how much we should purge our snail mail list which is about 800 people right now. Many of those receiving the newsletter have not paid dues for 7 years. It was agreed to give notice in the next newsletter and then purge everyone before 2000 if they don’t pay (or another agreed upon date). We should also do a “address correction” request with the next mailing also.

Chugach Electric Transmission Line Project—Mike Travis spoke on the South Anchorage to University Substation Project which is needed to supply reliable power from west to east Anchorage. One of four roads is slated to receive this line which will be about 65 ft tall. This is the last of a three-phase project that was started some years ago. Most of the city has more than one transmission line feeding their area but in this area it isn’t the case. The four choices are Abbott Rd, O’Malley, Huffman, and Dowling. There was much discussion on why transmission lines can’t easily be buried like distribution lines. There was also discussion on where—in the ROW—the lines would be or if they would be just outside if they were on a private property easement. Discussion continued whether the lines could be placed against a backdrop of tall spruce trees like the south side of Abbot or O’Malley. The consensus was that people really wanted the lines underground. Some people felt that there might be some trade-offs with Chugach helping establish a soft trail on the north side of O’Malley Rd, if the lines will be built there. When the road is upgraded, DOT may not be willing to place a trail on each side of the road yet people desire that and it fits with the Trails Plan. Thirty-five feet is needed for a transmission line but only 20 ft is needed for a distribution line easement. It wasn’t clear how much ROW Chugach has on the north side of O’Malley currently.

Adjourned 9:05 pm

Dianne Holmes, Sec