

Minutes for HALO Meeting August 3, 2006
Holy Spirit Retreat Center

President Chris Hamre opened the meeting at 7:15 pm. Other board members present were Dianne Holmes, Rodney Powell, Beth Terry/Bill Lamoreaux, Gerry Guay, Judy Moerlein, Jim Barnett, Jeff Lentfer, Annie Mabry, John Weddleton, and Sharon Clawson.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Judy and Sharon to approve July's minutes. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Rodney and Sharon to accept the treasurer's report for May. Passed unanimously. Motion by Jim and John to accept the treasurer's report for June. Passed unanimously.

Legislative/Assembly report:

Senator Bunde's aide, Lauren, reported that the legislature is in special session dealing with the stranded gas issue, the gas line contract, and oil tax negotiations, plus the material witness bill.

Assembly woman Janice Shamborg discussed the Land Use Plan Map project and reported that legal opinions indicate that involuntary rezoning could be illegal if it would result in lower property values, so the project may be on-hold or due for changes. The Downtown Plan along with the E St Corridor project will be coming up soon, as will the Wal-Mart rezone in NE Anchorage. The smoking ban ordinance will be voted on soon. Janice toured homeless camps in town recently.

Comments/Announcements: Judy would like to see a newsletter go out soon to increase membership. John would like to know about having HALO invest in a better interest-bearing account.

Old Business:

Hillside District Plan—John and Chris are on a subcommittee of the Oversight Committee (OC) that will choose the Lead Consultant and cannot reveal any information on the proposals submitted. We should know more in a month. Regarding the sub studies—they are being prepared by MOA departments initially but the LC will complete the RFPs and oversee the studies. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) has been selected but Wayne Westberg's name should have been on the list. That will likely be corrected this month. There was discussion on having the September meeting devoted to the CAC with a focus on education of the 2020 Plan in relation to the HDP and the results from the Sept 29, '05 HDP meeting. Five sub studies' RFPs are being developed and because of their potential impact, it was discussed that the public should know when various departments like AWWU are holding their meetings so the public can attend. Also discussed was the preparation of materials for the CAC. Janice can provide photocopying.

By Laws—Jim will provide a revised set of bylaws for review for the October meeting.

New Business:

Newsletter—discussed was producing two newsletters, one of which should summarize the results from the HDP Sept. 29, '05 meeting and list its website link, along with information on the OC and CAC committees and their invitation to HALO's September meeting. Deadline for the first newsletter is Aug 20th to get articles to Jeff with the goal of the 25th to Great Originals for printing and mailing.

The Heritage Land Bank (HLB) has a 5-yr plan up for review. Sometimes parcels that are slated for disposal for one purpose or another (like parks) get dropped from year to year. It would be advisable to review the current and past plans. Sharon will do that.

Regarding a fall candidates' forum for October 5th—Jim said O'Malleys on the Green said it was ok for HALO to have more than one free meeting a year there. Jim will check on the availability for Oct. 5th. Annie will help with the food once she confirms she will be in town. Sharon will call the candidates for our area (not gubernatorial) to mark their calendars. Publicity, Dianne to ask KSKA for a PSA later. The LC for the HDP will be asked to attend.

Ashland Tract of Prominence Pointe is requesting sewers be extended (but not water) to a small parcel that has partially been denuded to bedrock with the gravel used for the subdivision roads. While the density is low, the extension of sewers undermines the on-going HDP and the public's ability to set critical criteria such as the urban/rural boundary. The request is similar to a zoning variance and Title 21 does not grant variances for self imposed conditions, and this request is due to self imposed actions. Policy #80 of 2020 is not being adhered to in this case because the conditions for public utilities to be located with balanced regard for the environment, natural hazard survivability, and cost are not met. The hearing is August 29th. Motion by Dianne and Judy to oppose the request for sewer extension due to the undermining of the on-going HDP and the public's ability to determine issues such as the Urban/Rural boundary, the self imposed condition, and the fact it would not be consistent with Policy #80 of 2020. Passed unanimously.

Website—discussion on keeping the Anchoragehillside.org website updated. Perhaps need more than one person to prepare changes for uploading and to share the burden. Need to prepare a site to place minutes. Agreed the president should have oversight on changes to the website.
Meeting adjourned 9:03 pm

Submitted: Dianne Holmes, Sec