

Huffman O'Malley Community Council  
January 18, 2018  
Trinity Presbyterian Church, 12310 Lorraine Rd.  
Minutes – FINAL

1. Call to Order 7:05 p.m. by President Evan Budd
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome and Introductions

Steering Committee Members Present:

- Evan Budd –President
- Shirley Coté –Vice President
- Brad Coy
- Dave Hemstreet
- Katie Nolan
- Brian Partch
- Susan Richards – Treasurer
- Diane Shellenbaum – Secretary
- Gretchen Stoddard

Absent: Matt Burkholder, Christine Monette  
9 of 11 present, there is a quorum

4. Agenda – No changes
5. Minutes – **Minutes for November, 2017 – Not available**
  - **ACTION – Gretchen will complete minutes**
6. Treasurer's Report – Bank deposits - \$383.14,
  - **ACTION: Susan and Wayne** – perform 2016-2017 Audit.
7. Citizen Speakers
  - David Nees – Candidate for school board
  - Laddie Shaw – Candidate for State House [www.LaddieforStateHouse.com](http://www.LaddieforStateHouse.com), running against Albert Fogel, and Joe Riggs in Republican primary.
  - 3 firefighters from FS # 8 attended, Sr. Captain Brian Partch reported:
    - i. HOCC area is covered by FS#8 and FS#9. #9 has an ambulance and so has more calls. Often those calls are to cover excessive calls downtown, leaving our area uncovered. Overall calls going up everywhere, and budgets continue to be strained, this has led to times where the tender at FS #9 is not manned. In the case of a fire on the hillside during these times, there will be two tenders actively replenishing water for the firefighters, and chances the water reserve runs out increase. **If the next ISO audit deems that risk significant, insurance rates could go up on the hillside.**

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- ii. Bond request on April election includes new ambulances. The salaries for the firefighters assigned to those ambulances are in the general budget, not the bond.
  - iii. Fire academy expects to graduate 23 new firefighters in March, all will fill current AFD vacancies.
- Abbot-O-Rabbit Little League - Brian Partch reported they are working with DOT to address concerns of loss of safety buffer due to Abbott Road reconstruction. The contractor doing the construction, QAP, has been extremely cooperative in working with Abbot-O-Rabbit to minimize damage and inconvenience.

8. Presentations

- School Board – Andy Holleman
  - i. ASD school lottery open
  - ii. \$56 Million bond package to voters in April, school board cut original request by 10%. At least that much in old bonds are being retired, so taxes should not go up if this bond package passes. Discussion followed whether that was the case or not, since new bonds are 100% Anchorage, whereas old bonds may have had State support.
  - iii. School board did not take a pro or con position on question of increasing school zone hours on Huffman at Elmore, to cover both Huffman Elementary and South HS hrs. Recommended HOCC make a formal recommendation to the School Board and to Muni traffic if that is our position. Discussion followed, Huffman a State road, but lights are city responsibility, will it actually help or will people ignore the lights if they're on all the time.
- Assembly members John Weddleton and Suzanne LaFrance
  - i. Alcohol tax for April ballot – public testimony Tuesday and Thursday (expecting overflow)
  - ii. Sale of ML+P to Chugach for April ballot – financially seems all positive, possible negatives to current employees ameliorated by time buffer (up to 5 years) before merger would be completed, and expected attrition during that time. The sale price, \$1 Billion plus, would go to Municipal Trust fund or to pay off Municipal Debt, as provided for in the Anchorage Charter. Wording of ballot will determine whether vote required for passage is 50% + 1 or 60% + 1.
  - iii. Improved security at Brother Francis and Bean's Café. Proposal to be debated whether to start penalties for too many calls for services, but stationing APD and AFD personnel on site has lowered the calls by 30%.
  - iv. Community Café event to discuss Anchorage opioid epidemic – 2-8-18, 6-8 pm at Goldenview Middle School Cafeteria. State DHHS and Assembly members will be present. All invited to participate.
  - v. Recommend using free special bags for disposal of unused prescriptions.

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vi. Questions/comments from audience:

1. Why have septic dumping charges gone up so much? Possibly as AWWU costs going up and septic waste is expensive to treat. Interesting factoid, responses from the latest Hillside District survey indicated 10% of those on septic did not realize it, leading one to believe eventually they were in for a nasty surprise.
2. Vote by mail not getting enough advertising – though every household should have received informational postcards.
3. Could Service Pool have some time open to the public? Was closed during previous administration but is now being used by clubs and school.
4. **ONGOING CONCERN** – Planning Dept website has been down for a month or two, making it impossible for the public and Community Councils to keep up with proposed changes in their areas. It's been down for very long periods in the past as well.

9. Continuing Business

- Stream Setbacks ordinance – Dianne Holmes presented the case that changing the 50' setback requirements as defined in the Hillside District Plan and the current version of Title 21 should be challenged. The new ordinance defines only the first 25' as a full setback, and, depending on the lot size and stream size, additional amounts of setback with limited use. Some of these uses, ie lawns and golf courses, are shown to have less value in filtering pollutants before reaching streams than undisturbed zones. Anchorage Waterways Council recommends against changes.
  - P+Z hearing on issue scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Any comments should be in well before then to have the maximum change to influence the issue.
- Traffic Calming Report – Evan – No city report yet. Capital list coming out soon, and any calming studies of import to HOCC need to be one of our priorities on that list for any city action to take place. City reported that the study was completed on Steeple, but neighbors reported no evidence that happened. \$500,000 has been added to the budget for traffic calming this year, so there is hope that some projects will happen.
- Outreach– no report
- Social Media – No report.
- Huffman / Elmore school lights –
  - **MOTION: Katie proposed, Dave Hemstreet 2<sup>nd</sup>, HOCC present a resolution in support of extending the school light hours to cover both the elementary and high school hours.** There were no objections.
    - **Action – Katie will write the resolution**

10. Reports

- a. FCC – Katie reported

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- FCC funding in city budget
  - CIP (Capital Improvements) list coming out soon. Councils will need to rank the projects in their areas.
- b. HALO –Katie reported
- Committee meeting weekly on suggestions for Hillside trails, drainage and roads issues, including needed consistency in street plowing.
  - Municipal Storm Water Utility in late 2018 – 2019 to be funded by property owner fees. Looking after Hillside fairness issues, should Hillside have its own plan?
  - Candidate Forum planned for March 1.
- c. Crime Statistics – Shirley presented stats for the last two months, including maps showing locations of different crimes.

11. President's Report

- a. Incoming Correspondence –
- Marijuana establishments – none in HOCC area
  - 6 yr plan for ASD capital improvements
    - [www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Pages/default.aspx)
- b. Outgoing Correspondence – None

12. New Business

- **Motion:** Katie proposed, Brian 2<sup>nd</sup> – **HOCC donate \$50 to HALO to support March 1 candidate forum – passed unanimously**
  - **ACTION – Susan write \$50 check to HALO**
- **Motion:** Diane proposed, Katie 2<sup>nd</sup> – **HOCC donate \$100 to Trinity Church in appreciation of providing meeting space – passed unanimously**
  - **ACTION: Susan write \$100 check to Trinity Presbyterian Church**
- Brian Partch – Huffman Winter Sports Carnival scheduled for Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30-2:00 pm – Looking for volunteers to help out, similar to last year where HOCC volunteers manned a booth providing hot chocolate and prizes, many of which were also provided by HOCC.
  - Shirley and Diane volunteered, more welcome
- **Motion:** Diane proposed, Shirley 2<sup>nd</sup>, **HOCC provide brief comments to P+Z in opposition to new ordinance changes to required stream setbacks on the Hillside, and in support of keeping the recommendations from the Hillside District Plan. 5 votes in support, one opposed.**
  - **ACTION: Diane will write comments, pass on to Steering Committee for comment, Evan will submit to P+Z in time for consideration at their February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

13. Open Forum – No discussion

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14. Adjournment - Evan adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Diane Shellenbaum 1-29-18

Next meeting – Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Trinity Church