

From: [Julie Cozzi](#)
To: [Alekk Fullerton](#); [Brad Ryan](#)
Subject: Fwd: Tonight's assembly meeting
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 2:40:50 PM

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From: Cynthia Jones CJ <cjinhaines@aptalaska.net>
Date: Jan 24, 2017, 3:37 PM -0800
To: Jan Hill <jhill@haines.ak.us>, Margaret Friedenauer <mfriedenauer@haines.ak.us>, Mike Case <mcase@haines.ak.us>, Tresham Gregg <tgregg@haines.ak.us>, Ron Jackson <rjackson@haines.ak.us>, Julie Cozzi <jcozzi@haines.ak.us>
Subject: Tonight's assembly meeting

Hi all,

I was planning to attend the Assembly meeting tonight, but now find that I am unable to do so. I wanted to speak regarding two related issues: the State Forestry office which is scheduled to be closed, and the lobbyist. They are related topics.

Closing the Forestry office is not just affecting proper oversight of the largest timber sale in decades, it is a PUBLIC SAFETY issue for the Haines Borough. Loss of this office is the loss of the Borough's Wildland Firefighting crew. This will totally eliminate any reasonable response time to fires burning off the road system. I know that you are aware of this and that a very few years ago, we had a fire at David's Cove which, with strong winds from the south had the potential to burn the peninsula and homes and had the potential to run as far as town. Only a timely response by the Wildland Firefighting crew prevented this. Without the Forestry office, timely responses are over. They will not exist. We MUST continue to lobby to keep our State Forestry office open.

Lobbyist: I feel very firmly that the Borough should hire Bill Thomas as our lobbyist. I have lobbied over many years at the state and federal level for museum issues (and occasionally the City and Borough). The legislators- or sometimes their clerks- smile, nod politely, listen and sound like they will do something when I have lobbied as an individual or part of a delegation. Museums Alaska hired Clark Gruening to lobby for us and the differences were considerable. Like Bill he is a life long resident, familiar with Juneau, underpaid, but most importantly well known by the legislators down there. A lobbyist doesn't just visit, he/she hangs out at the capitol building. RESULTS happen over coffee, passing in the hallway or stopping in the office to say "Congrats on the new grand baby, and oh by the way.....". The Borough has a number of items that need lobbying. Constantly being in the legislators faces (and/or head of the Dept. of Natural Resources, in the case of the forester position and the Department of Public Safety for the trooper), will make a SIGNIFICANTLY stronger difference than anything else we can do. As Lib Hakkinen used to tell me- "if you want them to remember you, you have

to constantly remind them that you are there."

Please send our lobbyist to Juneau. If he can do nothing but save those 2 positions, it will be well worth every penny.

Thank you.

Cynthia Jones (CJ)

[766-2018](#) you are welcome to call and talk.