

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
SISTERS CITY COUNCIL  
520 E. CASCADE AVENUE  
JULY 09, 2009

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Lon Kellstrom | Mayor               |
| Bill Merrill  | Councilor President |
| Sharlene Weed | Councilor           |
| Pat Thompson  | Councilor           |
| Jerry Bogart  | Councilor           |

**STAFF PRESENT:**

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Eileen Stein | City Manager          |
| Brad Grimm   | Public Works Director |
| Lisa Young   | Finance Director      |
| Kathy Nelson | City Recorder         |

**ABSENT:**

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Eric Porter | Comm. Dev. Director |
|-------------|---------------------|

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kellstrom at 6:00 p.m.

A. Community Grant Applications

**Manager Stein** provided a brief overview on community grants for Council members who had not previously participated in the process. She stated that in addition to the applications included in their packet they received earlier in the week, there were two additional items for consideration. The first was an application from Sisters Community Church that was received a day late and the second was for meals to participants of *Financial Fitness* classes the City of Sisters and Bank of the Cascades wish to partner on. Copies of both the additional requests were distributed to the Council.

**Mayor Kellstrom** discussed that in years past the Council has typically held back some funds to be used for deserving projects or events that may arise in the course of the year. He asked the councilors if they wanted to do the same this year. After some discussion the **Council** determined it would hold some funds back for future need.

The **Council** decided to discuss the merits of each grant request. They agreed to leave the request from Family Access Network for the end of its discussion.

Sisters Park and Recreation District (SPRD)

**Council** members all agreed to support SPRD if the funds were designated for scholarship use only. A grant amount of \$4,000 was decided upon.

Sisters Ford Leadership Institute

The **Council** discussed the Leadership Institutes project of constructing a multi-use outdoor covered learning area at Sisters Middle School. **Public Works Director Grimm** stated the project has already received City land use approval. The **Council** decided to fund the grant request in the amount of \$800 to complete the funding needed for the \$11,984 project.

*Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show*

The **Council** discussed the request from the Quilt show for funding the cost of a shuttle bus on Quilt Show day. It was discussed that the Quilt Show is one of the defining events of Sisters and decided to fund the grant request in the amount of \$450.

*Kiwanis*

The **Council** discussed the Kiwanis request for funds for sidewalk improvements and an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp. **Director Grimm** stated that portion of the project on Main Street is already slated to be done when other parking and sidewalk improvements are made on Main Street later this year. The **Council** decided to not fund the grant request.

*Working Wonders Children's Museum*

The **Council** decided to not fund the grant request.

*Four Winds Foundation*

The **Council** decided to not fund the grant request.

*Community Garden*

The **Council** discussed the Community Gardens request the City share in the cost of the site design review fee. The **Council** decided to not fund the grant request but directed staff to waive one half of the site design fee.

*Sisters Public Art*

The **Council** discussed the grant request from Sisters Public Art. Although it was agreed that \$1,000 will not fund a significant piece of art it was decided it could be used toward a future purchase or used to leverage other grant funds. The **Council** decided to fund the grant request in the amount of \$1,000.

*Veteran's Assistance Program*

The **Council** discussed the request of the Veteran's Assistance Program. It was determined that the program was not sufficiently organized yet to grant any funds at this time. The **Council** agreed to help the organization in finding a suitable space, providing information on how to file to become a 501(c)(3) and how to work with other organizations and resources.

Financial Fitness Classes

The **Council** discussed the request for funds to purchase meals for people who take advantage of the four Financial Fitness classes that the City and Bank of the Cascades will jointly offer. The **Council** decided to fund the grant request in the amount of \$500.

Sisters Community Church

The **Council** discussed the request from the Sisters Community Church. There was discussion on whether to consider the request as it was received late and concerns with the issue of separation of church and state. The **Council** acknowledged the many community projects the Church has undertaken but decided to not fund the grant request.

Family Access Network (FAN)

The **Council** all agreed to fund FAN to the highest amount feasible because of the community assistance it provides to City residents, especially needed in the current economic climate. There was discussion that in previous years the City has not issued a check to FAN but rather provided a credit to the organization which they pass along to families in the form of a voucher to pay City water and sewer bills. The **Council** decided to grant \$6,000 with the caveat that the funds be available as a resource for veterans and those individuals assisted by Sisters Community Church.

B. City Manager Update

Due to lack of time there was no City Manager update.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Nelson, City Recorder

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Lon Kellstrom, Mayor