

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SISTERS CITY COUNCIL
520 E. CASCADE AVENUE
FEBRUARY 12, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Frye	Mayor
McKibben Womack	Council President
Wendy Holzman	Councilor
David Asson	Councilor
Nancy Connolly	Councilor

STAFF PRESENT:

Andrew Gorayeb	City Manager
Steve Bryant	City Attorney
Paul Bertagna	PW Director
Pauline Hardie	CDD Director
Lynne Fujita-Conrads	Finance Officer
Kathy Nelson	City Recorder

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Frye at 7:10 p.m.

II. VISITOR COMMUNICATION

Dawn Cooper 538 N. Tamaran, Sisters, OR 97759

Ms. Cooper introduced herself as the homeless liaison for Sisters School District (SSD) and stated she was in attendance to explain the McKinney Vento Law that protects the rights of homeless students who experience barriers to education. She stated the McKinney Vento Law was the only federally legislative response to homelessness and was enacted in 1987. She stated she was also a Family Access Network (FAN) advocate. She reported homeless students had to overcome many difficulties such as not having the correct enrollment records, high mobility resulting in a lack of school stability and continuity, access to programs, lack of transportation, lack of school supplies, clothing and stable food sources, poor health, prejudice and misunderstanding. She announced that currently the district had 33 students who lacked a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. She stated in some cases the students had moved, some were camping, some were living in RV's, some were residing in homeless shelters, some were sharing housing and some were living in motels. She stated it was easy to see how transportation was a huge issue for students living under these conditions.

Darren Dickerhoof, Dickerhoof Properties, PO Box 1583, Corvallis, OR 97339

Mr. Dickerhoof reported he had purchased Three Winds Shopping Center in November and in the process, the Huckleberry Coffee Kiosk had been moved also. He pointed out the proposed relocation for the coffee drive-through and noted it sat on one lot and Takodas Restaurant was located on another lot. He explained he had hoped to connect the sewer line for the coffee kiosk to Takodas but was informed that sewer lines were not allowed to cross lot lines. He stated that left the option of applying for a lot lien adjustment, a process that would take a few months and leave the owner of the Huckleberry's the ability to reopen her business. He stated the other option was to run the sewer line to BiMart at an approximate cost of \$19,800, which was extremely expensive considering the size of the kiosk building. He stated he was in attendance to ask the Council for permission to defer the sewer connection for up to 24 months since the cost was far greater than four times the current sewer equivalent dwelling unit (EDU as was stipulated in Ordinance 349 as a justification for

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requesting a deferral. He stated he hoped to find a tenant to construct a building to the northwest of the main entry. He explained he would run the sewer line from the kiosk to the new building at that time. He noted the Kiosk only has a few sinks, no restroom and it would be easy to connect the kiosk to a storage tank that could be pumped as necessary. He stated he wanted Huckleberry's closed for the shortest period possible.

The **Council** was in favor of deferring the sewer line connection for Huckleberry's Coffee Kiosk and requested City Attorney Bryant craft the necessary agreement.

Liam Hughes, Sisters Park and Recreation District 1750 W. McKinney Butte Drive

Mr. Hughes, Executive Director of Sisters Park and Recreation District (SPRD) stated he was in attendance to request a letter of support from the Council for a bike park grant SPRD would be applying for. He discussed the bike park concept, noting it would have features that would appeal to all levels of ability from children to adults. He stated the grant would be through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and would require a 40% match from SPRD which could include in-kind or cash donations. He reported there was already a committee working to raise the necessary funds for the required match.

Councilor Connolly asked if the park would be located completely inside city limits and **Mr. Hughes** replied he believed it was but noted it would come within a few hundred feet of the city limits border.

The **Council** agreed to write a letter of support with Mayor Frye remarking how a bike park would be a great community asset. He reminded Mr. Hughes the City still had \$800 left in its Community Grant fund that was available for this fiscal year.

Bob Norman, 16000 Foothill Way, Sisters, OR 97759

Mr. Norman stated he was in attendance to voice his concern regarding the decision made allowing food carts at Eurosports. He stated the process allowing the food carts did not seem quite right and although the process might have been a legally correct, he did not feel it was processed in the spirit of the law. He stated the community had lost a lot of trust in the Council and leadership and he thought it would be a good idea to gain it back by re-visiting the decision and allowing the community to look at it. He stated that regardless of what the final outcome might be, he felt it would help gain back the trust of the community.

Roger Detweiler, 17539 Halliden Drive, Sisters Country, OR

Mr. Detweiler stated he had some concerns about the food cart matter. He stated he was concerned with how decisions were being made behind closed doors such as the food cart decision, who would be Mayor and who would serve on boards and committees. He stated he felt the Council was doing things in violation of Oregon public meeting law. He stated there was a "do as I please and the rest be damned" attitude that needed to be addressed. He stated he was also concerned with the "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" means of

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doing business. He stated the former mayor was instrumental in getting Manager Gorayeb his job outside of the normal hiring process and he felt it was not a coincidence the former mayor was able to get his food cart approved outside of normal processes. He stated there was a need to address these practices.

Ed Protas, 575 S. Oak St. Sisters, OR 97759

Mr. Protas stated he was in attendance to submit a petition with a number of signatures demanding the Council schedule a public hearing on the decision related to food carts. He stated he would continue to collect signatures. He stated the policy to allow food carts had been decided by one individual without supervision and that was not how public policy should be made. He stated it not the issue of whether food carts should be allowed or not but rather the issue of how this decision was made and its impacts to the future of Sisters. He asked if future food cart applications would be handled in the same manner and stated he felt the Council needed to hear from the community.

Melissa Ward, 251 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759

Ms. Ward stated a large percentage of businesses were concerned with the way the decision to allow food carts had come about and it has been viewed as a large mistake. She state the recklessness of the decision has caused some community members to be suspicious of the Council and their integrity. She stated the Council needed to address and correct their mistake and allow the community to be involved.

Mike Morgan, 15925 Pilot Drive, Sisters, OR 97759

Mr. Morgan stated he wanted to clarify a matter that had previously occurred. He stated at a workshop not long ago, Councilor Asson had been chastised for sharing a memo that had been characterized as privileged, from City Attorney Bryant with him, former Mayor Lon Kellstrom and former Council President Bill Merrill answering some questions related to the food cart issue. He stated he had subsequent seen some emails from City Attorney Bryant to Councilor Asson where City Attorney Bryant had stated the information had not been privileged.

Sharlene Weed, 406 Sisters View Place, Sisters, OR 97759

Ms. Weed stated she hoped the Council would set a date for the public hearing on the food cart issue tonight in order to move forward and begin the healing process.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

1. December 18, 2014 – Workshop
2. January 29, 2015 – Goal Setting

B. Bills to Approve

1. February Accounts Payable

Councilor Womack moved to approve the consent agenda including an additional page of accounts payable. Councilor Holzman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. STAFF REPORTS

A. February Staff/Council Work Plan

Councilor Connolly asked where the red dirt triangle referred to in the report was located and **Manager Gorayeb** explained it was the area where Highway 20 and Highway 126 intersected and also included the weigh station property. He stated the City was waiting for OPRD and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to resolve the issue of ownership. He explained ODOT would like to gain ownership in order to widen the road and relocate the weigh station and the City would like to purchase the balance of the property with the idea of developing additional park space.

B. New Business License Report for January 2015 – list included

V. COUNCIL BUSINESS

**A. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-02: A
RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PAY PLAN CLASSIFICATION FOR THE
CITY OF SISTERS**

Finance Officer Fujita-Conrads explained the amendment to the pay plan classification was to reflect recent staff changes. She stated the position of Senior Planner had been removed and replaced with the position of Associate Planner.

Councilor Womack moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-02 amending the pay plan classification for the City of Sisters. Councilor Holzman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion and Consideration of a Motion to Approve the Revised Personnel Handbook

Finance Officer Fujita-Conrads explained the motion was to formally approve the Personnel Handbook the Council had reviewed at its February 5th workshop.

Councilor Womack moved to approve the revised personnel handbook. Councilor Holzman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and Consideration of a Motion to Acknowledge the Deschutes

County and City of Sisters Historic Preservation Program 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Director Hardie explained how Deschutes County and the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) had worked in partnership to develop a Historic Preservation Program 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. She stated the process has included a widespread public outreach campaign including a community meeting in Sisters as well as a presentation to the Sisters Planning Commission. She stated as the HLC served the City, the plan needed to be acknowledged by the Council.

Councilor Holzman moved to acknowledge the Deschutes County and City of Sisters Historic Preservation Program 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. Councilor Womack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Beta Website Comments

The **Council** discussed the comments and recommendation the City had received from citizens regarding the beta testing of the updated website. **Manager Gorayeb** acknowledged a link to the Economic Development of Central Oregon (EDCO) website needed more visibility and staff had made a modification to the website earlier in the day to do so.

Councilor Asson presented his suggestion with a 'cut and paste' rendering of the current Home page that he felt would present the City in a better light. He also included a handout of written suggestion. He stressed the importance of how the website would need to help generate business in Sisters and be attractive to outsiders also. He stressed the importance of EDCO being prominently displayed on the website. **City Recorder Nelson** stated she would scan and send Councilor Asson's suggestions to the Council for comment.

Councilor Connolly stated she liked the idea presented by Bob Wright of a 'Public/Community Outreach' box on the Home page that would provide a brief overview of what was happening in the City such as meetings, proposed land use actions and City events and activities. She stated she did not like the idea of including photos of the Mayor and Councilor's on the website and the other Council members agreed.

Manager Gorayeb stated staff was still working with the web designer on how to address keeping people updated on topics of specific interest. He stated there had also been a comment on the pictures and verbiage being too small and stated the site had been designed to be viewed from a variety of devices.

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Councilor Connolly asked how long recordings would remain on the website and **City Recorder Nelson** replied, depending on space, a maximum of one year.

Mayor Frye asked if the website would be used for surveys and **Manager Gorayeb** replied it was envisioned that a link to an off-site survey might be included, but not the actual survey. **Mayor Frye** stated the City of Bend had a survey on its website and suggested looking into how it had been handled. **Manager Gorayeb** replied he'd speak to the Bend City Manager about surveys. He stated staff would continue to make improvements from the comments received while running the beta test site for a few more weeks prior to transitioning to the new site.

VII MAYOR/COUNCILOR BUSINESS

Councilor Asson reported on the annual EDCO luncheon he had attended earlier in the day. He stated 570 had attended, breaking last year's record of 300 attendees. He stated EDCO was making major inroads for the region and noted Sisters was playing a big part.

Councilor Connolly reported she had attended a new Councilor training class presented by the League of Oregon Cities. She stated it was well presented and provided a lot of valuable information. She suggested the Council view a video on conflict of interest that had been shown and the **Council** agreed and requested the video be scheduled for a future workshop.

The **Council** discussed moving items on the agenda calendar in order to have the discussion to finalize their goals for the year as soon as possible.

Councilor Asson asked if the Council was going to address the issue of food carts that was brought up during visitor communication. **Councilor Holzman** replied she felt the question needed clarification as she did not see how the Council could proceed since the application had already been approved. She noted the Council had already incorporated some changes into the process. **Mayor Frye** stated the City was already going further with noticing then required by notifying the surrounding businesses. **Director Hardie** clarified the City was sending notices onto the Chamber of Commerce, and the Chamber was notifying businesses. **Councilor Connolly** reported she had researched how the Cities of Bend and Redmond processed food cart applications and discovered the processes were not a lot different than Sisters.

VIII. ADJOURN – 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathy Nelson, City Recorder


Chris Frye Mayor