

CITY OF BISHOP
"COUNCIL ON CAMPUS" MINUTES
BISHOP UNION HIGH SCHOOL
MARCH 12, 2012

Council on Campus is a concept to introduce local officials and the function of government to students at Bishop Union High School. It came to fruition through the joint cooperation of the City of Bishop and Bishop Union High School administration and staff.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Smith called the "Council on Campus" meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Dorothy Joseph Auditorium at Bishop Union High School located at 301 North Fowler Street, Bishop, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Body President Taylor Hartshorn.

COUNCIL PRESENT Council Members Susan Cullen, Jeff Griffiths,
Mayor Pro Tem David Stottlemire
Mayor Laura Smith

COUNCIL ABSENT Jim Ellis

OTHERS PRESENT Keith Caldwell, City Administrator/Community Services Director
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk
Peter Tracy, City Attorney
Ray Seguire, Fire Chief (fire call during meeting)
Chris Carter, Police Chief
Deston Dishion, Public Works Superintendent

INTRODUCTIONS City Administrator Keith Caldwell introduced the staff.

Mayor Smith gave an explanation of Study Sessions and the Council on Campus and invited students to address the Council with any questions.

City Attorney Peter Tracy gave an overview of the requirements of the Brown Act and the conflict of interest laws.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS Reports from Community Services, Police, Public Works and Administration were given on the departments' activities including upcoming and ongoing projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT The Mayor announced the public comment period.

Luis Salgado, BUHS Senior In response to the Public Works report about the Auditorium Sidewalk Project, Luis Salgado asked the Council why money is being spent on street projects and not schools.

Councilmember Griffiths provided an explanation of the different functions on local, state and federal government and what their different responsibilities are.

Bill Stinnett, BUHS Senior

Bill Stinnett asked the Council why gas prices are continuing to go up.

Mayor Pro Tem Stottlemyre responded that it is the result of free enterprise. It is a national political issue discussed in the current Presidential campaign.

Councilmember Griffiths stated that some refineries are currently shut down for repair and that causes fluctuation in the supply and causes prices to rise.

Mayor Smith stated as consumers we can choose, as much as we are able, to bring down demand for gas by walking and riding bikes. The City will continue to improve local streets that will benefit bicycle safety and add and repair sidewalks for pedestrians.

Jannah Seaver, BUHS Senior

Jannah Seaver asked what the relationship is between the City and the Paiute Reservation.

Councilmember Griffiths responded there is definitely collaboration between the City and the Tribe which is a sovereign nation. He delineated the area included in the city limits and the other governmental agencies on its border. City staff members work with Tribal staff on projects such as the bike path from the reservation to the schools. Council Members also attend some Tribal Council meetings.

Nick Hilton, BUHS Senior

In response to the Community Services Department report, Nick Hilton asked about the soccer/ball fields that are planned.

City Administrator/Community Services Director Keith Caldwell responded that the Bishop School District and City of Bishop recognized the need for more soccer and ball fields and are working together to build three new fields on the southeast corner of the park. The Park Master Plan is available for viewing on the City's website and shows the future plans for the park to add tennis courts, walking paths, and an arboretum. The City is currently developing a Youth Council to bring forward ideas on what young people want to see in the park.

Nick Hilton asked when the fields would be done.

Caldwell responded that it depends on funding. As an example of what citizens can do, Caldwell reported that currently there is

a group of interested citizens who have raised money for a dog park. The community garden is another project where a group is making it happen.

City Attorney Peter Tracy stated that the City receives sales tax, transient occupancy tax (bed tax), and a small amount of real property tax to operate. Local government has been limited in how it can raise revenue and the Council has to balance the reality of what it is able to accomplish.

Mayor Pro Tem Stottlemire stated that one of the goals of the Council is to get more community involvement. There are currently community members serving on the City's three commissions for Parks and Recreation, Water and Sewer and Planning. Past and current members of the Parks and Recreation Commission were involved in putting together the park's Master Plan.

Tim McMullen, BUHS Senior

Tim McMullen asked why the fine arts and photography classes were cancelled.

Councilmember Griffiths clarified that those classes are provided through the R.O.P. program sponsored by the Inyo County Office of Education and the City is not involved. However, the City offers recreational classes for all ages and is always open to new ideas for classes.

Matt Babb, BUHS Senior

Matt Babb questioned if there are any plans for the Cottonwood Plaza.

City Administrator Caldwell responded that the property was purchased about one and one-half years ago. However the project was delayed when one of the owners recently passed away. The wife and family are moving forward with rehabilitating the buildings and looking for local businesses to fill the store fronts. The City's goal is to work with the owners to get it up and running.

Joy Walders, BUHS Senior

Joy Walders asked if the City Council has any power over what businesses go into the Cottonwood Plaza.

Councilmember Griffiths responded that property owners have the choice and ability to bring in whatever type of business they choose. However, City zoning laws would apply and business owners work with the City to comply with those laws. The City of Bishop and its processes are business friendly.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION

1. Recognition of Bishop Athlete Jaime Ruelas	The Mayor invited Jaime Ruelas to the stage to recognize him for his accomplishment in winning the CIF Wrestling Championship Coastal Division 170-pound weight class. Coach Mark Hodges was also present.
2. Introduction of K-9 Officer Brent Gillespie	<p>Police Chief Carter introduced Officer Gillespie. Through efforts by the Police Department and Gillespie, fundraising made it possible to reinstate a K-9 program including initial and on-going training and the purchase of the K-9 X-Ray.</p> <p>Gillespie reported that since 2010 when the program began there have been multiple drug seizures. X-Ray is the only K-9 in the Eastern Sierra and is used on a regular basis by Inyo and Mono Counties, the drug task force and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Training and re-certification is done on a regular basis.</p>
3. Presentation to Barry Simpson – Retiring Parks and Recreation Commissioner	Bishop Superintendent Barry Simpson has served on the City of Bishop Parks and Recreation Commission for seven years. He was not able to attend this meeting but will attend the 7:00 meeting to receive a city tile for his years of community service as a member of the commission.
4. Current 7:00 p.m. Agenda Items	<p>Council and staff provided an explanation and review of each of the following agenda items scheduled for the 7:00 p.m. meeting in the City Council Chambers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Reorganization 2012 • Warren Street Improvement Project consultant contract • Public Hearing – Fees and Charges for city services for FY 2012-2013 • Introduction of ordinance amendment for Chapter 3.22 Fees and Charges for city services • Adoption of final budget for FY 2011-2012 and amendments to preliminary budget for FY 2012-2013 • Public Hearing and Draft Negative Declaration for an Environmental Review for RJG Plaza signage at 174 South Main Street • Public Hearing and Draft Negative Declaration for an Environmental Review for the City Dog Park
COUNCIL DISCUSSION	Council Members gave committee reports, community announcements and/or made comments or inquiries to staff. No action was taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Stottlemyre announced that two \$500 scholarships are available to seniors. The requirements are to attend three City Council meetings and write an essay to apply.

Mayor Smith stated her year as Mayor will end at the evening meeting. She stated she has enjoyed the interaction with the members of the community. Smith encouraged the seniors to participate in the community by volunteering.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. to the regular City Council meeting scheduled at 7:00 p.m.

LAURA SMITH, MAYOR

ATTEST: Keith Caldwell, City Clerk

By: _____
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL APRIL 9, 2012