

## Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2022

Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

190 N 3<sup>rd</sup> East P.O. Box 324

435-672-9990

Regular meetings are held the first three Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center. Requests to be on the agenda may be submitted in writing to Ann Leppanen (ann@townofbluff.org) at least 4 days before the meeting. Agendas and minutes are posted at: townofbluff.org, on Town Council tab, and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website  
This meeting was held electronically.

The meeting started at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ann K. Leppanen, Luanne Hook, Linda Sosa, Jim Sayers, Brant Murray  
excused absence

Erin Nelson, Town Manager

Approval of Bluff Town Council Public Hearing Minutes on Judy Lyman's Request to Disconnect from the Town of Bluff

Sayers motioned to approve the minutes, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, and Sayers voted in favor

Public Comment: None

Marcia Hadenfeldt, notary, administered the of Oath of Office to Malia Collins and Amanda Podmore as Bluff Town Planning and Zoning Commissioners

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Update on Strategic Planning with Pathways and Discussion of Town Hall for Strategic Planning (All)**

Nelson explained the survey period is now closed and 97 surveys were received. Pathways is compiling the responses and starting interviews. They will work on the next steps which will be workshops starting in January.

#### **2. Update on the Cooperative Cultural Center's Design Review Team/Joint Checking Account Name (Sayers)**

Sayers updated that at today's meeting the discussions centered around grants, the Cultural Capital Grant will be sending a check for almost \$80,000, there is nothing new with the USDA grant and the Eccles grant will be applied for jointly. Sayers is submitting a preliminary grant application for a \$100,000 grant for fire suppression. Nelson and Hook asked if the grant could be read by Council members and Sayers explained the actual grant was due in February and the Council would be able to read it before it was submitted. Leppanen motioned to submit the application, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor. Yestermorrow contacted Dave Conine about a small building project on the CCC grounds. Recycling is moving forward. Leppanen brought up the need for a name for the joint fire suppression/remodeling checking account. Sayers motioned to use Cooperative Culture Center, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Sosa and Hook voted in favor. Sayers will take this to the next Design Team Committee meeting.

### **3. Collections Preservation Workshops(Sayers)**

Sayers explained Debbie Westfall's information about the Utah Humanities Council's historical archiving workshops and webinars. Because historical and literature archiving is a project that could be housed in the CCC, Sayers suggested the knowledge and tools learned through this would be helpful and could help to get grants. The first meeting is at Edge of the Cedars and then Moab. Leppanen suggested sending out information to the public to see who is interested in being involved.

### **4. Update on the AmeriCorps Gold 5 Team's Work in the Community (Leppanen)**

Leppanen listed Lunch and Learns, four tiny houses, construction on buildings, giant cane removal with Hook, as accomplishments. This week they will continue those things and help with traffic flow for the Food Pantry and, possibly, goathead removal with Ed Dobson. Last night they had dinner at Leppanen's including Sosa and Amanda Podmore. Leppanen is working on the details for their going away dinner on the 15<sup>th</sup> and will bring options to the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Leppanen met with Father Joe, Christina, and Bridget, the director in Sacramento about possibilities, for next year including a grant more broadly written. Hook summed it up, they are an amazing group that works really hard.

### **5. Update on Bluff Airport (Jim Hook)**

Moved to December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **6. Update on Public Trust Investment Fund (Sosa/Leppanen)**

Sosa explained the PTIF is an investment account with the State and she and Leppanen will meet with Dave Sanderson about transferring funds. There was discussion about who would manage it.

## **New Business**

### **7. Yestermorrow Presentation (Caesar)**

Adrienne Caesar, the site coordinator, is looking for home owner clients with projects for her students this spring. There is a virtual presentation Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### **8. Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 (Leppanen/Nelson)**

Nelson reported on the State audit of email exchanges between lawyers and two Commissioners in regard to the Open Public Meeting Act. The County is setting up a criminal justice council of 15 people.

### **9. Report on November 16, 2022 Planning and Zoning Meeting (Hook/Nelson)**

Hook reported Sayers asked for a letter of support for a tiny houses grant. A LUC was granted to Patrick McDermott. Nelson is working on LUC forms. The Commission thanked Malysa Egge for her service to the Town; she may stay on until her position is filled.

### **10. Report on upcoming Balloon Festival (Davila)**

Jen Davila asked the Council to waive the rent for the CC and Fire Mesa during the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Balloon Festival of the 12<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup> of January; they would pay the cleaning fee. Hook motioned to waive the rental fee, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, and Sayers voted in favor. Davila asked if the CCC grounds could be used for launching, Sayers will check with the DRC. Davila also asked for \$3000 plus about \$300 to print more rip maps for the town businesses. This is moved to the December 13<sup>th</sup> agenda since it requires a vote. Leppanen reminded the public items for the agenda need to come to her by Friday before a meeting and items from Council members need to be in Saturday by 5:00 p.m.

## **11. Discussion and Approval of Dates for 2023 Bluff Town Council Meetings (Leppanen)**

Leppanen noted the Council meets the first three Tuesdays of every month. There was discussion about two dates close to holidays and decided those can be cancelled later if needed. Sayers motioned to approve the dates, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Sayers and Hook voted in favor. Leppanen will publish the dates in the San Juan Record.

## **12. Discussion and Approval of 2023 Pass Through Grant (BRIC) for the Bluff Food Pantry and Refrigerator Unit (Burns/Leppanen)**

Leppanen explained that Ginny Burns is at the end of her pass-through grant and has been approved for another \$10,000 grant. She has also been offered a display type refrigeration unit from the Dairy Council. Sayers motioned to approve allowing the pass-through grant, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, and Sayers voted in favor. Sayers will take the use of space for the display refrigerator to the next DRC meeting.

## **13. Report on Recreation Grant Workshop**

The meeting was held at the Community Center.

## **14. Report on Eclipse 2023 Webinar; Discussion on Local Committee; and San Juan County Meeting on December 12, 2022 (Leppanen/Sosa/Nelson)**

Leppanen, Nelson and Sosa attended this zoom meeting from the Forest Service and BLM about lessons learned from the 2012 and 2017 eclipses. It was helpful and planning is extremely important. Approximately 20,000 people are expected for this October 14, 2023 total eclipse. Leppanen noted a stakeholder meeting is happening with Elaine Gizler December 12<sup>th</sup> and felt it is important for Bluff to also have a local committee to decide safety issues, services, etc. The entire week needs to be considered.

## **15. Purchase of Printers for Office and CC Manager (Sosa)**

Sayers motioned to purchase two printers, one for around \$55 and the office computer about \$300, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, and Sayers voted in favor.

## **16. Financial Report/ Short-Term Rental Renewal (Sosa)**

Sosa sent the November financial report and has started getting letters to owners of STRs. The fee is \$25 per unit. There are no new units, they were capped last year.

## **17. Other**

Food Pantry distribution is Friday at 11, AmeriCorps will help direct traffic away from the highway.

Nelson read a Christmas card created by a fifth grader from the School District.

The Superintendent of the School District is resigning in August.

Sayers motioned to adjourn at 7:36 p.m., Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, and Sosa voted in favor.

Linda Sosa, Recording Officer

This meeting took place electronically in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public was able to connect and participate electronically.

To view the livestream, or watch past recordings, please visit our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqBxSP-Erhxq6muVMX6vdw>

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email [linda@townofbluff.org](mailto:linda@townofbluff.org)