

March 4, 2014

The meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

Present: Bill Muse, Mayor; Gladys LeFevre and Cindy Wilson, Council Members; Judi Davis, Clerk.

Absent and excused: Tom Jerome and Steve Cox, Council Members.

Public Present: Ashley Coombs, John and Marsha Holland.

Pledge of allegiance

There was not a quorum present who had been at the January 2 meeting, so the minutes were not approved.

John Holland, representing the **Scenic 12 Byway Committee** and the non-profit Scenic Byway 12 Foundation, distributed copies of the 2013 annual report to the Council. Four Wayside improvement projects were completed—the Cut Wayside between Henrieville and Cannonville, the Red Canyon safety enhancement project, the Upper Valley Granary, and the Bryce Canyon Plateau project. These were funded by National Scenic Byways funding through UDOT. The money is made available not only to help in traveling the road, but also to help mitigate the impact of increased tourism.

A project that is ongoing is an economic impact study. Because the Federal Scenic Byway program was unfunded two years ago, the money the Committee uses is managed by the State, even though it is Federal money, so they are competing at the state level instead of nationally. Use of the money is more strict under the state, so the economic impact study is being done in order to show what is happening with tourism on our roads and how it is impacting our economy. The first part of the study was a survey of businesses. The second part is surveys of visitors who are being asked, among other things, their perception of Scenic Byway designation. The designation appears to be having a big impact on the visitors. This survey has been expanded to include an online marketing survey which was launched this winter. This information will be combined with the last 11 years' tax information from the State Tax Commission to see where business has grown along Highway 12 and where it has not. This information can be used to show the need and to help get funding for specific projects and to establish a baseline to show where the greatest need is. With spring coming, he will be putting forth another push to get more surveys into the hands of tourists.

He then reported on the completed signs at each end of Highway 12. There is also a new sign at Cannonville's gateway park. The budget was reviewed. Garfield and Wayne

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Counties both contribute funding, and they receive other funds through the dinner served at the Bryce Canyon Half Marathon and other donations. Grant funds make up the rest of their operating budget. (Peg Smith came.)

The Council had questions on the status of TODS (Tourist Oriented Directional Signs) signs. John explained that nothing is happening quickly. The process needs to go through the Legislative Rules Committee. Before this year's Legislature met, he called UDOT's attorney and asked if it was time to ask them to look at it. He was told that UDOT would talk about whether they had the desire to bring it up. No one from District Four has come to look at our sign situation. We should have Steve Kunzler come and look at them. In May we will review the situation with a sign that was allowed for a specific period of time which will have to revert to the previous standards if UDOT doesn't change their position to allow the TODS signs. John is happy to call Mr. Kunzler, and we'd like to know when he will be coming so we can meet with him. The State Scenic Byway program doesn't have a leader, so there is no one there who can help us. John has no new information to report. He has asked UDOT if they are ready to review and reconsider the issue but has received no response.

Marsha Holland has been working with the **Southern Utah Oral History project** since 2001. In 1998 the project was begun to collect the cultural history of the area. It was funded by the BLM for the first few years and mostly focused on Kane County and Long Valley. One-hour interviews were recorded and transcribed. The audio adds personality to the written transcription, but it is all stored in Salt Lake. (Craig Sorenson arrived.) Marsha has prepared four paper copies of all the histories and is presenting a full set to the DUP in Orderville, the Tropic Heritage Center, Jerry Roundy for the Escalante Heritage Center, and Boulder Town. We are to protect it, but also make it public. Most of the people interviewed have since passed away. These are primary documents whose purpose is to preserve history. We can produce copies, and Marsha can email copies to people. It is best not to leave them in the open library, since they tend to disappear. It is our choice how we will protect them and make them public. An "x" by a name shows that it is not available yet. She would like to digitize the audio before it is too late. Included in the materials being left with us is a list of video and auxiliary material available at the state. Mayor Muse thanked Mrs. Holland for this gift to the Town. It is very valuable. She suggested that we take the binding off and put them in individual binders. We will let Marsha know if we need anything and will also let her know how we're making it available to the public.

Craig (Sage) Sorenson discussed the **pickleball** program here. Our cement court needs attention. When asked how many have participated in the program, it was noted that Claire Bartelt, Eddie Young, the O'Dells, Peg Smith, Boz Bosworth, Pete Schaus, Dan Hitt, Matt Graham, and some others have participated to some degree. Sage reported that it is the fastest growing sport in America. The proposal he presented was prepared with

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the help and support of Steve and Tom. In addition to resurfacing the deteriorating court, they would like to repair the west fence and add some fencing on the north and south to contain stray balls. His goal is to raise \$7,500, and he is not asking for Town money. Bill asked if the surface can handle multiple uses. Skateboarding is not recommended because of sharp edges on the wheels which cut the surface.

It was asked who owns the net. The pickleball group does. Can it be taken down? The posts can be extracted so the net can be taken down. Cindy made a motion we approve Craig proceeding with the pickleball project. Gladys seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Mayor appointed Judi Davis as Town **Clerk** and Gladys LeFevre as **Treasurer**. The Council approved the appointments.

The Mayor made **Council assignments**: Steve will continue as liaison between the Council and Fire Department and also the Arts Council and will continue to be the Tract Park superintendent. Tom will continue as Enforcement Officer and will be the liaison between the Council and the Planning Commission. He is not to make policy but is to report to the Council on PC matters. He is also being given the official responsibility to oversee the upkeep of the grounds around the Town Hall. Gladys will continue her responsibilities to be over the Community Center and Post Office buildings and the cemetery. Cindy will be over the roads and landfill and will be the liaison with the Library Board.

Judi presented **open meetings training** and will study and report back on electronic meetings and the issue of email discussion on matters. In a discussion on what a public body is, it was emphasized that committees established by the Council are not authorized to make decisions, just recommendations.

Constance is chairman of the Tree Committee and would like to apply for a grant through State Forestry, with Danon Hulet administering the funds.

It was suggested that the Council look at the **tract park sign** to see if it is readable or if the lettering needs to be made more visible.

In a public hearing held just before this meeting, there was discussion on a change in our application for funding to the **CIB** that is necessitated because of increased costs. Gary Zabriskie recommended that we increase the Town's match to 10% of the total cost, which would be \$8,900. After an initial motion and second to make the changes proposed, which increased the Town's participation to \$8,400, there was further discussion and Cindy then made a motion we change our participation to \$10,000. Gladys seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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Gladys met with the cemetery committee, and they are moving along with their plans. A piano tuner called to see about tuning our piano. She'll check into it.

The Planning Commission has scheduled a work meeting for March 12. They will begin at 10:30 and go until 4:00 if necessary to consider Bruce Parker's suggested changes to our Zoning Ordinance.

If the Planning Commission passes any recommendations to the Council that we feel are ready for a public hearing, it will be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on the night of our next regular meeting.

Gladys made a motion the meeting adjourn. Cindy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Judith Davis, Clerk