

April 3, 2014

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Bill Muse, Mayor; Gladys LeFevre, Tom Jerome, Cindy Wilson, Steve Cox;
Council Members; Judi Davis, Clerk.

Public Present: Ashley Coombs, Jerry Taylor, Peg Smith, Steve Dessinger, Sue Fearon.

Pledge of allegiance

Steve made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2 meeting. Tom seconded the motion. Voting in favor were Steve, Tom, Bill and Gladys. Cindy abstained because she was not on the Council at the time. Tom made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4 meeting. Gladys seconded the motion. Voting in favor were Tom, Gladys, Cindy, and Bill. Steve was not at the meeting and abstained from voting.

Jerry Taylor, Mayor of Escalante, thanked the citizens of Boulder for helping get funding for a **new clinic**. He stated that our residents sent many letters in support of the project. In a month to a month and a half, they should start drawing the plans. They were awarded \$1.3 million in a grant/loan combination by CIB. The clinic will be located between the high school and the hardware store. By June 1 they will have a dentist, and prescriptions can be filled by May 1. By October/November they expect to have everything in operation. They appreciate our support, and we appreciate their efforts.

Peg, representing the **Boulder Community Alliance**, reported that in January the board members of Grand Staircase Partners and BCA and a few others had a meeting which was a learning experience sponsored by the Walton Family Foundation. The purpose was to sponsor a couple of people who are experienced fundraisers to help both of these organizations learn how to stand on their own financially. It was a huge success and brought \$5,700 into our economy. On June 3-4 the Escalante River Watershed Partnership will be celebrating their fifth anniversary here in Boulder. On the evening of the 3rd they will have a free dinner/presentation on hydrology at the Boulder Mesa Restaurant. On the 4th they will hold an informative open house at the Community Center to learn about what they are doing.

They've been discussing for the last few years, and have presented the idea to us also, the **Art Place grant**. It's a huge undertaking and would involve the BCA, the Town, maybe Escalante, and maybe non-profits in Escalante. It's a \$50,000-\$500,000 arts-oriented creative place-making program. As long as it has a core centerpiece, it can be anything related to creative artistry. BCA is in the process of meeting with people to try to get an idea of what the grant is all about, then try to articulate a project that could be done. They

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hope to be ready to apply in February 2015, to be awarded in June and having an 18-month work cycle. The funding comes from the federal government and major banks. It could be a major collaborative effort between towns, and maybe even the county.

Tonight they had a meeting with business owners in an effort to resurrect the **Boulder Business Alliance** as part of their Travel Council grant. Sue reported that it was well attended. They had a tight agenda and worked on a vision and set up another meeting and a working group. On the table is the General Plan and the County's Plan, from which they will draw some context to the boulderutah.com website to make it look good and be relevant to the people who are visiting and to the businesses. Dan Hitt will be working with them to upgrade their website. The grant will pay Dan. Sue owns the domain name and will continue to pay for it as part of the match for the grant. BCA is the fiscal agent through which the money will flow. Sue will continue to fund the web hosting and donate her time to it. As part of the match, they paid Tonya Collings for the production work on the newly designed Quiet Use brochure, the printing of which was paid by the grant.

Peg and Sue attended the Rural Development meeting Monday. The presenters were from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and USDA Office of Rural Development. It was a summary of some interesting economic opportunities for businesses. To participate in many of the opportunities, an **enterprise zone** needs to be in place. It is not a form of zoning, but identifies a geographic area. According to the handout she distributed, it is an area identified by local elected and economic development officials and designated by the state. In order to participate and take advantage of the opportunities, the Town has to apply and renew the status every five years. It enables entities to apply for grants, loans, and tax credits, helps with job creation and building refurbishing, and generates economic opportunities. BCA will get more information. Escalante has used it and has several enterprise zones within its boundaries. Peg is getting more information and will forward it to us. We can explore it next month after that information is received. The Town has to make the application. Jerry suggested that we may want the County to look into it and see if we want to do it countywide. Sue said the benefits for employees are for full-time equivalents, but since we don't really fit that category, we could be the test case for asking for a program for seasonal full-time equivalents, i.e. four seasonals or part-time employees give you the tax credit. It wouldn't hurt to ask, explaining that it would work for us if it also had that element in it. Sue is exploring having the non-profit declared an enterprise zone, but isn't sure how to do it since they all work from home and don't have an office location. Peg had the feeling that they were very amenable to working with a proposal. Sue feels it makes much more sense to do it countywide, because there is so much unincorporated area. Peg will contact Justin Fisher and suggest that the county consider it. It doesn't have any impact on local planning, but is basically a business incentive program. Tom wondered if, when they upgrade their website, there will be a way to link other sites to it,

as it will be a main source of business information. That will be possible. He also thought it would be nice if we had a sign at either end of town directing people to that website so people can find the businesses they need. Peg believes a sign project may already be in the process by some other entity. Sue said there is a way for anyone with a smart phone to get that business information through quick service, and she will look into it further. When Peg contacts Justin Fisher, she will let him know that we are interested in knowing if he's going to go that way, and she will funnel whatever information she gets to the clerk, who will send it on to the Council.

If we need to hold a public hearing to approve subdivisions next month, we will hold it at 6:30 on May 1. We will wait to hold a public hearing on ZO changes until there are a few to do at the same time.

In November we adopted an ordinance changing the Home Occupation definition to Home Occupation, Minor. Retail sales are only allowed in the Commercial zone. The PC has had a discussion on how we allow anyone to sell anything out of their homes without being out of compliance. They came up with a definition that exempts all home occupations and agricultural sales from the requirement to be in a commercial zone, but it hasn't been finalized. What they are basically trying to do is to make what we already doing legal.

Our auditor identified three policies that we need and don't have in place. The attorney is working on two of them, but we have a **purchasing policy** to consider. After discussing it, it was decided that we would see if we can change Article 3, Section A.2. Steve's experience is that it is just not possible in these small towns to get even one telephone bid, much less two. We will ask Mark if we can change it to read that it will be required that we put items out for bid for one month and after that time proceed with the bids that have been submitted. If we allow that amount of time for people to bid, and no one does, we will proceed with the project or purchase.

After some discussion, it was decided that, because of unusual personal circumstances, the Town will pay Cindy Wilson's gas and motel up front during the course of her EMT training.

Gladys reported that the cemetery committee is making some progress.

Tom has no active enforcement activity. The Planning Commission is grinding away at some issues. Table of Uses matters are coming up and will be challenging. Steve had nothing to report on the Fire Department. There are three pallets of roof tiles at the tract park that were purchased and donated for use on the bulletin board and firehouse shelter but weren't used. Steve would like to dispose of them. He has done some research and found that they are worth \$500-700. He will put out a notice of offer to sell them and will

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ask \$300 for them. There was discussion on the difficulty of reading the park entrance sign. Tom is going to experiment with the pictograph panel in front of the Community Center because it is also difficult to see. When he finds something that works, we will use it on the park sign.

There is a place on the Lower Boulder Road near the dumpsters where the road is sloughing off and needs to be fixed. We could fill it with dirt from this lot and put in a culvert extension for now. We need to work with Mark McIff on getting our roads legally dedicated. We will ask him to come and work with us on this.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Judith Davis, Town Clerk