

BLUE LAKE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 4:30
Skinner Store – 111 Greenwood Road

Unless Otherwise Noted, All items on the Agenda are subject to Action.

1. **Establish a Quorum of the Commission** at 4:37 pm.

Commissioners Present: Roxanne Rothery, Cindy Trobitz-Thomas, Kelli Costa

Commissioners Absent: Darcey Lima, Jake Hussin

Staff Present: City Manager Mandy Mager

Others Present: Mayor Jones, Justin Noyb, and Kent Sawatzky

2. **Motion to Approve Agenda**

Motion: Costa

Second: Rothery

Approved: Unanimously

3. **Public Input.**

Kent Sawatzky provided comments regarding his concern about investing in California unless assistance can be provided to make it worthwhile. Mexico is more developer/business friendly.

4. **Humboldt County Sheriff Contract Update** ~ City Manager Mager provided an update on the status of the contract between the Sheriff and the City. Currently meeting with the Sheriff's Office looking for a methodology to determine the appropriate fee for services. The new negotiated fee is \$190,000 down from \$315,000. The recommended contract will be presented to the City Council and the Board of Supervisors for approval. Planning on applying for Measure Z funds to help with the financial gap.

Public Comment: Kent Sawatzky commented on the call volume. Concerned the Measure Z funds could be reduced in the future. Would like to have the City pay for additional Sheriff patrolling.

5. **Blue Lake Branding and Signage Update** ~ City Manager Mager provided an update. Have gone through several steps to get to this point. Currently working with Noah, Visual Concepts owner, to develop a Blue Lake brand, focusing on recreation activities. He will create a logo which can be used across all media platforms, etc.

Public Comment: Kent Sawatzky is interested in having a mural painted on The Emporium building.

6. **Spring Event Programming Update** ~ City Manager Mager provided an update on upcoming events. Promoting Prash Hall as a music venue. Possibly schedule events for teenagers. Starting Karaoke contest, food available from Hey Juan Burritos, fundraisers for the Bike Park, etc. A Barn Dance is being planned for Prash Hall's grand opening.

Public Comment: No Comments.

7. **City of Blue Lake Project Updates** ~ City Manager Mager provided following updates:

- a. Town Square Construction Update ~ Construction is scheduled to begin in the Spring. The bathroom cost came in too high. One temporary idea is to install ADA accessible porta potties placed in a covered area. The potties could be decorated (designed wrap around) to improve the appearance. They would be maintained by B+B Portale Toilets.

- b. Bike Park Development ~ Is moving forward. Lots of community involvement developing a state of the art Bike Park destination.
- c. Baduwa't Community Project ~ Danco project is moving ahead and will be going to the Planning Commission for review and consideration in April. Housing Element is in the final stages.
- d. Northern Side of Taylor Way Masterplan and Parcel Subdivision ~ Moving forward.
- e. Powers Creek Restoration Project Update ~ Moving forward. First phase is vegetation removal this spring. Phase 2 will begin next year.

Public Comment: No Comments.

8. **Chamber of Commerce Report** ~ Chamber Secretary Justin Noyb discussed upcoming events and projects. (Valentines Bingo, business calendar, business workshops, advertising presentation from Eureka Radio, business meetings, host a Grange breakfast, Chamber Blue Lake entrance sign update, etc.)
9. **City Manager and Staff Report** ~ City Manager Mager reported the following items are incorporated in the above items or there are no updates.
 - a. Parks and Recreation Event Schedule

10. **Announcements**

- Next Regular Meeting is March 12th (2nd Tuesday 4:30 PM Skinner Store).
- Valentines Bingo, Saturday February 17th at the Grange, hosted by the Chamber.

11. **Future Agenda Items**

- Chamber of Commerce Report
- Event Calendar
- Business Outreach and Economic Development Education
- City Manager and Staff Report, Project List Updates and Discussion
- Dell'Arte Update

Public Comment: Kent Sawatzky reminded there are Commissioners terms expiring.

12. **Motion to Adjourn at 6:03 PM**

Motion: Costa

Second: Rothery