

Rotary



Club of Mt. Shasta

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Heather Maria Solus
Assistant Governor

Mt Shasta Rotary Mtg 03-10-2021

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Mt Shasta Rotary Meeting Minutes 03-10-2021

Call to Order & Welcome Pledge of Allegiance

Guests/Visiting Rotarians: Bruce Pope, City Manager of Mt. Shasta

Announcements/Reports:

Audra reported we have begun the publicity for the Bob Villa program next week. We ask people to email us at our Gmail account and Audra will provide the link to the Zoom meeting. The press release will go out to the media across California.

Mark Foster made the annual contribution to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus. The forms will go in the next few days. Members should expect a letter in the next few days.

Tom H - Update on Mossbrae. The railroad got back with them, Had questions on the management plan. He is excited to see it moving forward.

Ken reviewed the information discussed at today's special board meeting.

Thought of the Day: Greg Juell

"Delegation of Authority: We must remember when we delegate authority to others, that doesn't mean they receive our passions, dedication or personal responsibility."

Guest Speaker/Program: Bruce Pope

Bruce is the City Manager for Mt. Shasta. He mentioned the impact of the virus on the city. It has been severe, but not threatening. They've had to change work schedules, how they work with the public and access to the building. They have created a new work environment so employees have felt protected. They hold more meetings via Zoom and other distance meetings. To date, no city employee has come down with the virus.

The virus has affected businesses in Mt. Shasta severely. City governments run on sales tax, TOT and property tax. Sales and TOT have been severely impacted by the virus. When the governor ordered businesses closed, they looked at past revenue and what could be impacted and projected a 70% decrease. They put a freeze on hiring, promotions and pay increases as a result. They defunded some projects - Siskiyou Economic Development Project, the Chamber and Visitor Bureau.

What happened is that businesses made adjustments, and consumers made adjustments. Some business sales tax increased and some decreased. Now they are looking at a budget increase of \$500,000, which is encouraging from an operations standpoint. They will then be able to reinstate funding to some nonprofits. Overall the city budget is in good shape. They have a 24% reserve which is very good.

The other process is the City General Plan which is being drafted by the city planner and being reviewed by members of the public and the planning commission. It will then go to the City Council for public input. The plan is for the year 2045. As they adopt a plan they look at what they want by that year and update as necessary.

Now they are working on a Land Use Element. This is critical and a major element of the general plan. Everything spins off land use. It is important for people to review and provide input to the city planner before the end of April. The second version of the Land Use Element with Land Use Maps is now available on the General Plan webpage: <https://mtshastaca.gov/planning/general-plan-2045/>

The other projects which consume a considerable amount of time are infrastructure projects. The major one, a wastewater treatment plan, is state mandated and is a \$25M project. Engineers have designed this plan to meet EPA standards. Regional Water Quality Board, approved, was put out to bid last year. Bids came in approx \$6M over. They had to get funding partners back to the table. It took so long that they lost the bid. One partner is the CA Water Quality Control Board, their participation is extensive and will provide an \$8M grant and a revolving loan of \$4.9M. The other partner is USDA Rural Development. They are putting in a loan of \$9.2M and a grant of \$5.2M. This



will cover the current bid the construction company has come up with. They will make the award this month and begin construction this summer. It has a two year completion.

The other project is the Tank1 water tank at the south end of the city. The state required a replacement of the tank and entire water line that runs down Mt. Shasta Blvd. They submitted a plan three years ago to the state. It was approved and they are now waiting for the Water Board, who realized they had extended themselves further than they had funds for, They are in the process of waiting for the Water Board. Matt Melo, fire chief expressed concerns about fire fighting abilities if we have a fire on the south side. They conveyed to the state the necessity of getting this project. After numerous meetings, the city will pick up part of the cost of the line. The Water Board changed requirements which they have had to renegotiate. This project is scheduled for funding this year. When this moves forward there is a proposed hotel project at the south end of town which might be able to move forward.

Another project which is controversial is the waste water intersector. Their consultant advised them that the line is old and at risk of breaking. The city is proceeding with the grant, design and replacement of the line. It ran into public objection. The line still needs to be replaced. With this past heavy winter, the line failed. Millions of gallons of waste spilled. They now have a plan in place.

By and large the city is in good financial shape. They are holding the line with salaries. They lost a lieutenant in the Police department. They are holding that position and reorganizing how they run the PD which will save over \$100,000 per year.

Kathy M thanked Bruce, the council and staff in negotiating those fines. She asked, ♦Tell us about Starbucks. ♦ She also asked why he continues to do this job. Bruce said he loves the challenge and loves this job. As for Starbucks, they are in the process of approving Starbucks. There will be a design process and will issue a building permit. They expect to see Starbucks open in October.

Tom H said he has been doing fuels reductions near the lake and reported that it is in excellent shape. He said it is a shame the interceptor part of the project got shot down. Bruce said, ♦when this system is fixed the whole system will function well. ♦

Doug commented on the size of the projects Bruce manages is impressive and thanked him for his talk today.

Ken also thanked Bruce. He wondered regarding his knowledge of other small towns and how they cope with the dilemma of how people want things but don't want to pay for them. Is there a way to better communicate the value of projects. Bruce said communication is critical.

Happy Bucks:

- Heather She hired an employee and hopes to be at meetings regularly She got a new car - \$40.
- Molly says it is 68 where she is. She wants to pay for the visit she had with Kathy and Glen. Also her son visited from Klamath Falls - \$10
- Kathy M had a great visit with Molly - She wants to pay \$10 for living among cactus, bird song and coyote talk in the desert.
- Kathy S - having completed the first ever and her only president elect training for nine districts in PETS this last weekend. All president elects seemed to find it beneficial - \$10 She is relieved it is over.
- Greg J - Barb and he have had both vaccines since last Thursday without side effects. Looking forward to freedom to spend time with grandkids - \$5
- Mark F \$5 for not singing for his birthday.
- Doug - \$10 got second Moderna shot Thursday, his wife got her first. There was a sense of completion. He had a reaction which wasn't pleasant.
- Gary gave \$10 for grandchild's 14th birthday
- Carolyn - \$10 a week ago today they had a town hall meeting regarding the Sacramento River project. They kept postponing, but finally did it. Had more than 100 participate.

Marble Game: Carolyn Napper did not draw the blue marble.

Next Week's Program: Bob Vila, former host of This Old House, talking about the restoration of Hemingway's home in Cuba. Ken Brummel-Smith will give a COVID vaccine update - following week

Birthdays

[Mark A. Foster III](#)
March 15th



Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

Club Meeting

Mt. Shasta

Meets at Normally, Mt. Shasta Resort. Currently via Zoom. Contact us at mtshastarotary@gmail.com for link to join a meeting.

1000 Siskiyou Lake Boulevard

Mt. Shasta, CA 96067

Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM