

ARCHITECT: Steele Associates team has strong ties to Sisters

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this project,” said Steele founder Scott Steele.

The architect noted that the project has particular resonance for the team involved.

“We understand how important the new facilities are to the USFS, the City of Sisters, and the region, and we intend to work very hard to make it a great process and project for all,” Steele said. “It’s a special project for us because both Michael Sawiel (Steele designer) and I were born and raised in Sisters. Though my family moved to Bend as I was 6, Michael’s stayed and he graduated from Sisters High School. In addition, Steele Project Manager Adam Stephen and I have worked on prior USFS projects and really enjoy working with them, and we can’t wait to begin work on this exciting facility.”

Sisters District Ranger Ian Reid said, “The Forest Service would like to congratulate Steele Associates Architects on their selection to design the new Sisters Ranger District administrative site. Steele Associates has strong ties to Sisters, as well as previous experience designing Forest Service buildings in Central Oregon. We’re really excited to work with Steele Associates and the City of Sisters to design a new ranger station that will support the community for generations to come.”

Steele Associates also designed Sisters High School.

Proponent for social justice runs for council

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

A proponent for social justice, 22-year old Elizabeth Fisher was born and raised in Central Oregon, living first in Redmond and then moving with her family to Sisters, where she spent nine years in Sisters schools.

Fisher received her Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering in 2020 from Oregon State University. She followed the bioengineering track in college and is currently sending out job applications in the biotech and pharmaceutical fields.

For enjoyment she likes spending time with books, both reading and listening on audio. She has worked as an instructor at Sisters Park & Recreation District and as a research assistant while at OSU.

Fisher is the founder of the Sisters group called Fight for Social Justice, which has been seen recently on Saturdays demonstrating against racism on the corner of East Cascade Avenue and North Locust Street. Fisher explained that when she was growing up, she didn’t realize there were societal inequities because

everything in her life was fine. With the Black Lives Matter movement and recent publicized killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and others, she has felt compelled to stand up and speak up for justice for all.

“This is where I can stand up and so I do,” she told *The Nugget*.

Fisher sees her potential role as a councilor would be to make sure she gets a full understanding of the issues that are important to the citizens so she could fully represent them.

“It’s not my job to impose my beliefs, but rather to facilitate the community’s wishes,” she said.

She is running to “hopefully amplify the wishes of those citizens under 30, the undocumented, the LGBTQ community, and others who are often overlooked when decisions are being made.” She believes she can offer a fresh perspective. She describes herself as a quick learner who is a determined,

hard worker.

Fisher has been listening to the City Council meetings via the internet, has read the City Charter, and looked into the current Comprehensive Plan, which will be updated in 2020-21.

The lack of affordable housing is an issue Fisher believes needs to be more widely addressed.

“I would like the City to make it a possibility for people to afford living in Sisters,” she said.

She feels fortunate to currently be living in a trailer on her parents’ property with her orange tabby cat, Charlie.

Something Fisher would like to have seen done differently by the current Council was the manner in which the new public safety contract was negotiated with the Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office. She thinks citizens should have been involved in the process. She would like to see no Blue Lives Matter symbols on the deputies’ cars and uniforms, saying they



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shouldn’t be displayed using taxpayer money to do it.

“It is inevitable that Sisters is going to grow. I would like us to develop a sustainable growth plan, being intentional in our planning,” she said. “I would like to see us being more creative in better use of our space.”

She would like to see preservation of green spaces, while giving people places to live.

Fisher said, “My job would be to fight for the under-represented. I vow, if elected, to listen to any thoughts, ideas, or grievances. I will listen more than I talk.”

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