



City of Surprise  
Disability Advisory Commission  
Wednesday, March 21, 2007 - 6:00 P.M.  
*Surprise City Hall – Council Chambers*  
12425 W. Bell Road, D-100  
Surprise, Arizona 85374

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### Members Present:

John Longabaugh, Chair  
Wayne Nielsen, Vice-Chair  
Michelle Lewis  
Jim Olmsted  
Gustav Szvetits

### Members Absent:

Barbara Porter  
Ken Hill

### Staff Present:

Jean Poe, Risk Manager  
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

### Staff Absent:

Michael Schrock, Director, Management/Budget

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Longabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Surprise City Hall, Classroom, 12425 W. Bell Road, D-100, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Wednesday, March 21, 2007.

### 2. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 17, 2007 MINUTES**

Chair Longabaugh called for approval of the February 21, 2007 minutes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Olmsted moved to accept the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Szvetits. Motion approved 5-0.

### 3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Randall Bice, a resident of Sun City Grand and volunteer for the Community Initiatives Mediator program, addressed the Commission with an announcement for an upcoming event. The event is the first meeting of a newly formed group called Angel for the Blind. It will be held on Wednesday April 11<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm at the Riverboat Village. Food will be provided by Dave McGrew, owner/operator of Chick-fil-A in the Surprise Marketplace.

Another resident of Surprise, who attends the Commission meetings regularly, addressed the Commission with concerns over the lack of accessible Section 8 apartments in Surprise.

### 4. **CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS**

Commissioner Lewis thanked the other members and staff for the calls, emails, thoughts and prayers while her baby was in the hospital. She reports that he is doing well now.

Chairman Longabaugh announced that a Disability Forum is being held at the Scottsdale library at 10 am and 6 pm for the public.

Disability Advocate Nanette Bowles reported on a few highlights from the last month. These included:

- On Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> a 2-hour training was held for Police Dispatch Supervisors. It covered the topics of Arizona and Videophone Relay, speech impediments and psychiatric disabilities.
- On March 13<sup>th</sup>, the third of an 8-part sensitivity series was presented to Dial-A-Ride Dispatchers. Topics included epilepsy/seizure first aid and multiple sclerosis.
- Two nominations were completed this week for the ICMA Program Excellence Awards. The Disability Advisory Commission was nominated for the Community Health and Safety Award and the 5-Year Strategic Plan was nominated for the Strategic Leadership and Governance Award.

Risk Manager Jean Poe asked to have agenda item G removed as it was voted on February 21. She also reported on the proposed higher standards for City facilities.

These included:

- 6 ft. sidewalks around and leading to City public facilities
- Automatic motion door openers into City public facilities
- Automatic paddle door openers to indoor restrooms at City public facilities
- Indoor family restrooms at City public facilities
- Recessed fixtures to prevent protruding objects
- Universal parking
- An increase in accessible parking to 1.5 to 2 times greater the required ADA scope, for city public facilities.

These have been discussed with City Project Managers and have been submitted to the City Manager's Office.

## 5. **AGENDA**

### A. Presentation by Bob Baratko from Community Initiatives

Mr. Baratko presented information to the Commission and audience on the increase of Dial-A-Ride riders and provided updates on the new taxi voucher system. Some of the information provided includes:

- Dial-A-Ride is for of Surprise residents on a reservation basis, although same-day service is available as the schedule permits.
- Priorities are to those with medical appointments ,disabilities and the elderly
- Others are on a space available basis
- Services go to Sun City, Sun City West, Youngtown, Surprise , El Mirage and to the medical complexes in Peoria near 94<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- STS (Special Transportation Services) is also available, and will take residents outside the Dial-A-Ride service area with a referral from Dial-A-Ride.
- The new taxi coupon system will provide flexible transportation services at no costs to residents.
- Currently, the taxi coupon system will be specifically for dialysis patients and individuals with disabilities.
- For the Taxi Coupon, a person needs to get ADA certified through Valley Metro. ADA certification is encouraged by not required for the Dial-A-Ride service.

- B. Report and Possible Action on the Post Office Subcommittee Recommendations – Disability Advocate Nanette Bowles  
Ms. Bowles reported that the letter provided by the subcommittee last month had been modified and that it was in the hands of Assistant City Managers. It was also reported that the Arizona Center for Disability Law has been working on this same issue.
- C. Report on the Wheelchair Basketball Team – Commissioner Hill  
Commissioner Hill was not able to attend the meeting.
- D. Report and Possible Action on the Business Award and the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce Partnership – Commissioner Nielsen  
Commissioner Nelson reported that contact has been maintained with the new Chamber President and that this effort should progress as new meetings are scheduled.
- E. Report and Possible Action on the Speakers’ Bureau Topics – Commissioner Nielsen  
Commissioner Nelson pointed out the speaker’s bureau initial script that was passed around to the Commissioners. He stated that the group is now ready to bring forward people who would participate as members of the bureau and go out with this script to represent the Commission and inform the community. The request was made for the Commissioners to review the document and provide feedback to Commissioner Nielsen or Ms. Bowles.
- F. Update of DreamCatcher Park – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate  
Ms. Bowles reported on the progress of DreamCatcher Park and the on schedule ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.
- G. Discussion and Possible Action on ADA Enhancement Fund Budget Language– Cancelled because it was discussed last month.

**6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR APRIL 18, 2007**

Agenda items for the next meeting will include:

- Public Comments
- Current Events and Reports by Commissioners or Staff
- Commissioner Hill’s report on the Wheelchair Basketball Team
- Commissioner Nielsen’s report on the Business Award and the Northwest Valley Partnership
- Commissioner Nielsen’s report on the Speakers’ Bureau topics
- Report and Possible Action from Post Office Letter
- Proposed higher standards for City facilities
- Proposed proclamation for Person First Language by the City of Surprise

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Longabaugh adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.



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Chair, John Longabaugh

**ATTEST:**

Nanette Bowles  
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

**CERTIFICATION:**

I, Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Disability Advisory Commission meeting held on **Wednesday, March 21, 2007.**

Nanette Bowles  
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate