



City of Surprise
Disability Advisory Commission
Wednesday, June 20, 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
Jim Olmsted
Barbara Porter
Ken Hill
Gustav Szvetits
Michelle Lewis

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Michael Schrock, Director, Management/Budget
Jean Poe, Risk Manager
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

Staff Absent:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Longabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Surprise City Hall, Classroom, 12425 W. Bell Road, D-100, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Wednesday, June 20, 2007.

2. APPROVAL OF MAY 16, 2007 MINUTES

Chair Longabaugh called for approval of the May 16, 2007 minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Nielson moved to accept the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Olmsted. Motion approved 7-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Atwood, head of disability ministries at Radiant Church, 15522 W Paradise Ln. Surprise, AZ 85374, spoke on their efforts to reach out of the community through a coalition with Gompers.

Resident Sue Roll asked the Commission if they know of any DTA's (Day Treatment for Adults) coming into the Surprise area. Various Commission members responded about programs in Youngtown, Sun City West and Peoria.

A resident spoke about her positive experience with the therapeutic pools at Telephone Pioneer Park when she lived in Phoenix. She asked the Commission if anything like this, and/or an adaptive exercise facility will be developed near DreamCatcher Park. Chairman Longabaugh explained that a concept similar to this has been discussed for DreamCatcher but it is currently not in the budget. The resident also expressed a need for more family restrooms so she and others who need assistance can gain access without entering a restroom of the opposite gender.

4. **CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS**

Disability Advocate, Nanette Bowles, reported on the May transportation conference in Bethesda, Maryland. She stated that the Surprise team, made up of Stephanie Wilson, Assistant to the City Manager, and Dave Golder, Transportation Supervisor, developed an Action Plan to enhance services through existing resources and future partnerships.

Risk Manager, Jean Poe, reminded the group that next month will be three years since the Commission was first appointed. To commemorate, a dinner will be provided at 5 pm on July 18th, before the 6 pm meeting. Details will follow.

Chairman Longabaugh reminded the group that next month will be the time to elect a new Chairperson and Vice-Chair. This will be on the July agenda.

5. **AGENDA**

A. Presentation from Community Development Director, Scott Chesney

Mr. Chesney explained that a series of public meetings have been conducted and are still in the process in order to gather public opinion about the growth of the City. These meetings have had from 10-300 residents involved and utilize electronic voting systems. Discussions are around how the city will look as it grows, how neighborhoods should be built, master planned communities, filling in urban areas and open parks and recreation areas. He passed around a copy of the Streetscape, Walkability and Sustainable Surprise manuals for the Commission to view.

Commissioner Nielson asked about the use of rough surfaces and how they affect those with mobility disabilities. Mr. Chesney explained that the designers would use a combination of both textured and flat surfaces and keep these issues in mind when combining the two.

Commissioner Olmsted expressed appreciation but also concern that developers are still getting extra points for pressed concrete that can be a hazard for many people. He also expressed concern over a lack of discussion on ADA during Planning and Zoning meetings. Mr. Chesney stated that they can consider adding 1-2 lines specifically related to ADA compliance in the public documents posted on the web.

Commissioner Porter brought up a concern over the last of Section 8 Housing in Surprise. Mr. Chesney responded that they cannot control Federal programs but that they can possibly negotiate with developers for more affordable and accessible housing. He also mentioned possibly incorporating infrastructure reimbursements, transportation bonuses, and other creative ways to address this need.

Mr. Chesney will plan on coming back to the Commission for the September 19, 2007 meeting.

B. Follow-up on DreamCatcher Park – Michael Schrock, M&B Director

Mr. Schrock reported that there is no update available from staff at this time. This item will be placed on the agenda for July and is expected to be an overview of the Dream Catcher Park project, from inception to closeout. This

will be the request made to the Community and Recreation Services Director, Mark Coronado.

- C. Status Report on Recommendations for “Person First Language” Proclamation – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate
Ms. Bowles reported on the signing and reading of the “Person First Language” Proclamation at the June 14th City Council meeting. She provided each Commission member with a copy of the promotional bookmark that will be passed out a New Employee Orientation for all new City employees and showed the group the posters that will be placed in public areas around the City. An announcement of this proclamation has been posted on the Internet and will also be provided on the Intranet and possibly other disability websites.
- D. Status Report on Use of Enhancement Funds for City Hall – Jean Poe, Risk Manager
Ms. Poe reported that the Council approved the funds for the City Hall induction loop system, family restroom automatic door locks, and Council Chamber removable seats.
- E. Status Report on the Use of Enhancement Funds for Surprise Farms – Jean Poe, Risk Manager
Ms. Poe reported that the Council approved the funds for the accessible stall sinks in the Surprise Farms restrooms.
- F. Update on Proposed Higher Construction and/or Design Standards/Guidelines for City Facilities – Jean Poe, Risk Manager
Ms. Poe reported on an Executive Order to establish accessibility guidelines for new city facilities open to the public. To date, all of the items discussed by the Commission have been included and the document is being forwarded to the City Manager’s Office for signature. A report on this will be included in the July 18th meeting.
- G. Update on Proposed FY08 Enhancement Funds – Michael Schrock, M&B Director
Mr. Schrock reported that the \$300,000 Enhancement Fund was approved by Council as part of the city budget. A significant change from last year included the ability to use the funds on not only new but existing facilities.
- H. Report on the Roadrunner Basketball Team – Commissioner Hill
Commissioner Hill reported that a reporter from the Northwestern Newspaper attended the meeting last month and came to a practice game with the Roadrunner Basketball Team. An article on the team would be included in the June 20th edition of the paper. Surprise has donated six new sportschairs and will be hosting a wheelchair tournament soon. The team practices each Sunday at 12 noon at Countryside Elementary School gym at 15034 N. Parkview Place.
- I. Discussion and Possible Action on the Business Award and the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce Partnership – Commissioner Nielson
Commissioner Nielson reported on the June 20th meeting with the Northwest Chamber of Commerce. A timeline has been established and a lot of work is

due to occur in the next year. At this point, the project includes an educational component that includes using a speaker's bureau to go into schools, do City brown bag classes, and present at local business meetings. It also includes the assessment and promotion of local businesses and recognition of local businesses and individuals.

J. Discussion and Possible Action on the Speakers' Bureau– Commissioner Nielson

Commissioner Nielson reported on this item during the discussion from item I. As these are now joined, they will be listed as one topic for future meetings.

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR JULY 18, 2007

Agenda items for the next meeting will include:

- Public Comments
- Current Events and Reports by Commissioners or Staff
- Presentation from CRS on DreamCatcher Park
- Presentation from CRS on new parks and adaptive recreation activities
- ADA Audit Update
- Commissioner Nielson's report on summer programs with children with developmental disabilities
- Commissioner Hill's report on the Wheelchair Basketball Team
- Commissioner Nielsen's report on the Northwest Valley Inclusion Project (formally the Business Award, Northwest Valley Partnership and Speakers' Bureau)
- Update on Executive Order for Higher Construction and/or Design Guidelines for City Facilities
- Election of new Chairperson and Vice-Chair

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Longabaugh adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

John Longabaugh

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, June 20, 2007.**

Nanette Bowles

Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate