



City of Surprise  
Disability Advisory Commission  
Wednesday October 15, 2008 - 6:00 P.M.  
*Surprise City Hall – Council Chambers*  
*12425 W. Bell Road, D-100*  
*Surprise, Arizona 85374*

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### Members Present:

Wayne Nielsen, Chairperson  
Ken Hill, Vice Chair  
Michelle Lewis  
Scott Hjalmervik  
Tracy Smith  
Jacob Taylor  
Jane Williams

### Staff Present:

Jean Poe, Risk Manager  
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

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

Chairman Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Surprise City Hall, Classroom, 12425 W. Bell Road, D-100, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Wednesday October 15, 2008.

### 2. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 MINUTES**

Chairman Nielsen called for approval of the September 17, 2008 minutes.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Hill moved to accept the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Taylor. Motion approved 6-0.

### 3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

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

Disability Advocate Nanette Bowles reported on the progress of the 5 week Disability Awareness Classes. These have been attended by up to 12 people per week with positive feedback each week. At each class, one to two guest speakers co-present to talk about their disability. These are all being shown on Channel 11 and are also available on the cities website, under the Channel 11 Special Programming.

Risk Manager, Jean Poe, reported on the funding of Human Services restrooms enhancement fund. The majority of the funds allocated for this project will be paid with FY2009 funds. The project was not completed until after the FY2008 budget year.

5. **AGENDA**

A. Adaptive Recreation Report – Commissioner Taylor

Commissioner Taylor reported that he is interested in starting an advice column on disabilities in maybe a local paper or city publication. He reports that he will talk to Joe Gladieux from Community and Recreation Services.

B. Section 8 Housing Report – Commissioner Hjalmerik

Commissioner Hjalmerik reported that he will be doing research on resources available related to Section 8 Housing and make contacts with experts in this area.

C. Speaker's Bureau Report – Commissioner Williams

Per Commissioner Williams' request, Ms. Bowles discussed the various types of training that have been provided over the last two years. The majority of these have been to city staff and conducted by Ms. Bowles herself. On some occasions, content experts have been brought in to co-facilitate these trainings. So far, businesses have not taken advantage of training offered but one-on-one training, related to accessibility, does occur during the Access Northwest Index process. Also, the Disability Awareness series is available on the City website for any person or business to learn more about various types of disabilities.

D. Roadrunner Basketball Team Report– Vice Chair Hill

Vice Chair Hill reported that their team is preparing to take 9 players to a tournament in San Diego soon. They have also recently received sponsorship from the Veterans Administration to help pay for travel and lodging. Their Surprise tournament is still scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Valley Vista High School.

E. ALDA (Arizona Late-Deafened Adults) Report – Commissioner Lewis

Commissioner Lewis reported that the first ALDA meeting is scheduled on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm at 3844 E. University Dr. #2 in Phoenix. This is the first official gathering of this new group and captioning is provided. They hope these monthly meetings will alternate between the east valley and Surprise but are having trouble finding a place to meet in Surprise.

F. Community Education and Resource Development Report – Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Smith reported on the progress being made with the Special Needs Database through the Fire Dept. and that her family was the first to sign up. She also reported working on a database of resources for people with disabilities and their families. So far, the proposed support group at the local DES office is still under development but Commissioner Smith will keep us posted. Finally, Fire Chief White has agreed to a night where kids with disabilities can come and see a Firefighter with their uniforms and become more comfortable in the event of a future emergency. Commissioner Smith also reported the "Walk for Autism" will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenix Zoo. Her family has a team and welcomes anyone who wishes to join them.

- G. Access Northwest Index Report – Chairman Nielsen  
Per Chairman Nielsen’s request, Ms. Bowles discussed the progress being made with the Access Northwest Index. Over the last few weeks the following businesses have participated in the Index project: Comfort Suites, Days Inn and Quality Inn & Suites.
- H. Update on the City of Surprise Park-n-Ride Project – Risk Manager Jean Poe  
Jean Poe, Risk Manager, reported on the city’s future Park and Ride facility. The City Council approved a contract for site selection and design concept on September 11, 2008.
- I. Discussion and Possible Action on 2009 Enhancement Fund Proposals – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate  
Discussion occurred related to concerns over spending over half of the remaining Enhancement Funds of this project and the option of maybe doing less than the 41 openers proposed.  
**MOTION**-Commissioner Williams moved to approve the amount of \$150,000 to complete the installation of 41 automatic door openers through public city facilities, including entrance doors and restrooms. Second by Commissioner Hjalmerik. Motion passed 4-3.
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|----------------------------|-----|
| Wayne Nielsen, Chairperson | No  |
| Ken Hill, Vice Chair       | No  |
| Michelle Lewis             | Yes |
| Scott Hjalmerik            | Yes |
| Tracy Smith                | No  |
| Jacob Taylor               | Yes |
| Jane Williams              | Yes |
- J. Discussion and Possible Action on the Disability Summit – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate  
Ms. Bowles reported that the Disability Summit would be held at Radiant Church on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Local cities will be invited to attend. Breakout sessions will include emergency preparedness, assistive technology, human services resources, and providing effective customer service to individuals with disabilities (for businesses).
- K. Visitability Report – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate  
Ms. Bowles reported to the Commission that though the six main features often used to describe visitability stand, new findings are that the Pima County and Tucson Ordinances did not adopt all six of these as previously believed. Chairman Nielsen stated that these new findings do not change their motion from last month to “support the City’s efforts to implement visitability within the City of Surprise.”

**6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

Agenda items for the next meeting will include:

- Public Comments

- Current Events and Reports by Commissioners or Staff
- Commissioner Taylors Report on Adaptive Recreation
- Commissioner Hjalmervik Report on Section 8 Housing
- Commissioner Williams Report on the Speaker's Bureau
- Commissioner Hill's Report on the Wheelchair Basketball Team
- Commissioner Nielsen's Report on the Access Northwest Valley Project
- Commissioner Smiths Report on Community Education & Resource Development
- Commission Lewis' Report on ALDA (Arizona Late-Deafened Adults)
- 2009 ADA Enhancement Fund Project Proposals
- Strategic Plan Update
- Disability Summit Progress Report
- Visitability Subcommittee Report

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Williams moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm, second by Commissioner Lewis. Motion approved 7-0.

Chairperson Nielsen adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

*Wayne S. Nielsen*

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Wayne Nielsen, Chairperson

**ATTEST:**

*Nanette Bowles*

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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 October 15, 2008.**

*Nanette Bowles*

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Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate