



City of Surprise
Disability Advisory Commission
Wednesday November 19, 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

Staff Present:

Mike Schrock, Management & Budget Director
Jean Poe, Risk Manager
Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate
Paul Frie, CRS Sports & Adaptive Rec. Div. Manager
Joe Gladieux, CRS Adaptive Rec. Coordinator

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 November 19, 2008.

2. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 15, 2008 MINUTES

Chairman Nielsen called for approval of the October 15, 2008 minutes.

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Annette Bradley of Autism Alternatives spoke about their 12/6/08 9 am event, "Autism 911-You Ask, We Answer" being held at Palm Vista Baptist Church.

4. CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS

There were no current reports but at the end of the meeting, Chairman Nielsen acknowledged the change of the Commissions sponsored department from Management and Budget to Community and Recreation Services. He formally thanked Management and Budget Director Michael Schrock and Risk Manager Jean Poe for their 4½ years of dedication in the formation of and to the Commission.

5. AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

A. Special Olympics Awards – Chairman Nielsen

Awards were presented to participants of the October 17th and 18th Bocce Ball Tournament. Participants and Coached included:

- Isaac Gurrola
- Jasen Boykin
- Jennifer Jerome
- Joey Brinkmeyer
- Kayla Aponte
- Kyle Mitchell
- Leann Burgin
- Sarah Carzoli

- Spencer Nickell
- Tracy Richard
- Trina Jerome
- Victoria Kalberg
- Zach Hoebbel
- Coach Nathan Olds
- Coach Alex Farrand

B. Visitability Presentation with Discussion and Possible Action – Jeff Mihelich, Community Development Director

Mr. Mihelich presented a Visitability Proposal to the Commission with the following items:

- Model Signage for model homes and sales trailers stating “Ask Us About Accessibility Options”
- An educational DVD at sales offices to show the benefit of visitability features,
- Potential financial assistance to buyers to help cover the extra cost of visitability upgrades
- Zero-Step entry at all model homes
- Three off-site fully visitable models, potentially built under the new HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Commissioner comments included the request that the “Ask Us About Accessibility Options” be clearly visible in the sales offices and models. Other suggestions included ensuring that the educational DVD be produced with open or closed captioning. A final comment included a suggestion that local banks maybe use their “Community Investment Fund” to assist in the gap financing.

MOTION-Commissioner Smith moved to formally endorse the proposed visitability project for consideration by Surprise City Council. Second by Vice Chair Hill. Motion passed 6-0.

STAFF REPORT

C. Reports:

- a. Disability Summit – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate
Ms. Bowles updated the Commission on the progress of the January 10, 2009 event being held at Radiant Church. Registration for both exhibitors and participants will be online as well in other formats.
- b. Disability Awareness Series – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate
The 5-week series included one to two guest speakers for each topic and can now be seen on the Channel 11 and Disability Information websites. Response from participants was very positive and still coming in from the public.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

D. 2009 Enhancement Fund – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

Ms. Bowles updated the Commission on the November 13th City Council meeting where the motion to approve the \$150,000 Enhancement Fund project for 41 automatic door openers did not pass. It was reported that Councilman Williams requested this item be brought back to the December 11th meeting

with information about doing a hard bid for the completion of these. Ms. Bowles will keep the Commission informed.

- E. Report and Discussion: Federally Required Transition Plan – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate
Ms. Bowles provided the Commission with information about the federally required Transition Plan. Though the city had an ADA audit of city facilities completed in 2006, this new document would update this information, include new facilities and also look at all city programs, including parking lots, sidewalks, etc. The goal is to identify where we are, where we need to be then determine a priority, timeline and responsibility list to complete the gap between these. The Commission requested that they be kept informed of this progress.

AREA REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- F. Adaptive Recreation Report – Commissioner Taylor
Commissioner Taylor reported that on January 3rd at 12 noon there will be a wheelchair Power Soccer Demonstration to kick off the new team. AZ Heat is coming as part of this event being held at the Countryside Recreation Center. It was also reported that 100 people were in attendance at the November 1st Surprise Lakes Fishing Derby. Finally, the Special Olympics State Soccer Winter Games on December 6th.
- G. Section 8 Housing Report – Commissioner Hjalmerik
Commissioner Hjalmerik reported that he will be doing research on resources available related to Section 8 Housing and hopes to have a guest presenter on this topic at the December 17th meeting.
- H. Speaker’s Bureau Report – Commissioner Nielsen
Chairman Nielsen reported that Commissioner Williams, who formerly spoke on this topic has resigned from the Commission due to work conflicts and that the position will be posted soon.
- I. Roadrunner Basketball Team Report– Vice Chair Hill
Vice Chair Hill reported that their team recently played 3 games on a San Diego tour and won one of these. The team currently has 12 players and 7 of these are from Surprise. They will play another game in San Diego on Nov. 23rd then a local tournament at Valley Vista High School from 8 am to 6 pm on December 6th. At this tournament the Roadrunners are actually scheduled to play at 8 am, 11 am and 1:45 pm. They are also happy to report that they now have three facilities to practice with a schedule that includes:
1st Sunday Countryside Recreation Center
2nd Sunday Valley Vista High School
3rd Sunday Countryside Recreation Center
4th Sunday Willow Canyon High School
- J. ALDA (Arizona Late-Deafened Adults) Report – Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Lewis reported that their first ALDA meeting on November 15th was attended by 12 individuals including a representative from the Arizona

Commission for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing. This was the first official gathering of this new group and captioning was provided. Their next meeting will be in February and they hope to hold it in Surprise for those in the west valley.

K. Community Education and Resource Development Report – Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Smith reported that she had to use the Special Needs Registry system recently and it worked very well. She reported that a group of parents are working to create an advocacy group and using PINS (Parent Information Network System) to help educate others. Ms. Smith is also trying to find sponsorship for the Roadrunners and hoping to get an article about them in New Mobility Magazine.

L. Access Northwest Index Report – Chairman Nielsen

Per Chairman Nielsen's request, Ms. Bowles discussed the progress being made with the Access Northwest Index. To date, an accessibility assessment has been completed at 25 businesses, including 6 hotels. This information has been passed on to Vice Chair Hill to forward to incoming wheelchair basketball players. It is anticipated that approximately 48 wheelchair users will be in town the weekend of December 6th and they are looking for accessible businesses they can shop and eat at.

ACTION ITEMS

M. Discussion and Possible Action on the Strategic Plan – Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate

Ms. Bowles gave the Commission a brief history of the development of the 5-Year Strategic Plan in 2005 that was adopted by City Council in January 2006. Discussion from the Commission and staff included a desire to have this plan revisited and potentially updated but the reality that a facilitator cannot be hired to come in and conduct this.

MOTION-Vice Chair Hill moved to have staff formulate a plan to bring back the Strategic Plan brought back, in sections and over time, for review.

Second by Commissioner Smith. Motion passed 6-0.

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 17, 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 Hjalmerik Report on Section 8 Housing
- 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 Proposal
- Disability Summit Progress Report

- Transition Plan Report
- Visitability Subcommittee Report

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm, second by Vice Chair Hill. Motion approved 6-0.

Chairperson Nielsen adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.



Wayne Nielsen, Chairperson

ATTEST:



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 November 19, 2008**.



Nanette Bowles, Disability Advocate