



City of Surprise

Disability Advisory Commission  
Wednesday, January 18, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.  
*Surprise City Hall – Conference Rm. #150*  
*16000 N. Civic Center Plaza*  
*Surprise, Arizona 85374*

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

### Members Present:

Michelle Hernandez, Chairperson  
Ken Hill, Vice Chair  
Roland Winters  
Michelle Lewis  
Alyson Cline

### Staff Present:

Michael Mason, Sr. Risk Consultant  
Ricka Gallagher, Risk Consultant  
Gina Klewin, HR Manager  
Joe Gladioux, Recreation Supervisor

### Members Absent:

None

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm at the Surprise City Hall, Main Lobby Conference Room #150, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

### **CURRENT EVENTS & REPORTS**

Commissioner Lewis received an email from a new City of Surprise citizen inquiring about deaf groups in the area. She has formed groups in the three cities she's lived in and is very pleased that, at the last meeting of the Surprise group, there were about 60 in attendance, all of which who live in Surprise.

Commissioner Winters inquired about the status of the disability conference expo that used to exist. Mr. Gladioux reported that this project went away when the city's ADA Coordinator left the City.

Chairperson Hernandez reported that the redistricting process is finally over and the Council approved map was forwarded to the Department of Justice for review. The City of Surprise has seen annual growth rate of 22% which will greatly impact the services and infrastructure of the disability community.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Mason reported HR has contracted with a firm to review every City ADA policy and ensure that they comply.

Mr. Gladioux reported he is working on curb cuts in the parking lot to prepare for spring training; he made a presentation to 75-100 Boy Scout leaders in the Valley on how to integrate

disabled children into their programs; and is working on Vice Chair Hill's basketball tournament coming in February.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Andy Cepon, an eight year Surprise resident and Surprise Lions Club member, presented information about a summer camp program in the White Mountains, Camp Tatiyee. This free camp, which has been in existence for 50 years, is specifically designed for disabled individuals ranging in ages 7 - 100. Mr. Cepon stated Mr. Ron Brown, who is a member of the Peoria Lions Club, attended the Surprise Lions Club meeting a couple months ago and presented information on this camp. It is Mr. Cepon's understanding that the only requirements to attend the camp are a physical to gauge the amount of necessary care and transportation to and from the camp. This is a camp that the community may not be aware of and is something he feels this commission could be involved in publicizing it.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Alyson Cline was ceremonially sworn in as a member of the Disability Advisory Commission by the City Clerk.
2. FY 12 Goals / Strategic Plan  
Chairperson Hernandez entertained a motion to table the discussion on the purpose and direction of the Commission at this time and instead have a work study session in addition to the other meeting next month to address the plan.

**Vice Chair Hill moved to table the discussion, seconded by Commissioner Winters. Motion passed 5/0.**

3. Future Agenda Items  
Commissioner Winters would like to add on the February agenda for Mr. Brown to appear and present information on Camp Tatiyee.

**Commissioner Winters moved to add Mr. Brown's presentation to the February 2012 DAC agenda, seconded by Vice Chair Hill. Motion passed 5/0.**

Chairperson Hernandez would like to entertain a motion that agenda items be submitted no less than two weeks prior to the meeting and Commission members receive the agenda no less than two days prior to the meeting, and that all pertinent material be attached so committee members and the public have time to view it.

Commissioner Cline would like to add an item on next month's agenda to discuss automatic restroom door openers at Surprise Library.

Mr. Gladieux mentioned, when the City did their initial assessment of all the facilities, the Library was on it and items were listed. The City has a four year plan in which to address those items. The automatic door openers may already be one of

those items. Items to address were listed in order of priority, some of which were delayed due to funding.

Commissioner Winters asked Mr. Gladieux how the items noted were prioritized. Mr. Gladieux explained the city's former ADA Coordinator came up with the suggested list. Mr. Gladieux stated, in the past, money was allotted to the Disability Advisory Commission to fund ADA items. However, since then this funding has not been available.

Commissioner Cline asked Mr. Gladieux if he could provide the Commission a listing of where the City is at in addressing the punch list of ADA items. Mr. Gladieux can provide that information at next month's meeting.

**Commissioner Cline moved to have Mr. Gladieux present on the status of the ADA items discussed above and specifically the Surprise Library, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Motion passed 5/0.**

4. Future Meeting Locations

Chairperson Hernandez suggests this Commission meet in Council Chambers as it can accommodate those with disabilities and also can be televised for those individuals in the community who are unable to physically attend the meetings. Chairperson Hernandez also stated because this Commission and the segment of the community they serve oftentimes have difficulties that could be sudden in nature, Council Chambers would better accommodate the commissioners and the community with personal emergencies.

Commissioner Lewis expressed concerns the Council will oppose this suggestion due to potential costs.

Commissioner Winters prefers City Hall because it makes this Commission more official and also might spur more public interest.

Commissioner Lewis stated that, when funding was available, this Commission funded to install FM frequency loops in Council Chambers for this very reason, but they are not being used.

Vice Chair Hill also stated that, when funding was available, the Disability Advisory Commission paid to install the looping in Council Chambers, especially when one of the Commissioners has a need that would benefit from this technology.

Commissioner Cline requested if staff could determine the cost to hold this Commission's public meetings. Mr. Mason believed that the use of Council Chambers requires Council approval.

Mr. Gladieux stated this request was presented to the former City Manager some time ago and was denied. However, a new City Manager and Mayor are in place so the request could be asked again. Commissioner Cline inquired if the previous City Manager rejected the request to use Council Chambers because of funding or something else. Mr. Gladieux indicated there was no reason given.

Mr. Andy Cepon, citizen, was asked by Chairperson Hernandez for his opinion on the matter. Mr. Cepon stated it is his view the Commission needs to present hard information as to why they should be afforded the opportunity to use Council Chambers for their meetings. He suggested that the commission may have a better chance of getting this request granted if using the Council Chambers for meetings is on a trial basis.

**Commissioner Winters moved to request the City Manager allow future Disability Advisory Commission meetings to be held in Council Chambers, seconded by Commissioner Cline. Motion passed 5/0.**

Chairperson Hernandez stated developing the Commission's strategic plan is one reason why she would like to have a Special Workshop meeting next month, in addition to the regularly scheduled Disability Advisory Commission meeting.

**Commissioner Winters moved to decide when and where to have the workshop meeting, seconded by Vice Chair Hill. Motion passed 5/0.**

5. Approval of May 18, 2011 Minutes

**Commissioner Winters moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Motion passed 4/0 (Commissioner Cline did not vote as she was not a present Commission member at that time).**

6. Makeup training / Additional Training

Chairperson Hernandez suggested the Commission members receive Open Meeting Law/Roberts Rules of Order training from the City Attorney's Office.

**Commissioner Winters moves to add this additional training on the March 2012 DAC agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cline. Motion passed 5/0.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Gladieux mentioned that he officially is no longer the city's ADA Coordinator. That responsibility now belongs to Mr. Mason. Mr. Mason stated he will be attending training in April to update his ADA skills.

Mr. Mason introduced Mr. Brent Beals with USA Accessibility Consulting. Mr. Mason has retained his firm to review ADA policies.

Commissioner Lewis indicated she will be out of town the majority of March and so will not be

present at that meeting but will be in attendance for all others.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Vice Chair Hill moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Winters. Motion passed 5/0.**

Chairperson Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm.

*Michael Mason*

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Michael Mason, Sr. Risk Consultant