



City of Surprise
Disability Advisory Commission
Wednesday February 16, 2011 - 6:00 P.M.
Northwest Regional Library
16089 N. Bullard Avenue
Surprise, Arizona 85374

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members Present:

Wayne Nielsen
Ken Hill,
Jacob Taylor
Michelle Lewis

Staff Present:

Paul Frie, CRS Sports & Adaptive Rec. Div. Manager

Members Absent:

Chairmen Michelle Hernandez

Scott Hjalmerik

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Nielson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Northwest Regional Library, 16089 N. Bullard Ave, Surprise, Arizona 85374.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS

- a. Adaptive Recreation Report – Commissioner Taylor : Social dance this Saturday at Sierra Montana. Buddy baseball starts February 24th at Dream Catcher Park and there is power wheelchair soccer practice this Saturday.
- b. Fair Housing Report – Commissioner Hjalmerik: I have nothing to report at this time.
- c. Surprise Road Runners Basketball Team- Vice Chairmen Hill reported that two weeks ago we had a tournament and won 3 of 3. The Roadrunners are going into their final tournament tied for first place despite only having 5 players. The City of Surprise is looking forward to hosting the regional tournament next year.
- d. Accessibility-Chairman Hernandez : Absent
- e. Access Northwest Index Report -Commissioner Nielson: Nothing to report
- f. ALDA- Michelle Lewis: Reported that she is volunteering on the ALDA Board since her term has expired. Commissioner Lewis has been involved with the deaf social group here in Surprise that meets at Starbucks once a month. In a previous report, Ms. Lewis stated that she would no longer be able to serve on the DAC due to health reasons but has been feeling better and would like to remain on until she can find someone from the deaf community to take her place.

D. STAFF REPORTS. Paul Frie presented a staff report to the commission on the following topics: February 22 at 1:00 pm Surprise City Hall Courtyard. Arizona Governor Jan Brewer, the City of Surprise Mayor and Council, Arizona Commerce Authority, Greater Phoenix Economic Council cordially invites you to attend a news conference announcing a major economic initiative.

- One more item has been completed from the CRS self evaluation in regards to ADA regulations. To date 53 percent of the original 118 items have been updated to meet or exceed ADA regulations.
- Item 96 on the CRS Self Evaluation (Stadium Brick Pavers potential trip hazard) has been approved for construction and is scheduled for completion by February 26th at a cost of \$9,665.
- Joe Gladieux did an assessment on CRS facilities bathroom stall hardware. This will allow for easier purchasing for ADA acceptable parts in the future if an item breaks or needs to be updated due to compliance concerns.
- Joe Gladieux has ordered ADA accessible hardware for facilities bathroom partitions. 19 bathroom stall were deemed out of compliance in the CRS self evaluation last June. With the installation of this hardware in the near future it will increase the completed items on the evaluation to 65%. The remaining items are scheduled for future completion.
- Tomorrow night February 17th at 6 pm at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex we are offering a free one hour tennis clinic for individuals with disabilities. The one day event is a special feature to the USTA pro Circuit tennis tournament going on this week in Surprise.
- Council member's Hall and Walcott announced that after doing much research on our cities boards and commission the following changes to ordinances are recommended to eliminate some inconsistencies and improve effectiveness.
 - Implement a consistent orientation across all groups that covers open meeting laws and general orientation.
 - Implementation of 4-year staggered terms to eliminate recruiting issues
 - Disability advisory Commission would be moved to the HR Department because of the risk element involved. A representative from CRS would sit on the board to discuss Adaptive Recreation and ADA related items.
 - D.A.C. would meet a minimum of bi-annually.
 - These items are up for vote on February 22 and if accepted would be created as new ordinances as they relate to our boards and commissions.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

E. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

No items were on consent.

REGULAR AGENDA – NON-PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1. Approval of the January 19, 2011 Minutes

Vice Chairman Nielson called for approval of the January 19, 2011 minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to accept the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Hjelmavik. Motion approved 4-0.

Item 2 – Discussion regarding how a dog park can be made accessible Andy Cepon requested to speak about the dog park and accessibility. Mr. Cepon reported about the status of his efforts to work with the city in creating additional dog parks. Mr. Cepon expressed his concerns about the lack of dog parks and the extent the original dog park is accessible to the residents of surprise. The park is sectioned into two areas and the large dog section is made primarily on the drainage area that is sloped and makes it difficult to access the entire area. Mr. Cepon noted that there are accessible sidewalks and an accessible seating areas but would like someone from the commission look into the area and give input on the grass section.

Paul Frie commented that this area was on the original CRS self evaluation that our former disability advocate did and that area was not documented as an area of concern but we could have staff do an assessment to double check. Commissioner Lewis also expressed interest in assessing the area to see if it appears accessible in her opinion and will report back next meeting.

Item – 3 Discussion on alternate funding options for disability related projects.

Vice Chairman Nielsen recommended tabling this item to wait until Chairmen Hernandez is in attendance. The commission agreed unanimously to table the item.

Item 4 - Discussion on how we as a commission can get the public more involved.

Paul Frie reported that he posed the question to have meetings moved back to council chambers. The response was that the only board or commission that may meet in the council chamber is economic development and that is for TV purposes only. Paul stated that the meeting may take place in city hall in the overflow room or in conference room just not in council chambers. Vice Chairmen Nielson expressed his opinion that the commission should look at this area on the strategic plan and brainstorm on how to improve attendance. Commissioner Hill commented that he believed it helped when they had representatives from various departments come to the meetings and report on current projects etc. Vice Chairmen Nielson agreed with statement that he believes it's important as the city continues to grow and that administration makes this a priority once again. Visitability is an item in particular that the board would like to see addressed so the commission can hear the pros and cons of various items.

Item - 5 Discussion and possible action on strategic plan revisions.

Paul Frie reported on the strategic plan and the day-to-day items that are addressed as they relate to disabilities and the residents of Surprise and accessibility.

Vice Chairmen Nielson reported he had a chance to look over the revisions and likes it. This shows council that numerous items can be accomplished on a limited budget which helps the residents in ADA items. I believe we as a commission should support this plan and send it to council for approval. Commissioner Lewis made a motion to accept the Disability Advisory Commission Strategic Plan. Commissioner Hill seconds the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to accept the strategic plan.

Potential agenda items for April were discussed and include:

Item #1 next meeting will be on April 20

Item #2- Discussion on visitability and a representative from economic development to discuss this process in detail.

Item #3- Discussion on alternate funding options for various disability related projects.

- Commissioner Reports, including the following areas of focus:
 - Access Northwest Valley Project
 - Adaptive Recreation
 - Community Access
 - Roadrunners Wheelchair Basketball Team
 - Fair Housing Report

G. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Hill motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:06pm, second by Commissioner Taylor. Motion approved 4-0.

Vice Chairman Nielson adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michelle Hernandez Chairperson

CERTIFICATION:

I, Joe Gladieux, Adaptive Recreation Supervisor 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, February 16, 2011.**

Joe Gladieux, Recreation Supervisor