



City of Surprise
Disability Advisory Commission
Wednesday, April 20 - 6:00 P.M.
Northwest Regional Library
16089 N. Bullard
Surprise, Arizona 85374

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members Present:

Michelle Hernandez, Chairperson
Ken Hill
Wayne Nielsen
Jacob Taylor
Roland Winters

Staff Present:

Paul Frie, CRS Sports & Adaptive Rec. Div. Mngr
Joe Gladieux, Adaptive Recreation Supervisor
Tim Little, Human Resources Safety Consultant

Members Absent:

Scott Hjalmerik
Michelle Lewis

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Chairperson Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Northwest Regional Library, 16089 N. Bullard Ave., Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Wednesday, April 20, 2011.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER

- a. City of Surprise City Clerk Sherry Aguilar swore in new Commissioner Roland Winters.

D. CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS

- a. Commissioner Taylor reminded of the Spring Eggstravaganza (Easter Egg Hunt) being held on April 23 at the stadium.
- b. Commissioner Nielsen noted there have been changes to the ADA regulations that the Commission should become aware of.
- c. Commissioner Hill discussed the success of the Road Runners basketball team and that the tournament will be held in Surprise next February or March.

E. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Joe Gladieux provided Commissioners with a handout and discussed various recent activities:
- February 17th CRS hosted an adaptive tennis clinic as a part of the USTA pro Circuit Tennis Tournament that was in town. 32 athletes and buddies joined in on the night's festivities.
 - Conducted a disability sensitivity training for our Dial a Ride staff. 13 participants attended the training.
 - Attended a conference at the Disability Empowerment Center that was hosted by the Reeve foundation. The event staff presented information on paralysis and various support services that the Reeve foundation offers to families for individuals with paralysis.
 - March 19th the Bambino Buddy Ball group participated in the Cal Ripken Day celebration in the stadium. Approximately 50 athletes and buddies led the parade of athletes out onto the field before a spring training crowd.
 - March 29th was the 2nd annual adaptive Outreach Spring training game at the stadium. 120 students, teachers and aides were treated to a pizza lunch followed by a baseball game between the Royals and Brewers as a way of saying thank you for helping prepare the stadium for the spring training games.
 - April 6th Buddy Tennis had their final practice and awards celebration at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet complex. 18 athletes and 16 Buddy's participated this spring.
 - April 7th the Adaptive Outreach program hosted its second annual Softball tournament. The non competitive event was held at Dream Catcher Park and featured two teams from Surprise who played host to 4 Glendale softball teams.
 - April 14th the final Buddy Ball game and awards celebration was held at Dream Catcher Park. The night's festivities consisted of baseball, peanuts, cracker jacks, clowns, face painters and finished off with an awards ceremony to recognize our athletes, coaches and buddies on another great season.
 - April 15th, 4 Surprise athletes attended the Special Olympics West Valley track meet. Surprise athletes participated in the 100m dash and the softball throws. Athletes brought home 5 gold, 2 silver and a bronze medal.
 - April 16th and 17th was the family camp outing at Lake Pleasant Regional Park. 35 participants enjoyed this overnight family adventure at the park.
 - 9 more items have been completed from the CRS Self evaluation. All nine items had to do with bathroom stalls getting a new 3 inch handle to make the door easily open and closed. The staff continues to work

towards completing the original 108 item evaluation. Currently 63 percent of the items have been completed in the past year and a half.

- Joe was contacted by Staff from NAU about presenting at an upcoming Disability Technology Conference being held at the Glendale Civic Center in June. The topic of the presentation is Opportunities for individuals with Disabilities to Live a Happy Healthy Lifestyle through Recreation.

F. CALL TO PUBLIC

- a. None

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2011

- a. Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the minutes from 2/16/2011. Seconded by Commissioner Nielsen. Unanimous vote.

H. AGENDA

- a. Report / discussion on Visitability.
 - Jeff Mihelich, Community & Economic Development Director provided a handout and discussed the Visitability Program in the City. He noted that the code is in a “waiting” status given that the development in Surprise existed before the new requirements were passed. As new development picks up again the requirements will start to be more obvious.
 - Mihelich also discussed the Neighborhood Stabilization and Community Block Grant Program. All homes that are purchased by the City and renovated or replaced include several accessibility features including wider hallways, accessible laundry rooms (wide doorways), accessible bathrooms (wide doorways), zero step entry and motion detection switches. There are 3 homes complete and more pending. The program will continue as long as funds last.
 - Commissioner Nielsen asked how buyers are qualified. Mihelich responded that income was the first consideration and disability was second.
 - Commissioner Nielsen asked how the Disability Commission could help to spread the program. Mihelich responded that the program was dependent on funding and that the 2 grants currently in place could result in as many as 40 homes being renovated or replaced depending on the costs of each home.
 - Commissioner Nielsen asked how the Commission can get these accessibility enhancements required in all newly built structures. Mihelich replied that when that was discussed previously, the home builders objected to the additional costs. Mihelich suggested that opening dialog with the home builders would be a good place to start.

- Mihelich added that it is important to educate the home builders on the advantages of building accessible homes. It provides a broader pool of potential buyers, can assist resale, etc.
- Commissioner Winters noted that he supports this program.

I. TRANSITION OF THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

- a. Joe Gladieux discussed that the Commission will now be coordinated by the Human Resources Department and introduced Tim Little, Safety Consultant with HR. Joe Gladieux will continue to represent CRS. The transition will be a gradual process.

J. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Nielsen asked if there is a report due to the Council soon. Paul Frie responded that the Transition Plan will need to be presented. Commissioner Nielsen stated that the Commission Chair has historically made the presentation. Chairperson Hernandez indicated she is willing to do so and asked for assistance from staff in preparing to do so.
- b. Commissioner Nielsen asked if Commission members intended to meet during the summer months of June, July and August. General discussion followed and this will be added to the May agenda for action.
- c. Commissioner Winters stated that the pedestrian button at the intersection of Bell and Citrus is not accessible due to the placement of the curbing. Staff will check it and report back to the Commission in May.
- d. Commissioner Nielsen suggested that the Commission be given a briefing on changes to the ADA regulations.

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR MAY 18, 2011

- a. Meeting schedule for summer months
- b. Chairperson Hernandez suggested that the Commission have a discussion(s) on the purpose and direction of the Commission.
- c. Chairperson Hernandez suggested that the Commission receive guidance on how the Commission should be operating in terms of conducting meetings, approving business, etc.

L. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Commissioner Winters moved and Commissioner Taylor seconded a motion to adjourn. Chairperson Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michelle Hernandez, Chairperson

CERTIFICATION:

I, Tim Little Safety, Consultant 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, April 20, 2011.**

Tim Little, Safety Consultant

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