

**CITY OF SURPRISE  
VETERANS, DISABILITY, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Approved**

**February 8, 2023 / 6:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers  
16000 North Civic Center Plaza  
Surprise, AZ 85374**

**CALL TO ORDER.**

Chair Kent-Partridge called the Veterans, Disability, and Human Services Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Surprise City Hall, 16000 North Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on February 8, 2023.

**ROLL CALL**

In attendance were Chair Julie Kent-Partridge, Vice-Chair Steffen Hanzel, Commissioners Phillip Lair, John Billcheck, Nickolas Kupper, Gwen Mendez, Jennifer Quintero and Allison Wisniewski. (2 Vacancies). Commissioner Shawna Daigle arrived at 6:08 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Human Service & Community Vitality Administrator Danielle Osborne, Human Service & Community Vitality Director Seth Dyson, Transportation Director Eric Fitzer, Human Service & Community Vitality Assistant Director Deb Perry, Housing & Community Services Supervisor Adam Lane, and Administrative Specialist Donika Smith.

**CURRENT EVENTS REPORT**

Chair Kent-Partridge reported:

- An Adaptive Bingo event on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. This event is free but registration is required. Sign up on Surprise Rec.
- The Sweetheart Social will be held on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Montana Rec Center. The event is for ages 16 and up with intellectual, developmental or physical disabilities. The fee is \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-residents.
- The General Plan 2040 Community Workshops are being held on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall.
- The Surprise Economic Development Department and ARIZONA@WORK are hosting a free hiring event in Surprise! The event takes place on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Ottawa University Student Union building.
- The City Academy is an opportunity for residents, students and business owners to learn about their City directly from the Mayor, Councilmembers, City Manager and upper-level city staff. It will consist of eight sessions given over eight weeks

beginning Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. This program is free, but registration is required. Learn more at [surpriseaz.gov/cityacademy](https://surpriseaz.gov/cityacademy).

- The Spring Training 5K & 1K, presented by Palm Valley Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, returns Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m.! Register is required.
- The next Care & Share Expo will be on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Surprise Aquatic Center Parking Lot. Learn more at [surpriseaz.gov/careshareexpo](https://surpriseaz.gov/careshareexpo).
- City offices will be closed Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.

Commissioner Kupper reported that he and Commissioner Wisniewski attended the grand opening of HomeBase Surprise, a homeless youth shelter designed for 18-26 year olds. HomeBase Surprise can house 40 young adults in this facility.

Commissioner Hanzel reported that he attended the Special Olympics event at Willow Canyon High School and the Surprise teams placed in first and second place. The State tournament is scheduled for March 10.

## STAFF REPORT

Administrator Danielle Osborne reported the following:

- Mayor Skip Hall proclaimed February as "Teen Dating Violence Prevention Month" in Surprise. The City of Surprise is helping promote regional webinars hosted by Bloom365 for youth, parents, and those who work with youth. Visit the city website for more information.
- In preparation for the transition of the three Surprise libraries from Maricopa County Library District (MCLD), the libraries will be closed Monday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 14 for staff training. Northwest Regional Library will remain closed until March 3 for renovations with limited services available. Asante and Hollyhock Libraries will reopen on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. For library hours, the events/programming schedule and FAQs about the library transition, visit [surpriseaz.gov/Library](https://surpriseaz.gov/Library) or [library@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:library@surpriseaz.gov) or call 602.222.2900.
- Mayor Skip Hall will kick off the City of Surprise Spring Training season with the 21st Annual Mayor's Spring Training Welcome Back Reception presented by Dental Depot, featuring representatives from the Kansas City Royals and Texas Rangers. This year's happy hour themed event is Thursday, February 16 from 4 - 6 p.m. at Surprise Stadium, 15850 N. Bullard Ave. Tickets are now available for purchase at [SurpriseStadium.com](https://SurpriseStadium.com) or by calling the box office at 623.222.2222. The 2023 Spring Training season begins at Surprise Stadium on February 24.
- Share your thoughts about Surprise in the 2023 National Community Survey (NCS)! What you tell us helps to identify priority projects for Surprise and indicates where limited city funding should go in order to provide the services residents most desire.

## CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

None

## **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **Item 1 - Presentation and discussion pertaining to the CDBG and HOME Needs Hearing for the Program Year 2023 Annual Action Plan.**

Housing and Community Services Supervisor Adam Lane made the presentation to the commission.

Chair Kent Partridge opened the public hearing.

A New Leaf's Chief Program Officer, Kathy Di Nolfi provided an overview of their program using some of CDBG funding.

Seeing no other commenters, Chair Kent-Partridge closed the public hearing.

## **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **Item 2 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the January 11, 2023 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.**

Commissioner Lair moved to approve the January 11, 2023 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Hanzel seconded the motion. The motion passes with 9 Yes votes. 2 vacancies

### **Item 3 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to the services offered by Best Buddies.**

State Director Lisa Cleary made the presentation to the commission.

### **Item 4 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion by Surprise Transportation Department Director Eric Fitzer.**

Transportation Director Eric Fitzer made the presentation to the commission.

### **Item 5 – Update and discussion pertaining to the 2023 Care & Share Expo event.**

HSCV Administrator Danielle Osborne made the presentation to the commission.

## **OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Commissioner Hanzel announced that this meeting is the fourth Anniversary of the VDHS Commission.
- HomeBase Surprise Outreach - Edison Brown
- AZ Pet Project

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Hanzel made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on February 8, 2023 at 7:37 p.m. Commissioner Daigle seconded the motion. The motion passed with 9 Yes votes. 2 vacancies.



Danielle Osborne  
HSCV Administrator



Julie Kent-Partridge  
Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission Chair

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original document on file in the office of the City Clerk, City of Surprise, Arizona.



ATTEST BY:

Donika Smith, HSCV Administrative Specialist

DATE:

3/8/2023