

**CITY OF SURPRISE
VETERANS, DISABILITY, AND HUMAN SERVICES
COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 14, 2023 / 6:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER.

Chair Julie 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 June 14, 2023.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Chair Julie Kent-Partridge, Vice-Chair Steffen Hanzel, Commissioners Shawna Daigle, Phillip Lair, John Billcheck, Allison Wisniewski and Nickolas Kupper.

Absences: Jennifer Quintero (excused), Dr. Gwen Maxfield (excused).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Community Initiatives Supervisor Danielle Osborne, Human Service & Community Vitality Director Seth Dyson, Human Service & Community Vitality Assistant Director Deb Perry, Housing & Community Services Supervisor Adam Lane, Housing & Community Services Analyst Jessica Weber and Administrative Specialist Donika Smith.

CURRENT EVENTS REPORT

- The Surprise Economic Development Department in partnership with AZ@WORK is hosting a hiring event on Wednesday, June 21st from 10am – 1pm at the Surprise Regional Library. Call 623.222.1630 for more information.
- The City is hosting its annual Independence Day celebration on Tuesday, July 4th at the Surprise Community Park at 6pm and we will end the night with a fireworks display at approximately 8:45pm.
- Parks & Recreation is hosting an Adaptive Adult Social: Red, White and DANCE on Saturday, July 8th from 6 – 8pm at the Sierra Montana Recreation Center. This social event is designed for individuals ages 16 and up with intellectual, developmental, or physical disabilities. Participants will have an opportunity to meet others, share social experiences and enjoy a fun activity.
- Our next Days of Service will be held on Wednesday, July 12th and Wednesday, August 16th at St. Mary's Food Bank. Volunteer to help provide food for families in

- Please note that city offices are closed Monday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth and Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Osborne reported the following:

- Brief update on the Community Legend Awards Program. The following nominations have been received: 4 nominations for individual Legend, 9 nominations for Organization of the Year, 2 nominations for Volunteer of the Year, and 0 nominations for Outstanding Youth. All are encouraged to continue promoting and sharing this opportunity to the community. Due to the reduction to the size of the commission, the working group/panel will need to reduce from its current five members down to three.
- 2023 Surprise Retail Survey is in!! The city received more than 5,300 responses to the annual Surprise Retail Survey. The Surprise Economic Development Team will now use the results to guide their retail and restaurant recruitment efforts. For a full list of survey results, please visit surpriseaz.gov/retailsurvey.
- The Surprise City Council selected a new City Council District Map at their June 6 Regular Meeting following a redistricting process that involved the public, a volunteer citizen Redistricting Advisory Committee, and an expert redistricting consultant. Learn more by visiting surpriseaz.gov/redistricting.
- Mayor Skip Hall has proclaimed June 11-17 as Monsoon Awareness Week in Surprise and encourages all our residents to be prepared for this unpredictable and severe weather season. Surprise residents should have a monsoon safety plan and be ready for all possible weather-related occurrences. Visit surpriseaz.gov/monsoon for more information and other available.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

Item 1 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the May 10, 2023 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Lair moved to approve the May 10, 2023 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Wisniewski seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 Yes votes. 2 Absent (Quintero, Maxfield).

Item 2 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to the city’s legislative agenda.

Government Relations Program Director Jodi Tas made the presentation to the commission.

Item 3 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to the City of Surprise Housing Study.

Director of Government Consulting Services Zakary Payne PE - Senior Research Analyst Christian Caron PhD and Planner Robert Mansolillo made the presentation to commission.

Item 4- Citywide – Discussion pertaining to a Mayor’s Veterans Roundtable topic.

Commissioner Lair led the discussion regarding communication with local veterans and the veteran groups represented at the Mayor’s Roundtable meeting to provide assistance to those in need. A Veteran’s Stand Up event is held in Glendale. The commission discussed replicating this event in Surprise and chose to establish a working group to start the planning efforts. There was consensus that the working group would include Commissioners Lair, Kupper and Billcheck.

Item 5 – Citywide – Discussion pertaining to revision of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission strategic plan.

Chair Kent-Partridge led the discussion regarding revisiting the strategic plan and holding a Commission Retreat. There was consensus to hold a retreat and review the strategic plan. Date to be determined.

Item 6 – Citywide - Discussion pertaining to the creation of a VDHS Challenge Coin.

The commission discussed that the Awards Work Group will work on the concept, parameters and coin designs for the VDHS Challenge Coin and then present to the commission.

Item 7 – Citywide - Consideration and action pertaining to approval of the Fiscal Year 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting calendar.

The commission discussed moving the February 14th meeting to February 7th.

Commissioner Hanzel moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting calendar as amended. Commissioner Kupper seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 Yes votes. 2 Absent (Quintero, Maxfield).

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Chair Kent Partridge thanked Commissioner Wisniewski and Commissioner Quintero for their service on the commission.
- Commissioner Kupper requested a presentation from staff regarding expanded commission funding and what they’re empowered to do as a Commission.

- Commissioner Daigle requested a discussion regarding a quarterly disability roundtable.

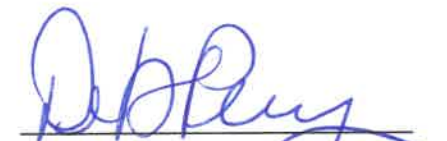
ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Lair moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on June 14, 2023 at 8:24pm. Commissioner Billcheck seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 Yes votes. 2 Absent (Quintero, Maxfield).


Danielle Osborne
Community Initiatives Supervisor
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:


Deb Perry
Assistant Director - HSCV

DATE:


6/20/23