

**CITY OF SURPRISE**  
**Education Sub-Committee Meeting**  
**16000 North Civic Center Plaza**  
**Surprise, AZ 85374**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Councilmember Cline called the **Education Sub-Committee Meeting** to order at 4:03 p.m. at Surprise City Hall, Overflow Room, 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374, on Thursday, November 16, 2023.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmember Jack Hastings, Chair (Absent), Councilmember Aly Cline, Vice Chair, Mike Hoover, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Committee Member, Seth Dyson, Human Service & Community Vitality Director, Committee Member.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORTS**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS**

None.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Kirsten Hall, Economic Development Project Manager, Donna Meuse, Human Resources Director, Virginia Mungovan, Marketing and Communications Director, Michael Boule, Water Resource Management Director, Genevieve Martin Del Campo, Staff Liaison.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEM**

**1. Consideration and action to approve the September 14, 2023 Education Sub-Committee Meeting minutes:**

Seth Dyson moved to approve the September 14, 2023, Education Sub-Committee Meeting minutes and Mike Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**2. Discussion and possible action pertaining to a representative from Human Resources Department being added as a Committee Member:**

Mike Hoover gave an overview of the importance of having an HR representative on the Education Subcommittee. Donna Meuse added that being a part of the Education Subcommittee will be a great opportunity to apply the work HR is currently doing with the community and workforce.

Councilmember Aly Cline stated that workforce development has always been important, as well as working with the community and being able to utilize this committee for the purpose of expanding the economic development part of the City. She further stated that adding a representative from HR would be invaluable to this committee to ensure all bases are covered and not missing something in the workforce that the City can improve on. Seth Dyson agreed.

Mike Hoover moved to approve adding a representative from the Human Resources Department as a Committee Member and Seth Dyson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**3. Discussion pertaining to the Water Resource Management Department and Gateway Community College Scholarships:**

Michael Boule gave an overview of the relationship between the City and Gateway Community College and the scholarships that are currently offered.

Mike Hoover explains the collaborative effort between the City and Gateway Community College and the efforts toward a water operations cohort.

Councilmember Cline asked if there are opportunities for water operator jobs going forward and if this program is available to only Surprise residents or all water operators. Michael Boule responded that the water operator industry is growing with the upcoming TSMC water and wastewater plant.

Seth Dyson asked if all available scholarships in the past have been utilized and all available funding taken advantage of. Michael Boule responded no, but with the new Director of Gateway Community College being energetic about this partnership, the City is looking to really maximize and take advantage of the scholarships this go-round. Seth Dyson further asked what the window is to push this information out, as he and his team would be more than happy to help. Michael Boule responded that he is still working out the parameters with the school. Seth Dyson then asked if the cohort will be a shortened timeframe or if it will be two-year training. Mike Hoover responded that they are looking at an 18-month timeframe.

Councilmember Aly Cline stated that she loves this idea.

Seth Dyson asked when the TSMC water and wastewater plant go online. Michael Moule responded in 2025, and Mike Hoover added that there will be hiring in advance.

#### **4. Discussion and action pertaining to a change in the description of the Education Subcommittee:**

Mike Hoover gave an overview of the Career Development Scholarship Fund Status Report.

Seth Dyson gave an overview of the Surprise Council College Scholarship program. Councilmember Aly Cline asked what the criteria is to be eligible for the scholarship. Seth Dyson responded the scholarship is available to any high school senior living in the City of Surprise.

Mike Hoover reported that the Dental Assisting Program through West-MEC was able to fill nine of the eleven available spots and is currently underway. He further reported that the Estrella Mountain Community College Program resulted in his colleague, Kirsten Hall, receiving a note from a community member who took advantage of the scholarship explaining how her life has been positively impacted by the program and scholarship availability. Kirsten Hall read the note aloud.

Mike Hoover then gave an overview of the current Education Subcommittee description and why an update is necessary.

Mike Hoover moved to approve the change in the description of the Education Subcommittee and Seth Dyson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **5. Presentation and discussion pertaining to Osher Lifelong Learning and their future plans with the City of Surprise:**

Kristi Schneider, Program Coordinator with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), gave an overview of the program and partnership with the City.

Councilmember Aly Cline asked when the hyperlink for the class catalog will be available for residents. Kristi Schneider responded on December 4.

Mike Hoover asked if any of the classes are recorded. Kristi Schneider responded that it is not right now but that is in the works because there are other OLLI Programs that do offer recordings. She further stated that once they migrate to the new website platform, they should be able to provide that feature, as people have been asking.

Seth Dyson asked if OLLI works with other cities as partnerships or if community center use is just a premise or facility use with fees attached. Kristi Schneider responded that cities outside of Glendale charge "out of city" rates as ASU West is in Glendale. Seth Dyson clarified that at those times, the program was more considered a rental than a partnership. Kristi Schneider responded yes. Seth Dyson

asked if other cities ever cover the cost of classes for the members. Kristi Schneider responded no. She further stated that one of the community centers in Glendale holds free classes outside of the OLLI Program, which results in OLLI providing classes for free at that community center. Councilmember Aly Cline mentioned several places in the City of Surprise where OLLI could hold classes as the program expands.

Seth Dyson asked if someone could show up to a class and pay the fee at the door or if they must register beforehand. Kristi Schneider responded that the situation has not happened in the past, but that she did not see a problem if that were to happen. Seth Dyson asked if someone under 50 years of age wanted to attend a class, would they be allowed to attend. Kristi Schneider responded that she cannot say the situation has never happened.

Seth Dyson thanked Kristi Scheider for bringing the OLLI Program to Surprise. Councilmember Aly Cline added the program is a very important part of what this subcommittee wants to do.

Seth Dyson gave Kristi Schneider information on the RISE Program through Rio Salado Community College. Kristi Schneider stated that it would be a great idea to speak with the coordinators of the program to discuss a potential collaboration.

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

An update on the Gateway Community College Scholarship program.

An update on extending the community college agreement that went before the Council in December.

Discussion pertaining to the RISE Learning for Life program.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Seth Dyson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. and Mike Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**ATTEST:**

---

Councilmember Jack Hastings, Chair

---

Jackie Moucheron, Staff Liaison

DRAFT