

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

**February 14, 2024 | 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374**

CALL TO ORDER.

Vice-Chair Kupper 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 14, 2024.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Vice-Chair Kupper, Commissioners Phillip Lair, Shawna Daigle, and Julie Kent-Partridge.

Absences: Chair Steffen Hanzel (excused), Commissioners John Billcheck (excused) and Gwen Maxfield (excused).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Community Initiatives Supervisor Danielle Osborne, Administrative Specialist Athba Arnold.

CURRENT EVENTS REPORT

Vice-Chair Kupper reported on the following upcoming events:

- City of Surprise will be hosting the annual College Baseball Classic
 - February 16 – February 19
 - Visit surprisestadium.com for more information
- Sunday in the Park at Mark Coronado Park
 - Sunday, February 18th from 3-7pm
 - Free event with food, live music, and an outdoor market
- Surprise Day of Service at St. Mary's Food Bank
 - Wednesday, February 21st
 - Three shifts available between 7:30am – 2:30pm
 - Contact Larry at larry.garcia@surpriseaz.gov or 623-222-1522
- HOA Summit at Surprise Public Safety Building Auditorium
 - Wednesday, February 28th from 6-8pm
 - This event will cover community resources, housing trends, and other expert presentations

- Register with Larry at larry.garcia@surpriseaz.gov or 623-222-1522
- The Surprise Public Library System is accepting submissions for new library card designs
 - Three categories: 10 and under, 11-17, and 18 and over
 - Visit surprisepubliclibrary.gov for more information
- City offices closed Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Kent-Partridge
 - Night to Shine event at Radiant Church, special thanks to Steve and Amy Miller
- Commissioner Daigle
 - First Disabilities Roundtable
 - Well-attended with many different organizations in attendance; great way to build community
 - The Transit Group met and established goals and boundaries
 - VetFest
 - Well-attended and fun but very cold

STAFF REPORT

- Danielle Osborne discussed:
 - Outreach meetings on February 28th for the new Multigenerational Community Resource Center
 - Meetings will be open-house style
 - 9am – 12pm at the Surprise Senior Center
 - 4pm – 8pm at Villanueva Recreation Center
 - Call 623-222-1625 for more information
 - Hiring Event in partnership with Arizona @ Work
 - Wednesday, February 21st from 10am – 1pm
 - Surprise Regional Library
 - Over a dozen employers will be present
 - Contact Melinda Greenhouse for more information at 623-222-1630
 - Housing and Community Services Team
 - Won Audrey Nelson award for their involvement in the creation of the West Valley Housing Assistance Center
 - Since its' inception last year, over 3,000 people have been assisted with housing resources and over 4,000 bed nights have shelter have been provided.
 - VetFest
 - Thank you for support and flexibility
 - Great turnout and positive reception

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 January 10, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Daigle moved to approve the January 10, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Lair seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 Yes votes, 3 Absent (Hanzel, Billcheck, Maxfield).

Item 2 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to the CDBG and HOME Needs Hearing for the Program Year 2024 Annual Action Plan.

Housing & Community Services Supervisor Adam Lane presented. The City of Surprise is an 'Entitlement City' which receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership funds from HUD. Mr. Lane advised this is the last year of the 5-year Consolidated Plan and planning for the next 5 years will begin in May.

Commissioner Lair asked what is happening after this final year. Mr. Lane advised community outreach and stakeholder meetings have begun and a draft should be available in April.

Vice-Chair Kupper opened the Public Hearing.

Jim Diaz, Director of Shelter Services for A New Leaf provided information on services provided by A New Leaf. Shelter is attempting to provide relief for growing homeless population; trends towards more children, seniors, and first-time homelessness. West Valley Housing Assistance Center currently has seven family apartments with appliances. Normal stay is about 120 days depending on available housing and other resources. Five families have graduated into long-term housing. Community Center has been open two years and has served 350 walk-ins to include getting put on Coordinated Entry which allows families to enter county waiting list. WWHAC partners with many organizations throughout City of Surprise but more are always welcome. Their greatest needs are: volunteers, additional wrap-around services, such as workforce readiness, and to expand transportation.

Seeing no other comments, Vice-Chair Kupper closed the Public Hearing.

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Vice-Chair Kupper resigned from the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Daigle moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on February 14, 2024 at 6:23 p.m. Commissioner Kent-Partridge seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 Yes votes, 3 Absent (Hanzel, Billcheck, Maxfield).



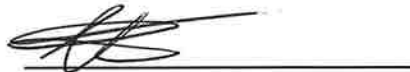
Danielle Osborne
Community Initiatives Supervisor



Steffen Hanzel
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:



Athba Arnold
Administrative Specialist

DATE:

3/13/2024