

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

**June 12, 2024 | 6:00 PM  
City Council Chambers  
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza  
Surprise, AZ 85374**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Billcheck 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 12, 2024.

**ROLL CALL**

In attendance were Chair Billcheck, Vice-Chair Phillip Lair, Commissioners Shawna Daigle, Olivia Fryer, and Hasan Reed.

Absent: Commissioners Gwen Maxfield (excused), Julie Kent-Partridge (excused).

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Community Initiatives Supervisor Danielle Osborne.

**CURRENT EVENTS REPORT**

Chair Billcheck reported on the following:

- Arizona@Work Hiring Event
  - Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10am-1pm at Surprise Regional Library
  - Connecting job seekers with employers who are currently hiring
  - For more information, contact Melinda Greenhouse at 623-222-1630 or [Melinda.Greenhouse@maricopa.gov](mailto:Melinda.Greenhouse@maricopa.gov)
- Surprise Senior Center
  - Offering free trial memberships for the remainder of 2024
  - Membership will allow access to fitness room and all programming
  - For more information, visit [surpriseaz.gov/SeniorServices](http://surpriseaz.gov/SeniorServices) or call 623-222-1500
- City of Surprise Scholarships
  - Surprise and GateWay Community College are offering scholarships for careers in water
  - Eligibility requirements and more information can be found at [surpriseaz.gov/scholarships](http://surpriseaz.gov/scholarships)
- City of Surprise Office Closures
  - Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Juneteenth

- Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Independence Day

#### COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Daigle reported that she discovered WeRide is offering 50 cent rides every Monday and Friday until August 16<sup>th</sup>. It is available on the app.
- Commissioner Fryer has presented four challenge coins:
  - Kyle Linster – Adaptive Recreation
  - Sara Rivera – Dysart Special Education Parent/Teacher/Student Association (SEPTSA)
  - Karin York – Spencer's Place
  - Jeni Corkin – Adaptive Recreation Manager
- Commissioner Fryer attended the last Veterans Roundtable meeting where the group gave their farewell to Allie Wisniewski. She also attended the Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony outside of the library.
- Commissioner Reed also attended the Veterans Roundtable; he was moved and found it heartwarming to see all the establishments who want to help Veterans.

#### STAFF REPORT

- Ms. Osborne discussed:
  - Monsoon Awareness Week as proclaimed by Mayor Hall: June 9-15. More info at [surpriseaz.gov/monsoon](http://surpriseaz.gov/monsoon)
  - Independence Day festivities. Information available by calling 623.222.2000.
  - Heat Relief Network: Surprise libraries, Senior Center, and Resource Center all participate. More information available at [hrn.azmag.gov](http://hrn.azmag.gov).

#### 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 8, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.**

Vice-Chair Lair moved to approve the May 8, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Daigle seconded the motion. The motion

passed with 5 Yes votes. 2 Absent (Kent-Partridge, Maxfield).

**Item 2 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to U.S. Vets.**

Outreach Specialist Alex Alexander provided information on US Vets and their SSVF Program.

Commissioner Daigle left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

**Item 3 – Citywide – Update and discussion pertaining to the Asante Library Resource Satellite Hub.**

Ms. Osborne presented the update on the newly installed Resource Satellite Hub at the Asante Library. She reported that it will be activated in the next few weeks and thanked the commission for making it possible.

**Item 4 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the VDHS Strategic Plan.**

Ms. Osborne presented the updated VDHS Strategic Plan, which incorporated feedback from the commission.

Vice-Chair Lair asked that Ms. Osborne bold the RAE acronym and the corresponding letters in the RAE words, and add a line about the correlation of bringing a “ray of sunshine,” to the community as the purpose behind calling out those words.

Vice-Chair Lair moved to recommend approval of the VDHS Strategic Plan to the Surprise City Council for adoption. Commissioner Fryer seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 Yes votes. 3 Absent (Kent-Partridge, Maxfield, Daigle).

**OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Ms. Osborne reminded the commission that there is a recess in July. The next meeting is in August.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice-Chair Lair moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on June 12, 2024 at 6:59 p.m. Commissioner Fryer seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 Yes votes. 3 Absent (Kent-Partridge, Maxfield, Daigle).

  
Danielle Osborne  
Community Initiatives Supervisor



John Bilcheck  
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:

8/14/24