

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

**May 14, 2025 | 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wisniewski 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 May 14, 2025.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Chair Allison Wisniewski, Vice-Chair Dr. Gwen Maxfield, Commissioners Julie Kent- Partridge, John Billcheck, Michael Tree, and Charles Manuel.

Absences: Commissioner Olivia Fryer (excused).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Community Initiatives Supervisor Danielle Osborne and Administrative Specialist Victoria Simmons.

CURRENT EVENTS REPORT

Chair Wisniewski reported on the following:

- Heat Relief Network Partner
 - Will start now and run until September 30th, 2025
 - Surprise locations include the Resource Center, Hollyhock Library, Regional Library, and Asante Library
 - For a full list of county-wide locations, visit azmag.gov/HeatRelief
- HOA Summit
 - For Homeowners Association (HOA) community members, condo board members, or property managers in Surprise. Meet with attorneys from the Mulcahy Law Firm and representatives from City of Surprise Departments to learn more about new changes in HOA Rules and Regulations.
 - Registration is required. For more details, please visit surpriseaz.gov/HoaSummit
- City of Surprise administrative offices will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Vice Chair Maxfield
 - Attended and assisted with Vet Fest. Turned out to be more successful than last year. Thank you to entire team who helped put the event together.
 - Attended State of the City. Great to see what Mayor Sartor has already done in such a short amount of time.
 - Met and toured RISE location and their Residential Home. Wonderful to see what they are doing within their organization. They also recognized several people as ambassadors, including commissioners in attendance.
 - Attended Mayor's Roundtable and is looking forward to seeing what is to come.
 - Gave out challenge coins to:
 - Jesse Ramirez with West Valley Food Bank
 - Rick Kreiberg with Veterans Affinity
 - Rod Hage with DAV Star Plus
 - Also gave out challenge coins to many individuals during Vet Fest
- Commissioner Kent- Partridge
 - Attended Vet Fest. Set-up and weather were great and saw a better attendance than last year.
 - Attended State of the City and was moving to see what the city has done so far.
 - Tour of RISE Services Residential Homes, for adults with disabilities. They have beautiful homes and a wonderful day center. Thank you to everyone who attended the tour, including Council Member Melton.
 - Attended several City of Surprise Adaptive Sports
 - Attended Aladdin theater production at Sonoran Heights Middle School. It was wonderful to see their community come together and see the kids perform and invites others to check out their events.
 - Currently participating as a host family for Parliamentary and Delegates who are here from Armenia. Delegates are participating in a program called Congressional Office of International Leadership (COIL) and is funded by the US Library of Congress. They are here to learn about all the wonderful things about our city, state, and more. Would love for others to join.
- Commissioner Billcheck
 - Attended Vet Fest, which was bigger and better than last year. Provided Challenge Coins during the event.
 - Attended Mayor's Roundtable for Veterans and it was a great opportunity to collaborate with others.
 - Planning to attend Quarterly Planning Meeting at the Resource Center tomorrow.
- Commissioner Tree
 - Attended Vet Fest, State of the City, and both Mayor's Roundtables
 - Attended Veteran Affinity Coffee Hour
- Commissioner Manuel
 - Attended Vet Fest and was impressed by many booths and services offered to veterans and first responders.
 - Also attended first Mayor's Roundtable and is looking forward to continuing to learn and gather as much information as possible.

- Chair Wisniewski
 - Attended Vet Fest. It was amazing to see all the people that came out. There was a lot of networking and collaboration. Thank you to entire team for all the work that was put into the event.
 - Attended State of the City
 - Attended both Mayor's Roundtable and is always great to see collaboration amongst many organizations for what's going on within the community.
 - Attend RISE tour

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Osborne discussed:

- The Household Hazardous Waste Program:
 - From February through November, Surprise residents can request an appointment for collection pickup right from their driveway for one week each month.
 - To schedule a collection, residents can use the My Surprise app or call 623.222.1920. All scheduling is based on availability and is first-come, first-served.
- Day of Service – Flag Day
 - Saturday, June 14, 2025
 - 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. in the Community Room of City Hall
 - In partnership with Youth for Troops and WHAM Art Center. Volunteers can decorate care package boxes, write heartfelt cards, and create patriotic crafts
 - Registration is required by visiting surpriseaz.gov/DOSVolunteer.

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 April 9, 2025 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Vice-Chair Maxfield proposed an amendment on the April 9, 2025, Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes, to correct the name of 'Valley View Dood

Bank' to 'Valley View Food Bank'. This error is found on the second page of the April 9, 2025, meeting minutes, under Vice-chair Maxfield's Commissioner Reports. Commissioner Kent-Partridge moved to approve the April 9, 2025, Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes, as amended. Commissioner Billcheck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 6 Yes votes and 1 absence (Fryer).

Item 2 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to the Northwest Valley Veterans Association.

Commissioner Tree moved to postpone agenda item indefinitely. Vice-chair Maxfield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 6 Yes votes and 1 absence (Fryer).

Item 3 – Citywide – Discussion pertaining to the details and results of Vet Fest 2025.

Commissioners provided feedback on the outcome of Vet Fest 2025 and discussed opportunities for improvement, for Vet Fest 2026.

Item 4 – Citywide – Discussion and possible action pertaining to recognition of former Mayor Skip Hall.

Commissioners discussed final options and budget details for recognition of former Mayor Skip Hall. Vice-chair Maxfield made a motion to move forward with the bench option in the park, for recognition of former Mayor Skip Hall. Commissioner Kent-Partridge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 6 Yes votes and 1 absence (Fryer).


OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Office of Treasurer Kimberly Yee, to discuss programs that she is working on within the community
- Sunland Memorial in Sun City puts on an amazing Memorial Day event and advises those who live in the area to arrive early

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Kent-Partridge moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on May 14, 2025, 2024 at 6:48 p.m. Vice-chair Maxfield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 6 votes and 1 absence (Fryer).

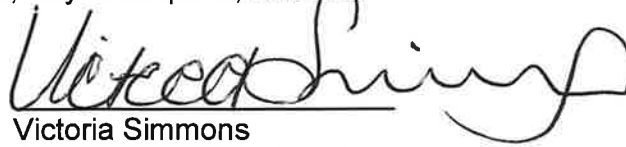

Danielle Osborne
Community Initiatives Supervisor


Allison Wisniewski

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:



Victoria Simmons
Administrative Specialist

DATE:

6-11-25

