

**CITY OF SURPRISE
COMMUNITY & RECREATION SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2010 / 6:30 PM
SURPRISE RECREATION CAMPUS
15960 N. BULLARD
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER: 6:36pm

A. Roll Call

CRS Board Members: Wayne Turner - Chair, Ron Jensen – Vice Chair, Mary Lou Youngblood, Mark Brown, Lou Provenzano, Melissa Sturtevant, Mike Brown, Mike Hawkins (Absent)

Ex-Officio Members: None present

City Staff: Mark Coronado, Melissa Miller, Donna Miller, Tara Combs
Dana Garr

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports – Two thirds of what happens in the Stadium is about families. AIA State Baseball 1A, 2A, and 3A playoffs are happening this week with participants from throughout Arizona. We give a rental discount at the stadium because we get three days of stays and hotels are at 70% occupancy. The Memorial Day Parade has 80 participants with Archie's Deli providing the pancake breakfast. Spring Training recap – using a per game comparison to last year, at 29 games we were up 12%. If the 29 game season this year was compared to the revenue from last year's 34 game, we were flat. Surprise ranked 5th in Cactus League attendance with the Rangers. Comparatively, Goodyear ranked 14th and 15th. The 2010 CTCA is October 20-24. Pete Sampras got a better offer in China. Currently, staff is working with McEnroe, Kornikova and Chang. Ticket sales start May 29. This is the last year with Inside Out Sports and another vendor other than Outback will be providing meals. Negotiations are in process with CTCA as well as this in the last year of their contract. Mr. Turner asked how we rank as a tour stop. Mr. Coronado advised Surprise is number one but not sure if it is a return venue. As with concerts, some choose not to return to a venue they've already seen. Jim Courier [Inside Out Sports] has another 60-90 days to decide.

D. Staff Reports – None

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Guest will speak on agenda item two.

CONSENT AGENDA

E. Approval of items on the Consent Agenda

No items were identified as consent agenda items.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from February 9, 2010 meeting.

Taken as item #4. Motion to approve minutes – Lou Provenzano. 2nd by Ron Jensen. 0 opposed.

Item 2 – CITYWIDE – Discussion on council’s request that staff initiate a public process regarding dog park at Surprise Farms.

Guest Speaker – Andy Cepon

Mr. Coronado provided a brief history on the public process held in Surprise Farms regarding a dog park in the past. Only five attendees participated in the public comment opportunity. Now, we’ve received requests for more dog parks in Surprise. Staff provided estimates for various types of parks and their operational costs.

Mr. Cepon a six year resident of Surprise Farms commented on the issues with having only one dog park open to the public. Too many users have worn down the park, and there are issues with owners following the rules. Parks staff is doing what they can with very little money. Provided handout of county fees. Fountain Hills is the only city with municipal dog license program that generated \$40K. Can Surprise do an IGA with the county like Fountain Hills? City Animal Control enforce. There is high non-resident use at the park. Another potential funding source is a magnetic card reader to get into the park for a fee. The card would also provide records of fees collected, shot records, etc. \$60 per year is a reasonable fee. Another funding option is the collection of fines that would come with greater enforcement. The last funding option is through citizen groups and/or non-profits to raise funds for added amenities. CRS would build and maintain the park. The board commented that Mr. Cepon suggestions were well thought out with options that would serve residents. Ms. Youngblood shared that the proximity to houses in Surprise Farms would need addressed and suggested that wood chips be considered as an alternative ground cover. Mr. Cepon advised there were seven houses near the proposed site. Water, sidewalks, and parking are present as it is near a high school. Visual barriers would help limit barking as does enforcement. Mr. Coronado advised this was not an action item. However, staff is seeking consensus that the board has no issue with staff exploring this option and conducting a public input process which should take about six months. Mr. Brown commented that there is need for additional capacity, and that he would like to see the license issue and magnetic card concepts researched. Ms. Youngblood and Mr. Turner affirmed that staff should look into options and funding mechanisms. Mr. Turner further requested more locations and resident feedback. Mr. Jensen would like to explore councils perspective and conduct process like staff did with the skate park. Mr. Provenzano asked if capacity was the main issue and would like to see public process to prove the point. Mr. Cepon advised that 6 days per week morning and night the park is utilized and when it is closed, leash law is violated. Mr. Coronado advised that like fishing and tennis, the human visitors to the dog park utilize the time for socialization. It’s a culture and about more than just the dogs. Ms. Sturtevant thanked Mr. Cepon for bringing his concerns and also taking the time to identify some possible solutions. Keep in mind that licensing and dog park access are hoops people must jump through. Additionally, health and potential breeding issues exist as liabilities. Mr. Brown thanked everyone for the substantial dialog because it brings value to the committee who should be commended for moving forward. Mr. Coronado closed the discussion by advising staff will develop a timeline, action, plan, public process and bring back for input.

Item 3 – CITYWIDE – Report on the FY11 Budget.

FY11 update was presented with aquatics and Sierra Montana Recreation Center hours being restored.

Item 4 – CITYWIDE – Discussion regarding the addition of a decorative fence surrounding the 8-acre park area at the Surprise Recreation Campus.

When special events come, being able to maximize the 8-acres will make for a more attractive venue. Health issues are also a concern due to dog waste in an area where kids play. The option being explored is not a permanently closed to public access fence, but one with openings that also matches the existing stadium wrought iron fencing and pillars. Though funding is not yet available, staff is

requesting the board embrace the concept. Sponsorship, savings in parks and recreation and partial sponsorships may help fund the project. Mr. Jensen asked if the area would still be used for overflow parking and if the parking area itself would also be fenced. Parking doesn't allow the turf to recuperate so that will no longer be used. Also, staff is in discussion with the Kansas Wizards for a soccer program. Motion to approve – Mr. Jensen, seconded by Ms. Sturtevant. Unanimous vote.

Item 5 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and action to approve the recreation pass program.

Donna Miller presented the final draft of the program brochure that outlines the concept, pricing, and amenities of the all inclusive pass program. Customer convenience and service is the goal of the program. A progress report will be presented to the board in six months. Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the program. Seconded by Ms. Youngblood. Unanimous vote.

Item 6 – CITYWIDE – Discussion on board member terms, terms of office, and upcoming expirations.

Staff advised that some boards in the city will be considered for consolidation, as there are well over a dozen supported by staff. Many have overlapping duties. Additionally, several members will expire in July. Please remit an application if you would like to continue to serve on the board.

Item 7 – CITYWIDE – Discussion and possible action to establish criteria for items posted to the Bell and Bullard Marquee.

The board discussed the merits of posting only city programs and events. Sponsors would also be recognized when appropriate. Ms. Youngblood motioned to approve, second by Mr. Jensen. Unanimous vote.

Item 8 – CITYWIDE – The board will begin the process of developing a strategic plan.

The board chose to reconvene in August to discuss priorities and how the board can be a catalyst in future bond elections. We need tourism and transportation joint meetings. Review priorities and the master plan during the upcoming meetings. Mr. McCarty, Chief Financial Officer, will be invited to discuss the process. Mr. Provenzano (who served on the bond committee) advised timing and sale of the bond process was terrible last time. Surprise is the only city in the valley without a bond though most cited they wanted transportation.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion on the value of the property across the street.

ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting will be August 10 at 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Provenzano, 2nd by Mr. Jensen. 0 opposed.

ATTEST:

Mark Coronado, Director

CERTIFICATION:

I, Dana Garr, Analyst for the City of Surprise Community and Recreation Services Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the CRS Board meeting held on May 11, 2010.

Dana Garr, Analyst

POSTED:

TIME:

Linda Stevens, Deputy City Clerk

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