

**CITY OF SURPRISE  
COMMUNITY AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

June 18, 2014 / 6:30 PM

**Willow Canyon High School – Media Center  
17901 West Lundberg Street  
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Roll Call**

CRS Commission Members: Wayne Turner (Chair), Ronald Jensen (Vice-Chair), Mike Planeta, Kelli Richardson, Mark Brown, David Sanders and Mary Lou Youngblood (via telephone)

City Staff: Mark Coronado, Donna Miller, Paul Frie and Christine Frederickson

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Current Events Reports**

**D. Staff Reports**

**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 of the April 28, 2014 CRS Advisory Commission meeting.**

Item postponed until next meeting.

**Item 2 – CITYWIDE – Surprise Parks and Recreation Master Plan update.**

Item postponed until future meeting.

**Item 3 – CITYWIDE – The CRS Advisory Commission would like to solicit public feedback on the Surprise Farms Park Project.**

Mark Coronado presented a PowerPoint presentation to overview the current conditions and brief history of the Surprise Farms Park, noting the triangular area just east of the softball fields is the future area for a pool. He advised that the lake/pond is currently in place to water the ball fields and park. He overviewed the following options based on what we have heard from residents thus far:

Surprise Farms Park Potential Program

Restroom Facility

Drinking Fountains

Ramadas (2 Large, 3 Small)

Paved Parking Lot (50 car parking)

Play Equipment (2-5 and 5-12 year Play)

Basketball Court (4-half courts)

Walking Path

Fitness Stations (10 stations)

Open Grass Play

Dog Park (3.3 acre with 40-car paved parking lot)

Skate Park

Splashpad

Alternate : Improve Triangular area west of Westpark Boulevard (fenced area)

There is \$1.6M budgeted for the park and separate \$500,000 budgeted for skatepark for a total of \$2.1M.

Mr. Coronado presented two concepts that included various recommended program components and advised that restrooms will be a necessity if the park is programmed.

Chair Turner reminded the public to please take the survey that lists potential program items and mark them high priority, medium priority, low priority or no priority

Commissioners reiterated to the public how much they have wanted to see improvements to this park.

## **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Lisa Howie – Does not live in Surprise Farms anymore. She moved because there was nothing to do. She is concerned that the new park amenities will be unsupervised and lead to graffiti. She is in favor of a skatepark – as a nurse she supports.

Anthony Chavez –5 year Surprise resident. Surprise needs something for teens to do. There are positives for having a skatepark such as, economic impact, increase in property values and diversity of amenities. The City already has a lot of baseball programming. Skateparks have low maintenance costs, and they give the youth a safe place so they will not use ditches etc. to skate in.

Connie Brison - 6 year Surprise HOA member. Surprise Farms II needs restrooms on the east side. It also needs shade and a splash pad. We need to think about what is best for the community.

Jan Nivens – lived in Surprise for 6 years and often takes her 7 grandchildren to the park. A splash pad would be a high priority.

George Holloway – 4 year resident coach and minister. Mr. Holloway is concerned about curfew, and he would like to see a YMCA to include an indoor recreation center with fitness area.

Kevin Wilson – We need something that will improve property values. Parents need to get involved in the community. Police will patrol the park so we should not let bad things stop us from moving forward with these improvements.

Jan Taylor – We need to address little ones and teens. Many people walk in the center area of the park, and a 3.3 acre dog park in that same space is not good idea. Fitness stations and/or ramadas would be better than a dog park for the center area of the park.

Scott Brown – A skatepark should be located at the Community Park rather than in Surprise Farms.

Adrian Brown– 13 year old Surprise resident. He likes the skatepark in Glendale. The skatepark in El Mirage is too easy. He would be glad to have one in Surprise.

Dee Dee Brown – Adrian Brown’s mother (last comment). A skatepark should allow scooters as well. Our kids need something here in Surprise. We would like to see a more challenging skatepark.

Margaret Lieu – Not sure if a skatepark is appropriate for Surprise Farms. We need a restroom on the East side of the park. Surprise needs another active dog park. We need to get moving, no more input!

Lynn Mayfield – She and her mother have been Surprise residents since 2010. She is concerned about parking and people coming to the Surprise Farms Park from all over. She would rather see an indoor recreation center. She is concerned about unsavory, unsupervised kids. She advised that she needs to call regularly to get trash picked up. She would rather see a YMCA, and she is concerned about noise and the fact that no one picks up dog poop.

Clint Golash – Has a 12 year old and 14 year old at home. We need restrooms, ramadas, parking to lessen congestion, exercise, skatepark, splash pad in order to stay fit.

Ronald Williams – Takes his Grandkids to the park. We may want to think twice about a dog park, as no one picks up dog poop. We should at least put sod down in the blighted area.

George Carranza – Marley Park resident. He utilizes the splash pad – lot premium to have amenities. Surprise farms can learn a lot from Marley Park – park amenities bring neighbors together. Move forward and do it right. Don’t build a small skate park. 3 acres seems large for Dog Park.

Lori Hart – Surprise Farms resident (right in front of proposed dog park). Intersection is dangerous. Skatepark is needed, people drive too fast down street. Found out about tonight’s meeting from a realtor who put an ad on her door.

Andy Cepon – 10 year Surprise resident. We need to move forward and we need an active bond for a recreation center to improve the quality of life. He appreciates council, and we need to complete these improvements sooner rather than later.

End of Call to Public

Council Member Winters urged public to move forward.

Mark Coronado asked for a show of hands in support of the potential amenity list. Out of the remaining 80 people, the majority raised their hands for a restroom, parking lot, ramadas, splash pad and improving triangle "dirt" area. Little more than half raised their hands for a tot lot. Less than half raised their hands for a dog park (said should be smaller), fitness stations and skatepark (majority agreed we need one - just Surprise Farms may not be best location). Majority said no more public meetings.

One individual said we should diversify revenues more than impact, and we should talk to big box stores to get funding.

Commission member Planeta suggested that we will need to bond to pay for future facilities and parks. He would like to see a large skatepark.

Public was very clear about needing a restroom on the East side.

City staff will be ready to go to council in August.

**Item 4 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and Possible Action to Place Items on Future Agendas.**

None discussed

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Mike Planeta, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Jensen. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark A. Coronado, Director  
Community & Recreation Services

**CERTIFICATION:**

I, Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist 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 Advisory Commission meeting held on June 18, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist