



Wasatch Hollow Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of March 23, 2022

Called to order at 7:01 pm by Chair Don Emerson. This is the first meeting following the annual elections.

Minutes of February meeting were approved as published.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ann Cannon is on the SLC redistricting committee and has attended two meetings. Anyone can visit the website and draw maps. There will need to be redistricting, as one city council district is too large and others too small. Anne will recommend that we keep our two councilmembers. Anne would love to hear from community members.

Don Emerson mentioned the tree limb debris piles—city is working on removal but it may take two more weeks to complete. Limbs placed on the curb should be from park-strip trees only—do not add debris from your backyard trees or the city will not pick up.

Community garden—dirt has arrived and people have signed up for bed. Now is the time to get things ready for spring planting. There is a bulletin board at the garden where you can leave notes for Clark if you've signed up for a bed. Or contact him via email:
clark.jensen3@comcast.net

Regarding WHCC meetings: We have option to meet via zoom or in-person. Please let us know your preference. (The consensus from chat comments during the meeting was that those in attendance would like a Zoom option to continue.)

REPORTS

Legislative Recap from Jani Iwamoto, Utah State Senate District 4

Senator Iwamoto reported on her work during the recently completed legislative session.

Some sponsored legislation and other bills passed include the following:

- Ability to cancel elections if no candidate
- Alaska and Native American communities elevated to health office liaison and Indian child welfare liaison
- Speed limit penalties on freeways
- Car racing in neighborhoods—increased penalties
- Day of Remembrance observing incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII
- Flow-rates requirements for plumbing
- Affordable housing tax reimbursements
- Court fee waiver amendments
- Water rates and local
- Juvenile corrections

- Officer information and reporting requirements
- Support for international adoptees
- Services and support study for disability communities
- Early warning for earthquakes
- Soil health
- Water banking and in-stream flow for GSL
- Infrastructure funding

There were a number of election bills that she opposed, including having surveillance cameras on every drop box, as it's not clear who will be able to see those; Six-foot limit at clerk's office. Others she opposed:

- Utah Lake development (Utah Lake Authority)
- Transgender bill (special session on Friday)—will make equal protection very difficult
- Voucher bills

Sen Iwamoto is retiring and will be missed. Rep Brian King especially mentioned how much she has done and how much she will be missed. Her accomplishments have been really remarkable. She was thanked via chat by many who attended the meeting.

Legislative Recap from Rep. Brian King, House District 28

Contact info: briansking@le.utah.gov, 801-560-0769

Representative King gave a rundown of the legislative session from his perspective:

- Preserving forensic biological evidence with time frames (proof of exoneration or guilt; pursue cold cases more effectively)
- Juvenile justice bill
- Worked on mental health bills that will hopefully be passed in the future
- Concerned about some of the tax cuts, as they will have permanent effects on education funding
- Voucher bill defeated
- Hope Scholarship Bill defeated—seemed to have very little support
- Good water bills, especially to help GSL
- Funded all-day kindergarten at highest levels ever, but more still needed

Chair Don Emerson mentioned that it seemed like the state removed some local authority and brought it to the state level:

- Mask mandates
- Restricted local health officials' abilities to respond to health emergencies such as Covid
- Restricted ability of SL County officials to regulate guns shows
- Restricted ability of some counties to regulate ATVs

Rep King responded that “We love local control until we want to control the locals.” This session also established the ability of legislature for health care rationing

A lot of punishing of SL County and SL City

He was asked if there's any info about possibly filling pay gaps, especially with all of the teachers leaving education? —We don't do enough to support teachers and fund education. This is going to be a problem as long as the super majority continues in the legislature. Dilution of education funding has been done in many ways, including tax increases. Legislature says they will continue to fund at lowest level to maintain "average performance."

Steve Osborn asked if there is anything more we can do to protect our agricultural land? There are good private and public partnerships that work to target and preserve areas; takes creativity. Utah Realtors Assoc is largest state PAC.

Don Emerson thanked both Sen Iwamoto and Rep King: Thanks for your reports and your service!!

Wade Rockwood from Salt Lake City Fire Department added the following information to the Zoom chat:

The Fire Department is hiring! Please go to WWW.SLC.GOV/FIRE/CAREERS for more information. Deadline to apply is March 31st.

Daylight Savings was March 13th. We always like to remind homeowners to change their batteries in their smoke and CO detectors this time of year.

SLC Fire has run 5,210 calls through February. Mask mandates have let up a bit, so you will likely see FD members out and about without masks. If you need to call 911 and have FD members in your home, and would prefer us in masks, please just ask - we still have them. Sorry I didn't make the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Office of the Mayor, Jamie Stokes, District 6 liaison

Contact info: jamie.stokes@slcgov.com; 385-707-7062

Covid-19—currently low transmission in SL County; only 27% of Utah residents are currently up-to-date on vaccines—this includes boosters! Please get yours!

Homelessness—resource fairs are continuing; they bring and coordinate resources to people camping on streets. These fairs are held monthly. Victory Road and Jordan River are areas of greatest concern. Resource providers visit regularly. 4th Street Clinic also visits.

Ultimate goal is housing; shelters are quite full at the moment, looking for more permanent resources.

Old Raging Waters waterpark in Glendale is surveying residents regarding use of that area. City is asking for input. Please see the Glendale Water Park Survey:

https://designworkshop.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8p1VmxW98fYBJSC

District 6 Councilmember Dan Dugan

Contact info: dan.dugan@slcgov.com, 801-535-7784 (office)

Vili Lolohea: vili.lolohea@slcgov.com, 801-535-7600

<https://www.facebook.com/DanDuganSLC>

<https://www.slc.gov/district6/>

Councilmember Dan Dugan gave a brief hello and thanks to Anne for working on redistricting HRC—current ban on new HRCs, old ones continuing. Need new ordinances. HRCs are currently restricted to a small slice of the city.

Budget season coming.

Mayor just signed a new agreement with Outdoor Retailers Assoc—they are coming back.

Free fare February went well; will keep pushing for more free fares throughout city.

Salt Lake City Police Dept, Detective Samuel Fallows

Contact info: samuel.fallows@slcgov.com, 385-261-3368

Detective Fallows is the new community liaison officer for Districts 5, 6, and 7.

2 car prowls, 3 thefts, suspicious activity—possible package theft; try to get packages off the porch as quickly as possible

Wasatch Hollow area is doing a great job.

Likes to get reports even if suspects can't be identified—they can help secure resources.

SLCPD Online Stats <http://www.slcpd.com/open-data/crimestatistics/>

SLCPD Bicycle Registration - <http://www.slcpd.com/bike-registration/>

Car Prowl with minimal losses--or even just rummaged through vehicle--report online at

<http://www.slcpd.com/resources/online-report/>

When/Where/What was taken

Any speeding issues:

<http://www.slcpd.com/community-engagement/speedwatchslc/>

Tyler Murdock, SLC Parks & Public Lands

Lots of park issues cropping up, including possible new entrances, dog issues, water issues

WHPark has a place in his heart, more involved with planning issues and public lands. Exciting to think about developing the Glendale, which will be such a big amenity on the west side.

WH Access Improvements

2011-12: management use plan identified need for more access to preserve; north and east side locations (particularly Emerson and Kensington and Rose Crest)

Working on design for improvements at all three locations

SLCdocs.com/parks/WasatchHollowAccess70Plans.pdf

Kensington—easiest entrance to improve but this is fire access, which presents some concerns
Emerson—most challenging; have abandoned idea of staircase (cost prohibitive); just improving sidewalk access and overlook; also looking at soft-surface trail, which is also challenging but is being examined.

Rose Crest—would implement a staircase and 70-foot pedestrian bridge; most expensive but potentially also the most necessary, as it would hopefully prevent private property trespass issues

Budget is an issue due to inflation; hope to go out to bid in late fall with construction to follow

How to address dog issues? This is a problem in all city parks. Looking at more signage, more enforcement, and new park rangers

Don Emerson—time for a conversation about whether the dog usage in park is working
There are four designated time-limited off leash areas in the city; Wasatch Hollow seems the most popular.

Community Council (CC) needs to make a recommendation to public lands:
Adding fencing to the Park would move it to a full-time off-leash park; CC has to request this.
Time limits are not being adhered to at all right now.
Leave as-is and increase enforcement and education—probably not a solution that will work

Barbara Ballingham—signage doesn't do anything; Right now the park is only mud. We need a fence!

Steve Osborn—Always just dogs in the park; people on Browning Circle concerned about people coming onto their private property—has this been a problem?

Karen McCreary—need to have a broader conversation; concerned that it has become only a dog park.
The area has totally changed. Can't the rules be enforced?

Derek Higginbottom—has really appreciated the off-leash opportunities, sees it as a value-added addition to the community; it brings people together.

Eric Wynn—how will this process work?

Tyler—use is determined by ordinance—community council to public lands to mayor

Bianca Shepard—her children have been bitten by dogs in the park, children can no longer play freely at the park or picnic there. It's a big concern and status quo is not working

Don Emerson would like to form a working group to discuss this issue; who would like to participate?

Please contact him if interested: donaldjemerson@yahoo.com

Anne asked Tyler who will be working on the access project? It will be assigned to a new planner. Dog issue is operational issue, so will bring in deputy director. Link to the project page for the access improvements: <https://www.slc.gov/parks/wasatch-hollow-access-and-amenity-improvements/>

See below for Zoom chat comments regarding dog issues in Wasatch Hollow Park.

Adjourned 8:43pm

Minutes prepared by Glenda Cotter and submitted 4/24/22

Zoom Chats regarding dog issues in Wasatch Hollow Park:

From Bianca Shepard to Everyone 08:08 PM

yes, it's terrible how bad dog owners have impacted the park

From Laurel Penman to Everyone 08:18 PM

Anything in regards to dog usage at the park?

From Bianca Shepard to Everyone 08:18 PM

it already is a dog park

From Susan Dillon to Everyone 08:19 PM

Dogs are in the Northern end of the park off leash ALL the time.

From Bianca Shepard to Everyone 08:19 PM

we didn't have this issue before it was a dog park

we used to enjoy family picnics and play soccer, now there are dogs coming up on our food and poop everywhere

my kids used to think it was heaven

From Susan Dillon to Everyone 08:22 PM

Tyler - will the northern end of the park have 'closed hours'? Miller Park/Preserve does, I believe?

From Katie Flanagan to Everyone 08:22 PM

There are a lot of parks in the area and very few off leash dog parks. Having an off leash dog park in my neighborhood increases the quality of life of many families including mine

From Susan Dillon to Everyone 08:24 PM

I agree with Katie on this. Having off leash options for dogs in park areas and in hiking areas is important to many families.

From Beth Thomas-Rosswog to Everyone 08:25 PM

dog use.

No movie nights with the grass

From Tyler Murdock to Everyone 08:25 PM

The Northern end of Wasatch Hollow would have the same closed hours as the rest of the park.

From Ian Arnold to Everyone 08:26 PM

I am new to the neighborhood, so I have never been to the particular park in question, but I will say that as a hiker, there are many de jure on-leash trail areas in the city that are de facto off-leash, 24/7.

Leash law violations are so rampant on trails throughout the city that I actually think issuing citations en masse might be an opportunity for a revenue windfall for the city, lol.

From Ian Arnold to Everyone 08:26 PM

I am new to the neighborhood, so I have never been to the particular park in question, but I will say that as a hiker, there are many de jure on-leash trail areas in the city that are de facto off-leash, 24/7.

From Beth Thomas-Rosswog to Everyone 08:29 PM

Maybe providing fencing in a portion of the park for dogs and leaving the other portion non-dog is the best of both worlds?

From Bianca Shepard to Everyone 08:30 PM

"dogs are invading the park and it's starting to smell really bad. dogs are going into the nature preserve. dog owners are not picking up their poop." my 9 yr old daughter

From Katie Flanagan to Everyone 08:30 PM

It would be great if the park could be marked off at different times of the year to allow the grass to re-grow because I agree the park has turned to mud over the years

From Beth Thomas-Rosswog to Everyone 08:29 PM

Maybe providing fencing in a portion of the park for dogs and leaving the other portion non-dog is the best of both worlds?

From Madeline Scheintaub to Everyone 08:35 PM

My biggest concern is the dogs in the preserve part.

From Joyce Marder to Everyone 08:36 PM

I agree that dogs should be kept out of the preserve.

From Steve Osborn to Everyone 08:37 PM

Parts of Sunnyside Park west of the pavilion, or north of the baseball diamonds don't seem to get a lot of use. They might be usable as off-leash dog parks to take some of the pressure off of Wasatch Hollow Park. - Steve Osborn 801-856-9128 (cell)

From Beth Thomas-Rosswog to Everyone 08:39 PM

Agreed, Bianca.

From DONALD EMERSON to Everyone 08:40 PM

donaldjemerson@yahoo.com

From Katie Flanagan to Everyone 08:40 PM

fencing off the park is only going to reduce the footprint of the overall usable space and is likely going to encourage less well behaved dogs

From Barbara Ballingham to Everyone 08:41 PM

Love to join the dog committee. Contact bhballingham@comcast.net