



Wasatch Hollow Community Council

Interview Summary and Index

Interviewee: Ivana and Darl Thomas

Interviewer: David E. Harris

Date: November 13, 2015

Location: Salt Lake City, UT

Summary	
<p>Darl and Ivana became involved in the formation of Wasatch Hollow park from 1987-90 shortly after moving into the neighborhood. They recall the unkempt condition of the area and the genesis of the movement to create the park. They note the donation of property and other support given by the Wasatch Presbyterian Church. The work of the design committee is recounted in considering the nature of the park and the concerns of residents. They comment on origin of the “Wasatch Hollow” name, the scope of the park proposal, and the activities of supporters to increase public interest and raise funds for the park.</p>	
<p>Darl and Ivana draw a distinction between the purposes of the Wasatch Hollow Community Association, which was formed to establish the park, and the Wasatch Hollow Community Council, which split off from the Sugar House Community Council and is concerned with community affairs.</p>	
<p>The interview closes with Darl noting that a metal sculpture that he created to celebrate formation of the park was selected for placement in it.</p>	

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Time	Brief description
00:00:00	Introduction. Will talk about Wasatch Hollow Park and Wasatch Hollow Park Association. Moved into neighborhood in June 1985. Park formation came up in 1987-90.
00:01:32	Pre-park condition. Recall a field, a grass fire, and abandoned property overgrown with weeds and a lot of junk.
00:02:17	Genesis. Park idea started with by Peggy Scott and neighbors on the east side of the Gully. Ian [Andrews].
00:03:53	[Wasatch] Presbyterian Church role. Deeded property to the city. Wanted place for outdoor meetings.



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00:05:25	Flood control issue. Flood control was a problem. Flooding in 1980s heightened public's concern. Anne Cannon.
00:07:06	Design. Design committee considered multiple options. Talked to officials about land restoration and flood control and to architects. Citizen concerns included noise, lights, attractive nuisance, positive use, property owners on 1600 East.
00:10:21	Fundraising. Attended county budget hearings. Believed if citizens raised funds, county would take their request more seriously. Fund raising activities.
00:12:40	Park name. Peggy Scott had "Wasatch Hollow" in mind. Logo designed by a graphic artist. (See Image 1)
00:13:21	Creating neighborhood awareness. Canvassed neighborhood with flyers to invite citizens to meetings. John McCormick, an historian and local resident, made a slide presentation showing development of the neighborhood for fund raising events. Places posters and flyers in [Shear Excellence] beauty salon, King's English, and Smokey's Records at 15 th and 15 th . [Lisa Monson]
00:17:23	Park name. Agreed to quit calling it "The Gully."
00:19:20	The Association . The Association was established to form the park not for community affairs
00:20:10	Wasatch Hollow Community Council. Sugar House Community Council included Wasatch Hollow area. Ivana served on its board as a representative for Wasatch Hollow. Wasatch Hollow Community Council emerged later. City districts larger than community councils. Jill Remington Love. Charlie Luke.
00:24:17	Gully bridge. Talked about a bridge for a long time. Will connect 1700 East north of the Presbyterian church to the [west] side of the park.
00:26:51	Cleanup days. Organized neighbors to bring tools and clean up the park area.
00:27:00	Concerns. Lighting. Safety along the creek. Police and official planners said more access would improve safety.
00:29:43	Private property at Kensington. Was not considered to be part of the park. Developer's plan to build townhouses triggered community opposition and interest in creating a nature preserve.
00:34:15	Wasatch Hollow Preserve. LDS Church, SLC City, county collaborate to keep it a preserve.
00:35:42	Safety concerns. Safety concerns at the time of park formation led to talk about northern entrances.
00:39:19	Property owner concerns. Creek front property owners objected to public



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	trails.
00:42:20	Downstream. Opening the stream below 1500 East was a concern of Sugar House Community Council not the Wasatch Hollow Park Association.
00:44:50	Fundraising. About \$30,000 was raised by citizens.
00:46:30	Artwork for the park. Darl's metal sculpture was selected without SLC Arts Council knowing his role in the park's formation (see images 2-4).
00:48:29	End time