

Wasatch Hollow Community Council

<https://wasatchhollowcc.org/>

Minutes for the meeting of March 26, 2025

Anderson-Foothill Library, 1135 So 2100 E, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Board members present: John Rosswog, Chair and Treasurer; Marley Bramble, 2nd Vice-Chair; Tim Komlos, Secretary

Number of community members in attendance: Sixteen

6:35 Chairperson John Rosswog called the meeting to order and made these announcements:

- Minutes of October 25 WHCC meeting approved unanimously.
- A developer in Millcreek has submitted plans to develop the old Sizzler lot at 2100 South and 1300 East
- Request a new tree planting on your parkway from SLC Urban Forestry at: <https://www.slc.gov/urban-forestry/>
- Get current announcements about your Community on the WHCC Facebook page.

6:40 Presentation by Detective Sam Fallows, SLC Police Department Liaison for Wasatch Hollow and other council districts

- In 2024 crime in WH was down overall by 20%. Current focus is on violent offences, which are also down.
- So far, 2025 reported crimes are way down as well. This could indicate an under-reporting problem. Report all crimes, even if it is too late for the police department to react, such as a theft or vandalism that occurred the night before. This will fortify the statistics and identify trends, which will help steer more resources to confront the problem or the area. Don't just post it on NextDoor.com, which the police department doesn't monitor. To report a crime in Salt Lake:
 - In an EMERGENCY call 911
 - For non-emergencies, call (801) 799-3000 or you can also file a non-emergency police report at police.slc.gov
- Report suspicious activity or a crime taking place right now by calling 911
- Lock the doors, and don't leave valuables or keys (!) in your car at night to avoid car prowling theft
- Leave lights on at night and keep doors locked on the home and garage to deter violations against your property
- Register your bike with the police department to track it if it gets stolen and expedite its return at police.slc.gov

6:50 Presentation by Captain Doyle of the SLC Fire Department

- With this changeable springtime weather, continue to keep your walks clear of snow and ice
- Beware of flooding in creeks. Keep kids and dogs away from moving water. Banks can erode and collapse. Don't drive through a flooded area. Pay attention to official alerts and evacuation orders: "Flood Watch" means conditions for flooding exist. "Flood Warning" means a flood has occurred, or its occurrence is imminent.
- Prepare for stormy weather by securing loose items like lawn furniture, toys, an umbrella or a trampoline. Secure containers of liquids like gasoline, paint or deck stain inside so they don't get blown over and spill.
- Spring forward, and check your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarm batteries. Replace old alarms.
 - Most alarms should be replaced after 8 years. If the plastic is yellowed, it's too old. Look at the label on the back or the manufacturer's instructions. New alarms are available with a 10-year lifetime and 10-year lifelong battery.
 - These alarms are considered hazardous waste, so dispose of them properly. Take them to the Salt Lake County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 6030 W California Ave (1300 So) or the Trans-Jordan Landfill at 10473 So Bacchus Hwy (U-111), South Jordan, UT. Watch for hazardous waste collection events in your area.
- Protect your home and equipment from runaway lithium-ion battery fires. Purchase only name-brand batteries. Remove them from the charger when full. Read these tips from the National Fire Protection Association:
<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/home-fire-safety/lithium-ion-batteries>

7:05 Presentation on SLC's Neighborhood Byways from Kyle Irwin, SLC Transportation Planner

- The Neighborhood Byway project is designed to keep pedestrians and bikes away from traffic and off the main thoroughfares. The routes have been selected to use streets with the least amount of traffic.
- See examples of safety devices to protect pedestrians, and find more info on the neighborhood byways at: <https://www.slc.gov/transportation/neighborhood-byways/> Click the "Westminster to Sunnyside" link, drop a pin on the interactive map to leave a comment or suggestion, or comment by email at byways@slc.gov
- There is no current plan to improve the northbound bike crossing at the Sugarhouse Park exit on 1500 East.

7:25 Report from District 6 Community Liaison, Hannah Barton

- Salt Lake has a new Police Chief, Brian Redd, and we have a new Public Lands Director, Kim Shelley.
- Mayor Mendenhall's post-legislation wrap-up on March 21 is on YouTube, and you can watch it at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vv_Z-eurVcY
- Learn about events like Cloud Gazing Club meetings, wildflower walks, or clean-up and stewardship sessions for your favorite park in town on the SLC Public Lands Calendar at: <https://www.slc.gov/parks/calendar/> .
- Welcome Spring at the Living Traditions Festival May 16-18. Volunteer opportunities too! Get all of the Festival lowdown at: livingtraditionsfestival.com
- General Operating Grants are available to support SLC based arts nonprofit organizations. Meet with Salt Lake Arts staff to determine your program's eligibility. Start the process at: saltlakearts.org/grants
- The Mayor's Community Office Hours this month will be on April 14 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Westminster University Shaw Student Center, 1770 South 1200 East.
- If you have questions about these items or what else goes on in the City, ask Hannah at Hannah.Barton@slc.gov

7:30 Wasatch Hollow Community Council Board Elections

- Last month two positions were left unfilled due to lack of willing candidates. Tonight we filled one of them.
 - Nia Sherar was nominated as 1st Vice-Chair office and voted into office by acclaim
 - No one was willing or available for the Treasurer office, so it remains open
- We'll continue to look for a nominee for the remaining Treasurer spot and vote on them at the next WHCC meeting. If YOU would like to join the WHCC Board, please send us a note: whccadmin@wasatchhollowcc.org

7:35 Presentation by Representative Hoang Nguyen with her 2025 Legislative Session debriefing

- About 1,000 bills were introduced in this legislative session, and 581 of them passed
- With 104 legislators, only 20 of them are Democrats, so much of Representative Nguyen's work was helping to push back on egregious legislation introduced by the state's supermajority, such as:
 - H.B. 300 that restricts mail-in voting and summarized in this SL Tribune article: <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2025/03/26/utah-gov-cox-signs-bill-end/>
 - H.B. 265 cuts funds from Utah's colleges and universities by 10%, which can be restored if the institutions can demonstrate to the State the monetary value of the curricula and a good ROI. Details are summarized in this SL Tribune article: <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2025/03/26/utah-gov-cox-signs-bill-end/>
 - H.B. 77 imposes a fine for public buildings or employees that fly any flag that is not on the short and specific list as discussed in the United Press International article here: https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2025/03/29/utah-pride-flag-state-ban-schools-government-buildings/8041743275531/
 - S.B. 195, which restricts the City from developing further traffic calming or pedestrian safety lanes on certain streets. The bill and its many revisions are discussed in this KSL article: <https://www.ksl.com/article/51268363/utah-legislature-passes-transportation-bill-salt-lake-ok-with-narrow-scope-of-study/>
 - H.B. 512 would form a legislative panel to review performance and qualifications of candidates for State judgeships. H.B. 451 would increase the threshold for a judge's election from a 50% majority to 67%. Thanks to a letter from Utah Supreme Court Chief Justice Durrant, these bills and a third one were withdrawn, but will be reworked for future debate. These bills are discussed in this Deseret News article: <https://www.deseret.com/utah/2025/03/04/legislature-backs-off-controversial-bills-after-thoughtful-conversations-with-judges/>
 - S.B. 37 would have taken the portion of revenue that schools earn through local tax levies and deposit it into Utah's general fund. It passed legislation, but Gov. Cox vetoed it. The Standard-Examiner discusses the subject in detail here: <https://www.standard.net/news/2025/mar/25/utah-gov-cox-vetoes-bill-to-reroute-property-tax-revenue-for-schools-into-state-general-fund/>
 - S.B. 197 would have frozen property tax increases for seniors, and defer it until the property is sold or inherited, but Gov. Cox vetoed it. The bill is summarized in this SL Tribune article: <https://www.sltrib.com/news/2025/03/21/property-tax-relief-changes-sb197/>
 - Visit Representative Nguyen's website to see her news and issues here: <https://www.hoangforhouse.com/>
 - Hoang Nguyen advocates fairness in governance and recommends visiting Alliance for a Better Utah's website here: <https://www.hoangforhouse.com/> and Better Boundaries website here: <https://betterboundaries.org/>

7:55 Meeting adjourned