

# Wasatch Hollow Community Council

<https://wasatchhollowcc.org>

Minutes for the meeting of January 28, 2026

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

Board members present: John Rosswog, Chair; Marley Bramble, 2nd Vice-Chair; Tomi Ossana, Treasurer; Tim Komlos, Secretary - 21 community members in attendance

6:30 Chairperson John Rosswog called the meeting to order

- Minutes from October meeting approved unanimously.
- Community Impact Program grant application for the WH Park is moving forward.
- Salt Lake City Council District 6 Representative Dan Dugan will hold his quarterly open house at the Anderson-Foothill Library on Thursday, March 26 at 6:00 PM.
- WHCC officer elections will be held at our next meeting on Wednesday, February 25.

7:35 Report from District 6 Community Liaison, Hannah Barton [hannah.barton@slc.gov](mailto:hannah.barton@slc.gov)

- Mayor Mendenhall gave her State of the City address on January 27th. Items she covered include:
  - Public safety, as highlighted in the 27-point action plan SLC created last year. “High users”, or those who have frequent interactions with both police officers and homeless services, were identified. Project Connect works to develop personal solutions for each of the top 50 high users because these individuals can be tricky to provide services for as they each have unique circumstances compared to other populations.
  - The City is developing plans to add trees and greenery at the Civic Center around Library Square and Washington Square to make the spaces more comfortable and enjoyable, particularly during the many summertime events.
  - Housing affordability will be addressed using deed restrictions to make sure that the investments that the City's making in affordable housing stays affordable housing through successive owners.
  - See a video of the mayor's speech at: <https://link.slc.gov/SOTC>
- The city has numerous volunteer opportunities such as planting trees and the Love Your Block program. They seek your feedback on City-led volunteer projects and opportunities in a survey you can find here: <https://link.slc.gov/VolunteerSurvey>
- Though it hasn't snowed all year, we are reminded when it does, keep your walks clear.
- Join Salt Lake's Olympics Watch Party with the opening ceremony on February 6 at the Civic Center, in front of the old Leonardo/Library building. Festivities begin at 4:00 PM, the ceremony itself will be on screen from 7:00 PM, and the Games will be shown until Men's Hockey finals on the 22nd. Many details at: [The Watch Party | SLC.gov](#)

6:50 Presentation by Travis Van Ry, Salt Lake County Flood Control & Engineering Services

- To avoid a repeat of the Flood of 2023, which caused an increase in the flood-hazard rating from low to moderate, SL County and SLC will collaborate to supplement the existing creek drainpipe with a second pipe that will be used to mitigate flood risk during peak runoff periods.
- The existing submerged grate at the pond bottom will be removed and upsized. For access, the trail segment there will be removed and then rebuilt, and some sidewalk, curb & gutter, and trees along 1700 South will be removed and then replaced “as is”.
- This major project is expected to occur this year in late fall and winter when water flow is lowest. Due to the heavy equipment and staging needs, the parking lot will be closed. Also, part of the path between the park entrance from 1700 East and the off-leash dog area, as well as a portion of the park will be fenced off and closed.
- For more information on Wasatch Hollow Park drainage improvements view the [flyer](#) that was provided during the presentation.
- Contact Info: ph: 385.468.6635 [tvantry@saltlakecounty.gov](mailto:tvantry@saltlakecounty.gov)

7:10 Presentation by Natalie Pinkney, At-Large member of the SL County Council [NPinkney@saltlakecounty.gov](mailto:NPinkney@saltlakecounty.gov)

- Presenting to give us information on what the County does and their programs and interests.
- Like SLC, SL County has a strong interest in public safety and breaking the cycle of homelessness and recidivism into the justice and penal system. Representatives from SL County visited Miami and Dade County, where they have been able to reduce recidivism by 75% and homelessness by 80% through creative solutions to the manifold causes. Among the tools they use are Homeless Trust Fund for long term support and expansion of deeply affordable housing and supportive housing. A PBS documentary called “The Definition of Insanity” was filmed there. SL County is ready to implement some of the successful practices seen in the video to improve on the lives of Utahns experiencing homelessness and those trying to regulate them. You can gain insight into these problems and opportunities to solving them by watching it on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/mAcymDSquqw?si=a1nXxEWcb12EahIT>
- Statistics driving the program:
  - ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) are linked to later incarceration.
  - Systems can be used to predict future jail bed needs by analyzing a population's 3rd grade reading scores.
  - Early childhood trauma, such as sexual assault or witnessing crime, before age 10 dramatically increases the odds of incarceration.
  - A high percentage of incarcerated women have trauma and mental health issues.
  - About 75% of property taxes go to public safety and the costs of incarceration. SL County will adopt evidence-based diversion and case management, modeled in part on Miami's results.
  - The County will use risk/needs assessment tools to tailor supervision and services. They'll connect arrested individuals to case managers, treatment, and appropriate housing, while still detaining those who genuinely need to be in jail. Realizing less recidivism, lower long-term costs, and better outcomes are the goals.
- County-sponsored childcare has been extended to this May, and there's no word on whether it will be available beyond that. Mainly, the Republicans on the Council believe it's not the County's job to provide childcare. Democrats, who favor such assistance are exploring partnerships with cities, nonprofits, and potential private donors. Meanwhile, County staff are working individually to connect families with alternate providers.
- Remodeling construction on the Timpview Senior Center continues with full funding.
- The Homeless Care Campus beyond the airport has been cancelled. The search for a good solution to the problem of homelessness, such as Miami's Homeless Trust Fund continues.
- The County completed the 2025 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, a compilation of master plans for areas from canyon trails in the Oquirrh Mountains to Emigration, Millcreek and the Cottonwood Canyons and a half-dozen places in between. See it here: [Master Plans - Parks & Recreation | Salt Lake County](#)

7:35 Presentation by Detective Gordon Swift of the Salt Lake Police Department

- A community member alerted Council Member Pinkney and Detective. Swift to the problem of vehicle break-ins at trailheads like across from Hogel Zoo. She witnessed a car with dark-tinted windows that was idling at the parking lot, presumably waiting for hikers to leave their car.
  - They suggested taking photos and forwarding them to the police. Also, if you witness illegal or suspicious activity, notify the police.
- Contact the Salt Lake Police:
  - Emergency: Call 911
  - Immediate, non-emergency response: Call 801.799.3000
  - Request services, report issues or share comments: use the app or visit <https://www.slc.gov/myslc>
  - Reach Detective Swift at [gordon.swift@slc.gov](mailto:gordon.swift@slc.gov) or leave a message at 385.414.3483

7:40 Meeting adjourned. The next meeting and WHCC officer elections will be held on Wednesday, February 25th.