

## **Capitol Hill Community Council Meeting**

16 October 2013, 6:30 PM

Utah State Capitol Building, Copper Room

A quorum was present.

Welcome by Richard Starley at 6:30 PM

Council made brief introductions

John Boyack passed out copies of last month's meeting minutes.

Starley asked if Boyack could add changing of CHNC name to minutes adding the efforts to file as DBA CHCC. Boyack agreed. Later, Eric Jergensen requested changing the application deadline for new board members to 10/16/2013. Boyack agreed to make changes.

*Motion* to approve minutes pending corrections, Shirley McLaughlan. Minta Brandon, seconded. No nay votes or abstentions. September minutes approved pending corrections.

Victoria Collard presented CHCC financial statement asking for questions or comments.

*Motion* to accept financial statement, Andrew Prior. Vince Kerzman seconded. No nays or abstentions.

Starley presented Yellow Dot Health Pamphlet for medical conditions in case of emergency. Free and from the Safety Council.

SLC distributing leaf bins for excess collection for the season. Starley distributed flyer with info.

Starley called for more information or announcements.

Starley presented latest issue of *The Bulletin*.

### **Fire Department**

Eric Meyers presenting. Introductions. Adam Archuleta, Driver, and Brody Burg – new firefighter joining Station 2. No numbers to report, busiest Station in City/State. Key events: celebrated 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Next month, Awards and Recognition Committee for firefighters and citizens alike at Marriott on 100 South. Station 2 crew on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue fire at four alarms. Ruled accidental. Call at 3:00 AM, contained within a couple of hours. Heavy rescue at rock quarry for young Veteran at 3:00 AM. Able to assist. Call for questions.

Don Butterfield – are you part of the xeriscape plan?

Captain Meyers – it's a pilot but all stations are heading that way to save money and protect the environment.

### **Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck**

Finished interim session. RE: shutdown; passed funding for retirement and health benefits to cover for Fed. Allowing state Board of Education to use liquor revenues for school lunches. National Parks funding – Gov. provided reserves for 10 days, but passed to fund through December 1<sup>st</sup>. Chavez-Houck expressed reservation about “picking and choosing” between businesses, printers, farmers, mortgage and sm. business loans, folks receiving

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services, etc. However, National Park remediation passed. To look at evaluating future challenges because of this. Meeting in mid-November before prep for next session. Call for questions.

WIC Program to finance infant formula?

Situated until 31 October. Beyond that, may have to look for other funding sources, e.g. Rainy Day Fund, et al.

Any contingency for long-term?

Part of my concern, but no planning yet. Will cross that bridge when we get to it.

### **SLC City Council District 3 Candidate Debate**

Vince Kerzman mediated. Five minutes for candidates to introduce themselves. CHCC will present two questions, then open it up to the floor.

**Sherm Clow, Intro:** Happy with City. It's progressive, but not everything is benefiting its Citizens. Work history, UTA, State...career in public service. Retired. Heightened awareness of City decisions – aggravated by parking meters' new hours and money spent during recession; "most people agree with me. We're not like other Cities in this (parking) regard." Issues with Performing Arts Center and money spent. UTA presenting problems with connectivity. Less bus service in Avenues. We need stronger infrastructure, hope to work with UTA on this with shuttles and night-time service. [www.clowforcouncil.com](http://www.clowforcouncil.com) – website. Supplemental street-light issue, plus bathrooms at parks. Leave him comments online or contact him directly.

**Stan Penfold, intro:** current Rep for District 3...have enjoyed opp to represent CH neighborhood. SLCC has done well during financial crisis, all things considered. Kept economy going, unemployment better than most, housing was a slight decline, but not great. Looking forward to another four years serving. Director of UT AIDS Foundation, been there since 1999, unique look into City functions plus insight on grass-roots organization. Knows how to leverage limited resources. Works well with the community and brings this to the Council. Lives in the Avenues. Loves the diversity, excited about the opportunities to revitalize in CH neighborhoods.

**Kerzman, Question 1:** Most important issues facing Capitol Hill in the next four years?

**Sherm Clow:** as new guy, here to be present and listen. Gathered much input just visiting meetings, but needs to hear from Council. Standard issues, air quality, safety, crime. In Aug. meeting, the Wasatch Springs Plunge was important to CHCC. On Historic Register, but nothing being done to improve it at City level.

**Stan Penfold:** two areas of focus: traffic. Traffic is going to grow without much slowdown unless we make changes. City has difficulty managing State roads, working with UDOT on that. Two, new s happening on West side, also near Library plot. New interest in the area now. Wants to support high-quality info at City-level to help move improvements forward.

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### **Kerzman, Question 2: Commitments to CHCC?**

**Sherm Clow:** Hoping to be at CHCC meetings. Hoping to be available because he has the time. Hope to use modern media for polls, etc. Concerned about lack of voting on Performing Arts Center, et al. with City residents.

**Stan Penfold:** two things: Made a commitment to median improvements on 300 West. Committed to that project because of volume of traffic and pedestrian traffic there. Committed to seeing that through via RDA and as Chair. Two: work on East Capitol, particularly Memory Grove improvements (sidewalk, etc.). Hope to pursue interest to improve safety, pedestrian experience, landscaping...

Kerzman, opens debate to floor.

**Question:** from council member about conflicts with landlords out-of-state, landlords without community's best interests at heart.

**Clow:** common problem in City. Issues with monster homes, landlords renting to drug abusers. City's doing okay, but need to do more to maintain historic nature of neighborhoods. Wants to look at preserving affordable housing also.

**Penfold:** it's a challenge because more people want to be here. Prices are increasing, but it's a fine balance to maintain diversity and feel of neighborhoods with increased value. Apartments are converting to condos, losing students as a result. Capitol Hill Master Plan needs to be re-visited to determine plans for City. Lots of in-fill opportunities here. Encouraging people to "age in the neighborhood" as well. Looking also at taking action to problems but need to do more; incentivize good landlords and cite or somehow discourage poor/bad landlords.

**Question:** about circulating bus around the City? Where is that plan now?

**Penfold:** Challenge is the City doesn't operate UTA. UTA's done incredible work expanding rail but did so at the expense of bus service which is presenting significant challenges. The City has had positive meetings with UTA to improve service, and is debating whether or not the City can provide some transportation services to move people around the City which is spawning new discussions to improve service.

**Clow:** problem is UTA loses money if City provides services. Since light-rail's established, UTA can focus on bus service. New rate plan for residents is good, but ultimately, need to ask State to increase taxes or fees to help subsidize UTA expansions. Need to look at the longer scope to help improve air quality, etc.

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**Question:** City Council passed tax increase, how would you respond to significant new tax increases?

**Clow:** we all want services and more City services and the cost of those are great. Periodic tax increases are inevitable, and its more honest than short-term taxes or fees. With growth, we need to find revenue sources. I support audits for proper use of funds.

**Penfold:** I didn't support tax increase because we had it backwards. We needed to go out and talk to people and gather more input. 1300 South is in horrible shape, 1700 too, and we needed to fix those but in the neighborhoods, it's hard to know what's important. We need more input. Firefighters and Police salaries need to be revisited. Need to discuss priorities. People say the Forest and Parks are important, people are concerned about curb and gutter. Sidewalks need improvements, and discussing real needs before increases is very important to me. May see more gas tax returned to the city, internet sales to bring in new tax funds.

**Question:** to Clow – where would you like to see funds for PAC go? Have you worked with City Council before re: your concerns?

**Clow:** I'm more concerned about current infrastructure and maintenance. Tennis courts, and bathrooms and parks (11<sup>th</sup> Ave). Want to focus on bringing current services, parks up to code before exploring other, new options. City has spent too much on Arts Complexes recently and now's not the time to spend more. Running to work with City Council. Since retirement, has met with many people and it's important to me. Hoping to bring fresh ideas and views.

**Final Question:** to Penfold – how do your peers describe you?

One of my proudest achievements is communicating with peers and finding middle ground and working the best deal for the most people. Happy that the Council isn't partisan, Council is very healthy, very considerate of others. I have really enjoyed that aspect of the Council. Surprises are how often we vote as a bloc, and unanimously.

Eric Jergensen then asked about diversity and maintenance; how do you maintain the master plan?

**Clow:** Don't know how much planning you can actually do, but enough people don't see the plans. Worried about online communities versus neighborhood communities. Happy about new restaurants in neighborhoods, hope to see more community interaction. Increasing immigrant community, but difficult to move into expensive places like the avenues. It's good to add to our diversity but the cost of living may be too high.

**Penfold:** Planning process identifies what we have and what we want. What will happen naturally, and what can the City do to help things that don't happen naturally. As housing improves, values increase, discouraging younger owners, low-income owners in certain areas of town. There to ask if there are ways to help at the City level, and how.

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### **Police Report, Detective Goodman**

Introduced Detective Scott who's assuming District 3 responsibility. Presented crime stats. Conducted downtown operation with 36 felony arrests, including 9 illegal immigrants. We have take-back program, 9 AM – Noon at new Public Safety building, 26 OCT, to return unused prescription drugs. Also, bin available for drop-off at any time during business hours at Public Safety Building. Distributed safety tips pamphlet for trick-or-treating. Asked for questions.

Why the change? Where are you going?

Taking over for all community council reporting.

### **Mayor's Office, Joyce Valdez**

One announcement: community improvement & outreach grant now available. Encourage CHCC to apply.

### **SLCPD Volunteer Corps, Robert King**

Daytime burglary was the last neighborhood burglary. In last year, most burglaries have been daytime burglaries, taking only about five minutes. Be a nosy neighbor. Look out for each other. I noticed a new building being constructed and there was no open permit so we got it shut down. King happy to report on behalf of neighbors not comfortable reporting problems.

### **Bylaws Committee, Vince Kerzman**

Putting the final touches on bylaws, should be posted within 30 days.

### **UTA Focus Group, Andrew Prior**

Working with Rose Park CC and Fairpark CC. Meeting tomorrow at Downtown City Library, 7 PM. Focus Group has identified a few issues (cutting of bus service, increased connectivity) and open to other ideas. Invitation to join the meeting tomorrow.

### **Traffic Issues, Starley & Kerzman**

Nothing to report. Meeting with UDOT tomorrow about traffic issues.

### **Welcome Committee, Shirley McLaughlan**

Efforts to welcome new members to neighborhood and invite to Council. Call for help and small budget. Contact info for Shirley on website for those interested in joining committee.

### **SLC Neighborhood Development Grants, John Boyack**

City has allowed for small grant monies to be distributed to City orgs. Reviewing grant application guidelines. Hoping to start a committee to look into neighborhood improvement project ideas.

### **2014 Board Nominations, Richard Starley**

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Next month = elections to the Board for 2014 and 2015. Currently holding nine applications. Board will review applications. Openings in each neighborhood but Marmalade. CHCC will elect during November meeting. Must have ID to vote. Every resident present can vote on every position.

### **Council Awards, Vince Kerzman**

Interested in starting neighborhood area contests to build community awareness, and grant awards to best houses, e.g. Best Halloween Decorations, etc. Starley: submissions via photo. Gift of plaque or gift certificate to winners sponsored by CHCC. Recommendation to host voting contests online.

Other business:

**Next CHCC Meeting:** Wednesday, 20 November, 6:30 PM @ Copper Room

**Next Board Meeting:** Monday, 4 November, 6:30 PM, Location TBA

Prior announced NextDoor.com again, and welcomed Council to join and contribute for greater neighborhood communication and connectivity.

*Motion* to adjourn, Robert King. Andrew Prior, seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary John Boyack.