

**Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council
Regular Meeting
Marmalade Library, Multipurpose Room, 6:30 PM
Wednesday, March 15, 2017**

TOPICS IN SUMMARY

Laura Arellano on CHNC news. Approval of February 2017 minutes. SLC Fire Department on changing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and upcoming events. Detective Alen Gibic on crime statistics, Speedwatch, Victory Road trash cleanup, homeless camp cleanup, and SafeCam. Nate Salazar on cleanup of pump station north of Capitol building, changes to the Homeless Resource Center plan, response to questions from the Council about ICE, sanctuary cities and short term rental ordinances. Rebecca Chavez-Houck on conclusion of Legislative session, including rape kit testing, short-term rentals, air quality bills, changes to vehicle emissions testing, seatbelt law, service animals and solar panel tax credits. Laura Arellano update on community issues: pump station and SLC Marathon April 22. Matt Winter, Columbus Street resident, requesting support to turn nearby Jex property into a park – assigned to CHNC Advocacy Committee. Kendall Scot of SLC Land and Open Spaces regarding Purge the Spurge competition April 22, Bio Blitz with NHMU on April 15, and free summer day camps in June for kids 8-12 years old. Council member reminder of need for volunteers to chaperone field trips at Washington Elementary. Lewis Kogan of SLC Land and Open Spaces on Ensign Peak, Salt Lake City Foothills Trail Plan, and the Open Space Program 20 years needs assessment. David Scheer, CHNC Advocacy Committee Chair, on ADUs and CHNC's recommendation for Bishop Place. Upcoming Neighborhood Events and CHNC Meetings.

MINUTES

Welcome & Announcements: Laura Arellano

People with badges are volunteer CHNC Board Members. We meet each month, are starting to use website. Sign-in sheets are used to add you to the CHNC mail list.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Review of February 2017 Minutes

Changes: None

Motion to Approve: Yes

Seconded: Yes

APPROVED

Laura will post minutes to the CHNC website so everyone can see them.

Reports from City, Legislature, Other Guests

Fire Department Update: Introduction by Captain Dave of Station 2. Alex is a new firefighter, will be giving presentation tonight.

Alex asks the Council: With time change on Sunday, who changed batteries on smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors? Importance of changing detectors is reinforced. If detectors go off, get out of house. The fire department is happy to come check things out. Tours of the fire station are available, and you will see the fire department at local events. They were recently at the Cancer Challenge. The best way to contact the fire department regarding tours and events: SLCfire.com website.

Any issues in neighborhood? If you do have questions over the next month, bring them to the next meeting.

Detective Alen Gibic, Community Intelligence

Introduces Detective Peterson, School Officer for Highland High School.

As Community Intelligence Detective, Detective Gibic makes himself available to us. Invites Council to join in events. Council may also reach Detective. Gibic by phone. (contact info available on CHNC website)

Crime Statistics, which can be found on the SLCPD website, slcpd.com

In the last 28 days, 11 motor vehicle thefts, down 4 from previous 28 days.

Compared to some other parts of city, it's pretty good. Use common sense.

Vehicle burglaries, 25 in past 28 days. Down from 57 in previous 28 days.

Criminals most likely moving to other parts of the city. Do not leave valuables in cars.

Residential burglaries: 14, up from 11. There was an incident with a stalker. That case will go away. Please lock your back doors – don't leave expensive things out for everyone to see. Again, use common sense.

Speedwatch: If you observe speeding, you can report it on the SLCPD website. An officer will call you back. The same applies to traffic complaints – go to the website and report it.

Victory Road trash: Will be cleaned up in 2 weeks. City, Street, Open Space and Parks are taking care of it.

Homeless Camps: Health Department is short-staffed, cannot clean up homeless camps. We can organize community cleanups and Det. Gibic will join us.

SafeCam: Anyone with any cameras at all, please document them with SLCPL so if something does happen, the police know where to go for footage.

Q: Does it help to have a dog to prevent burglaries?

A: Yes. If you make yourself a hard target, burglars will move on to another property. Also, CPTED – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Det. Gibic can come to your home and share advice on how to make your home less vulnerable.

Q: Several neighbors are concerned about plight of children of undocumented immigrants. Is there participation with ICE or taking control of kids in schools.

A: No. SLCPD is not a federal agency. Absolutely not going to check immigration status.

Q: Would you do it if approached by a federal agent?

A: No. Federal agency would not approach us.

Q: If you live in HOA, how does SafeCam work?

A: Ask your HOA.

Nate Salazar, Community Liaison, Salt Lake City Mayor's Office

Please sign up for updates from Mayor's Office.

Working with Public Utilities regarding weeds at pump station behind the Capitol building and is working with Salt Lake City Sustainability Department to come in the next few months to talk about their initiatives. Thanks to Lewis Kogan and Detective Gibic for their cooperation with Ensign Peak.

Changes to Homess Resource Centers:

The Mayor (Biskupski) was approached by State leadership, pointing to a funding gap. Also an analysis was done regarding services to families. Midvale center, coupled with the need for resource center coupled with affordable housing initiatives. Mayor decided to not do anything without the Council's consent. Speaker got consent. Now instead of 4 centers, there will be 2. Simpson Ave and 1st south site are gone. Salt Lake County was also asked to site their resource center, led by Mayor McAdams.

Q: Families who are overflow at Road Home, no room at Midvale, where will they go?

A: Mayor's diversion plan: divert families to 700 new housing units, more opportunities for vouchers, decided through DWS that the Midvale center need not exist. Families will be diverted to those other resources.

A: House Bill 441 – gave City & County all money up front to (27 million) for homeless resource centers. There are services across state that already exist and that will integrate into the system.

Q: Wouldn't it be better to concentrate people in one area?

A: In essence, that is the model. In the city there will be 2 centers. There will be more units, but populations in each unit will be smaller. SLC centers will be specific for females and coed (couples). There are 11 subpopulations identified that need services. Moving away from single-entry point system – it is time for a new model, which gives the chance to focus on security and safety, so we don't see same issues in future as we see now. CPTED taken into consideration.

Q: The President (Trump) mentioned withholding funds from "sanctuary cities." Aren't we a sanctuary city?

A: No. SLC is not a sanctuary city. We have made it clear that we are a welcoming city.

Q: So we are not expecting to lose funding?

A: No, because we can't say that we are that kind of city.

Comment from Council: More money available this year for jail bed, housing, etc. When all these spokes work together, we can provide better services. Treatment opportunities will continue to exist, State funding came through. Thanks to Rebecca Chavez-Houck for all her work, making opportunities available.

Nate Salazar: The Short term rental bill didn't affect cities. We were in a holding pattern until this Legislative Session. Salt Lake City will be looking at ordinances, and will make determination at City level regarding that.

Q: Will there be an opportunity for public input regarding the City's ordinances regarding short term rentals.

A: Yes. First we examine where we fall short, but certainly want input from public.

Q: Is there a timeline regarding short term rental ordinances?

A: No timeline.

Q: With programs at shelters, will only qualified homeless get the programs? What has the City put together for the criminal component of the homeless population? How much money will be put aside for the security of these centers?

A: On the programming aspect, legislation passed this week that gave the opportunity to expand jail space. The actual shift in homeless services will not just focus on emergency shelters, but there will be service components within them. When someone walks into center, they do an assessment: what has worked, what hasn't, what does that person need to move forward? At The Road Home, 68% of the clientele stays for 60 days or less. This means there are many folks who do not need emergency shelter. All these things will come online. Diverting focus from emergency shelter to resource centers and having smaller populations will give the opportunity to deal with it in different ways than policing and law enforcement. Salt Lake County has \$52 million for homeless services – the resources are still there, but task is to coordinate in more productive way.

Rebecca Chavez-Houck, State Representative, House District 24

We have a lot of money to spend: \$16.2 billion budget.

Successes this session: Angela Romero headed up testing of rape kits – 1.2 million for that. Making sure the State continues to play its part regarding homeless services – the money put toward centers and services is much different than before – there is money now.

Other issues:

- Air BNB Bill ended up less onerous than original but frustrating to discuss in the Legislature impeding the City's actions.
- Air Quality: Rebecca will send Laura a matrix of the Air Quality bills this year – too many to mention. Wanted to fund replacing air quality monitors – initially money wasn't there, but were able to find funds for monitors.
- Vehicle Inspections: Rebecca received lots of comment about eliminating vehicle inspections. The bill that eliminates vehicle emissions testing passed, with the exception that vehicles ten years and older will still need to test.

Also, peace officers can still pull drivers over for no seatbelts – no sunset on that bill.

- Service Animal use: lots of concerns in the community regarding more and more animals presented as service animals but are not really. Legislation to allow voluntary registration of service animals. People don't want localities doing it by patchwork. Rebecca is working on a larger education program to validate various service training programs.

Q: A legislator threatened to get rid of solar panel tax credits.

A: Jeremy Peterson's Bill. There will be a gradual elimination of those tax credits.

Council Comment: It's a phase-out.

Rebecca Chavez-Houck: Thanks for your support and your emails.

Community and CHNC Committee Updates: Laura Arellano

(On behalf of Stan Penfold) People are concerned with the pump station – as Nate Salazar mentioned, Salt Lake City is on it.

Kira Walchter with the Salt Lake City Marathon will join us later. The marathon will be April 22.

Matt Winter, Resident of Columbus Street:

Regarding a property on Columbus Street, an empty lot with no house on it. The lot is an old wash, owner is David Jex, son of Hermoine Jex. Mr. Jex has taken great care of it – it's a gorgeous view. Nearby are some apartments. There is some talk of the apartment-owner buying the lot. Mr. Winter prefers it become a park and proposes to send a letter, with support of Neighborhood Council, to Mr. Jex, thanking him for maintaining his beautiful property, and asking if, should he decide to sell that land for public use through Open Space Lands Program, he would have our support. Then perhaps the City would be more inclined to purchase the land. Mr. Winter brings issue before the Council to see if we would like to support it.

Q: Not familiar with Open Lands Fund. Is this money set aside by Salt Lake City to make such purchases?

Mr. Winter: It is precisely that. Talked with Lewis Kogan, who was very helpful.

Unsure if the City has the money right now to pay Mr. Jex what he would probably want for the land.

Laura Arellano: Our procedure is to take the issue to the CHNC Advocacy Committee, then the Advocacy Committee Chair David Scheer presents it to the CHNC Board, and we talk about it.

Kendall Scott, SLC Land and Open Spaces Outreach Intern

- Purge the Spurge Community Council Competition, April 22, from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Our location is 650 North and Victory Road, and the goal is to get 50 people at each location. April 22nd is the same day as the marathon but is

also Earth Day. Local businesses are involved, the Bennion Center at the U of U is involved.

- Bio-Blitz, in partnership with NHMU, is April 15. There is an app called iNaturalist, used to identify plants throughout the City. It's a Citizen Science competition between counties – Salt Lake is competing with Weber and Davis. Flyer on back table.
- For Kids 8-12, there will be free summer day camps for 3 weeks in June. Flyer on back table. Will send links to Laura to post to website.

Q: A bill passed requiring background checks for chaperones of field trips at Washington Elementary. Reminder to sign up to chaperone. There is a form by which to do that.

Lewis Kogan: SLC Land and Open Spaces

Thanks to Kendall.

More about Myrtle Spurge: its a common landscaping plant that is very invasive and poisons the soil around it. At last year's Purge event, 15,000 pounds were pulled out. Please join us this year on April 22nd

Ensign Peak: Lewis Kogan is the Open Space person who worked with Gordon Wilson and the Ensign Peak Neighborhood Association to make improvements to cut down on nighttime access and complaints. Grateful to SLCPD. The efforts are starting to make an impact.

Q: What were the actual activities performed?

A: Increased nighttime patrols with SLCPD. Also, they got compliance there to give parking warnings or tickets if people were there too late. Closed the park at 10 PM instead of 11 PM and put up a closure sign that can be physically closed.

Q: They are going some other ways too – trespassing from the cul de sac.

A: Have you been talking to people?

Q: If we catch them we talk to them, but mostly just see the cars and hear them up there.

A: Good to know, thank you. We have been working to reduce proliferation of social trails. They cause erosion and there are starting to be weeds in the hillside. Working with Paul (Hanks) and his group to do 2 things: construct a wrought-iron fence around boundaries of the lower viewpoint and remove barbed wire – to be more effective at keeping people on trails. The Ensign Peak Foundation made a very generous offer, the City will match it and install the fence this spring. Also working on buck and rail fencing, both along the trail and off the summit which shouldn't be too intrusive but should stop people cutting straight up or down from the peak.

Q: On the front, going up the hill it's washing out. Are there plans to re-vegetate?

A: They will stake straw wattles across that scar and hopefully the seeds will wash down and fill in over next few years.

Q: At the top you will put wooden buck and rail fence around summit of the peak?

A: Yes (local horse-riding group mentioned)

Q: Any plans on annual Ensign Peak trailhead cleanup?

A: Not yet, will keep us apprised of dates.

Q: Edgcombe Drive is attracting lots of the same people as Ensign Peak – using it as a hangout. Causing erosion. People also staying too late. Would your people come look at Edgcombe area?

A: Best approach is to bring it to the attention of Detective Gibic to add that to their existing patrols up there.

Detective Gibic's contact info is available on the CHNC website.

...Ensign Peak continued: Another issue at Ensign Peak is that back when it was built, no one imagined its future use. There are no formal trail counts, but maybe 100,000 people using trail each year. Trying to relieve pressure on front trail. Aim to improve back trail and pull some of the traffic off the trailhead.

Salt Lake City Foothills Trail Plan: How many in this room use trails in foothills at least once a month? We would love your input. Cards are being passed around – the online survey is active now and will take about 10 minutes. Please share with anyone else who enjoys foothill trails. Will bring on a consultant in the next few months to help with trail planning. CHNC input would be very valuable.

The Open Space program: falls under Parks Division. There will be a 20 years needs assessment, a big endeavor. There will be surveys and open houses, though they are not up yet. The last week of March, the preliminary survey will be available. Go to Salt Lake's Open City Hall site to learn more.

(<http://www.slcgov.com/opencityhall>)

Q: Your department has been underfunded for many years. How much money is coming back? Warm Springs Park is underfunded.

A: Lewis has not been around SLC long enough to be aware of that change. Open Space is not a Parks and Rec department, but more of a parks maintenance program. Unfortunately, they don't have tools to bring remediation to a park. They are working with the City to find creative ways to raise funds and meet needs more economically over the next years. Everyone in the division actively looks for opportunities to address all these issues. It's a challenge. Hopes to return in a year to tell us how they did.

CHNC Advocacy Committee Update: David Scheer

The CHNC Advocacy Committee looks into development proposals our neighborhood. Committee members bring serious expertise. Polly (Hart) has Historic Preservation experience and Georg (Stutzenberger), Michael (Mitchell) others contribute. The committee met to consider these issues.

Letters regarding issues are posted on CHNC website – please review them.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs): One letter regards Accessory Dwelling Units. ADUs are a quick and easy way to add affordable housing within existing homes. Because there are so many steep streets in area, there is an issue with some ADUs – can build to within 1 foot of property lines. CHNC does not support building of that type ADU. There are parking issues as well. CHNC suggests parking be considered on a case-by-case basis. CHNC does not support more curb cuts and does not want to see cars parked essentially in front yards. The letters have been sent along to Stan Penfold.

Bishop Place: The other letter regards Bishop Place. Bishop Place is between 4th and 5th North on 300 West. Built in the 1910s, adobe-lined, wood-frame houses were moved to Bishop Place. All buildings are in terrible shape. Thanks to Polly, CHNC requested that the developer document the building through HABS – Historic American Building Survey – prior to demolition. If documented to that standard, we offered to help.

There are two buildings to save as well: big beautiful house on 300 West, and a brick duplex just a bit further along Bishop Place. The CHNC Advocacy Committee is waiting on engineering reports, but our request is to have the big brick house rehabilitated - not as single family home, but perhaps for professional offices. The developer asked for CHNC support of demolition. CHNC says no demolition on these two buildings, but yes, considering HABS documentation on the others.

Upcoming Neighborhood Events:

Saturday, March 18th, the Fourth West Fest hosted by Mountain West Hard Cider and Redrock Brewery.

Next CHNC Board Meeting: Monday, April 3, 2017, Marmalade Library, 6:30 PM

Next CHNC Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 19, 2017, Marmalade Library, 6:30 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Yes

Seconded: Yes

In favor: Majority

Adjourned: 8:09 PM

