

**Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council  
Meeting Minutes  
11/20/19, 6:30pm  
Marmalade Library Multipurpose Room**

**Welcome — Laura Arellano, CHNC Chair**

**Review of October minutes**

*Motion to approve October minutes (DS), seconded (MB), unanimously approved, 6:44pm*

**CHNC Elections**

- Review of board commitments, purpose, and introduction of nominees: Jack Shelboure, Andrea Ashbridge, David Scheer, Randall Smith, Brian Hutchinson, Pamela Starley and reminder of current trustee desiring re-election: Anna Zumwalt
- *Motion to elect all candidates present by acclamation (CW), seconded (DS), unanimously approved, 6:55pm*

**Representative Reports**

**Shireen Ghorbani, Salt Lake County Council At-Large - [shireen@slco.org](mailto:shireen@slco.org), <https://slco.org/council/shireen-ghorbani/>**

- The county has proposed a tax increase to 8.72%; counties receive unfunded mandates from the state and this increase will fund an additional election (Super Tuesday, state primary, and the general election)
- Property taxes are not keeping up with growth and 88% of general funds are going to public safety (i.e. jails, Sheriff's office, DA's office); the County voted to fund six special victims prosecutors to respond to high rates of sexual and child violence in Utah, one investigator was cut from this package which Shireen remains concerned about
- Passed a change allowing residents of unincorporated parts of the county to opt-in to renewable energy on a faster timeline
- Q: Does the County have the autonomy to address climate change? A: There are many county areas which interface with wild spaces; work on EQAC has provided cross-departmental efforts for energy efficiency. After attending the Utah Association of Counties in St. George, acknowledge the need for aggressive relationships with Davis, Utah and Tooele to address transportation in and out of Salt Lake County
- Q: How can correspondence with the health department for safety issues be appropriately managed in a good timeframe? A: Will look into the wait time for responses to find data
- Q: What can the county do about the Inland Port? A: The County has two seats on the Inland Port Board - the Director of Regional Development (Blake Thomas, <https://slco.org/regional-development/contact-us/>, [bthomas@slco.org](mailto:bthomas@slco.org), 385-468-4887) and a County Council Member (Michael Jensen, <https://slco.org/council/michael-jensen/>, [mhjensen@slco.org](mailto:mhjensen@slco.org), 385-468-7455).

**Chris Wharton, Salt Lake City Council - <https://www.slc.gov/district3/>**

- Street signs: historic maps have been reviewed and this continues to move forward
- Met with Ken Kraus about traffic calming and fire mitigation, wet spring reduced fires
- Development agreement has been reached for the Utah Theater, while the loss of land is valued at 4M, the loss of iconic space is incalculable; there are plans to retain aspects where possible and there must also be public access to the park, and affordable units
- Q: Are there updates to the Master Plan? A: There is a new coordinator for master plans.
- Please take t-shirts & sign up for newsletter: [http://www.slcdocs.com/council/WebDoc/Annual\\_Newsletter/District3.pdf](http://www.slcdocs.com/council/WebDoc/Annual_Newsletter/District3.pdf)
- Q: what time can construction take place in the morning, A: will look into it

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**Katherine Kennedy, Salt Lake City School District** - <https://www.slcschools.org/board-of-education/>

- Fears that tax reform bill may lead to a public vote on whether to amend the constitution to eliminate the earmark for education funding; this is concerning based on Ballot Question 1 (Our Schools Now) failing on recent ballot and already low per pupil spending
- Q: Who is leading the attempt to remove the earmark? A: the Republican majority, could reach out to Rep. Jen Dailey-Provost who may have more details
- Equalization is also an issue where Salt Lake district has been asked to give local tax levies to districts with lower property taxes; but without growing the size of the pie, this only means all districts get a smaller slice of funding which tax reform will exacerbate
- Discussion of the benefits of education for the full community and the historic changes to taxes which have reduced school funding (community member Julie Miller); for those interested, the last public meeting is on 11/25/19 at 4pm
- Q: is there a school board newsletter? A: not by precinct but will suggest to the Superintendents' office

**Tim Cosgrove, Salt Lake City Mayor's Office** — [tim.cosgrove@slcgov.com](mailto:tim.cosgrove@slcgov.com), 801-535-7238

- Has replaced Elaine Navar as the liaison for this district
- Distributes Veterans Day coins and reminder of activities hosted by the city to commemorate
- Shared mobility survey open until December 4th
- Dept. of Sustainability is looking at increased rates through December 8th
- Look for Census handouts on the table, they are hiring and training

**Amber Mortenson, UDOT**

- Intersection improvements will begin at Columbus and 400 N., description of coordination with other traffic lights and the walking route/timeline of construction
- Community questions about ongoing traffic concerns in this area followed by an aggressive dispute over the lack of public input and notice for the project
- Q: how will this line up with the other traffic lights of issue? A: review of traffic light coordination process
- Q: how can we continue discussing this issue? A: UDOT employee Brian Palmer will collect relevant information and share with Laura.

**Ending the year with gratitude, Laura Arellano and CHNC members**

*Motion to adjourn (MB), seconded (BG), unanimously adjourned, 8:07pm*