

**Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council
Regular Meeting
Marmalade Library, Multipurpose Room, 6:30 PM
Wednesday, July 19, 2017**

TOPICS IN SUMMARY

Approval of June 2017 Regular Meeting minutes. Board business and updates. Meet the Candidates Q&A for Salt Lake City Council District 3 Seat.

MINUTES

6:35 PM Meeting came to order. Andrea Ashbridge chairing. Minutes by Polly Hart.

Welcome & Business/Announcements: Andrea Ashbridge, Secretary

Please read the June minutes. Thank you for the Fourth of July Breakfast. 300 attended breakfast. Thanks to Garage on Beck and Marsha. Upcoming September 23 is The Marmalade Jam Fest. Last night KRCL Radio Active, Lara Jones talked about Warm Springs Plunge and Bishop Place. David Scheer and Polly Hart spoke (interview program guests.)

Community News

Erin Summers

(From the) Mayor's Office – works with Nate (Salazar.) Tour of Utah – second largest in the world. SLC is the final stage. Avenues and Capitol Hill (involved.) Road closures. Will pass out info. Sunday August 6th from approx. 1:10 – 3:45 PM, limited parking and driving. Asking for volunteers.

Kenya Rene

Emergency Management, making sure we are prepared for disaster. SAFE & CERT (programs.) (Kenya) will come back in August when we have more time.

Katherine Kennedy, School Board Representative

Truth in taxation meeting is coming up. We are losing about \$8K a year from equalization – the State spreads money around. Tax levy won't go up. (Washington Elementary) will have goats again this summer.

City & State representatives, Fire and Police Departments

Excused this evening, will join us again next month.

Update on Solar: John Mitchell:

Council was in support of both proposals. (UCARE initiative and Joint Resolution)

Motion to Approve June 2017 Minutes: John Mitchell

Second: Georg Stutzenberger

APPROVED.

Salt Lake City Council District 3 Candidate Forum

(Candidates are) Phil Carroll, Laura Cushman, Brian Fukushima, Jeff Garbett, and Chris Wharton. Brian Fukushima not present. 5 minute introductions, 2 minute responses to questions. Responses to responses – 1 minute.

Intro: Phil Carroll

Came in 1974 as grad student at the U. Avenues Community Council for 30 years. 2 times Chair of Avenues Street Fair. Memory Grove Cleanup. TAB Chair. Volunteer at The Road Home, mentoring people. 1995 created nonprofit to create affordable housing. 1200 units statewide. BA in Psychology. MA Sociology, law degree as well. Affordable housing is crucial. Also good on the homeless issue.

Intro: Laura Cushman

Moved to SLC with husband and 3 kids. Lives in Avenues so kids can walk to school safely. Traffic is a good issue. Works in wellness engagement at Jewish Community Center. Wants to make open space more accessible for people and pets. Is very concerned about wellbeing of homeless. Bike commuter. One-car family. Committed to environmental initiatives. Committed to giving everyone a voice.

Intro: Jeff Garbett

Works in homebuilding, 20 years. Also works in film. Went to Mexico and built 60+ schools while learning Spanish. We need to find answers to the homeless issue. Crime is an issue in his neighborhood – directly below (State) Capitol. Also concerned about air quality. No need to wait. Homeless, crime, air are his 3 issues. Will make this a full time job.

Intro: Chris Wharton

Lawyer, small business owner, family and civil rights law. Also represents kids – court appointed guardian. Six generations in SLC. Born in the Avenues. Wants to maintain character of the neighborhoods. Human Right Commission (1 term as Chair.) Sets apart – energy to start out the gate. Infrastructure, pets.

Q: What will you do to lure businesses here and build infrastructure to accommodate and preserve what we have?

Phil: People think it's a choice – growth or green. I think we can do both. Mixed income housing can solve social ills.

Laura: Draw upon what (I) love – humanities, arts programs. When corporations come, they can create their own programming (housing, etc.)

Jeff: Tax incentives. Sit down and ask what a corporation wants to bring them here. Work with them to meet their needs.

Chris: Look at Utah County/Lehi. They offer tax incentives that are selling out their futures. Can't meet future needs that they've brought in. We need to zone for different housing options in every neighborhood. Diversity (leads to) stability.

Laura: Renewable energy is a great opportunity.

Phil: promoting live/work, one space. Promote public transit.

Q: Nine years ago, the City took \$10 million from parks/open space. It is suffering.

Laura: Will be an advocate for open space at budget time. Can be creative: volunteerism, shared stewardship, update utilities that cause water waste.

Jeff: create public/private partnerships like Chicago, NYC.

Chris: We lag in parks per capita. We need to make the commitment/priority in budget. Deferring causes more problems. Events can increase use and (funds).

Phil: Memory Grove Cleanup is an example. The City didn't even have (money) so GACC raised (money) for wood chips, plants, etc.

Jeff: They are nice, but they are not a high priority. We need infrastructure, roads, but parks will come second when money is tight.

Chris: sees parks as part of infrastructure. It is a priority.

Phil: Quality of life is critical. Open space is vital.

Q: This state has no leadership in cleaning air quality. Nor federal. We need to improve air. We're down to municipal. What can we do?

Jeff: Fight utilities when they don't want renewables. Reward for good actions (buy an electric car, for example.) Improve public transit schedules and service.

Chris: City has focused on cars - Idling ordinance, free parking for low emission (vehicles.) We can require commercial buildings to be more energy efficient.

Phil: People leave SLC because of our air. Active transportation – bikes, walking, etc. More bike share stations, better public transit, carpools. Classify these actions and reward people.

Jeff: Change building codes to require more energy efficiency.

Phil: Doesn't want to reward people for doing things they should already be doing.

Chris: More than tax incentives/credits. Green banks, green grants, such as wood burning stoves to help people convert from burning to central heat.

Laura: update codes and incentivize, such as paying employees to walk/bike to work. Payout to employees was less than savings from health insurance payouts.

Q: Do any of you have ideas about improving walkability and (vibrance?)

Chris: big city blocks make it difficult. People want diverse scenery when walking. Zoning can help. Eminent domain maybe. We shouldn't allow land banking.

Phil: Land banking is not ok. It's important to feel safe while you walk.

Laura: look into what we can do about land banking. They (land banking areas) are visual dead zones. Arts and culture in neighborhoods can draw pedestrians.

Jeff: Living near where you work and play and shop add to vitality. Conscious development.

Q: How do you see the role of schools? How do you see the City Council working with the school board?

Phil: We are not creating enough schools to accommodate new development. School board needs to land bank.

Laura: strong bond between council and school board. City needs to support schools.

Jeff: Education is important. How to participate economically. His foundation has built 200+ schools worldwide.

Chris: Schools should be community centers, gathering places, hubs during emergencies. We also need neighborhoods around schools to be safe. Council needs to focus on neighborhoods around schools. Head Start, community education.

Q: Several years ago, the City declared the homeless problem solved. How would you coordinate better with the county and prevent starts and stops (keep us moving forward)

Laura: Inter-agency coordination to clarify the needs 24/7. Get them off the streets and support them. Support schools for homeless kids.

Jeff: Getting worse. Departments are not communicating. People have made suggestions which have been ignored.

Chris: SLC cannot solve this alone. Other local cities are not participating. Conversations are not happening in government on how to solve. If we don't figure this out, Legislature will step in.

Phil: Legislature already stepped in and told us to close the shelter. Ben McAdams is the only one doing anything. City has failed. This is a legacy of the Reagan era.

Q: Bishop Place. It could solve other community problems. What would you do with it? Bishop Place could be other housing.

Jeff: Landmarks (Commission) refuses to let people update their windows with accurate replicas. Old doesn't mean it's historic. I would meet with developer and Landmarks to talk about it. Common sense solutions.

Chris: Better to renovate and retrofit. Being old makes them historic. Preservation and revitalization are not mutually exclusive. Keep the buildings, along with Warm Springs Plunge.

Phil: This might be a good fit for a non-profit to step in. Losing a house is like losing a tooth. They should be saved. Revitalized. You don't know what will come in.

Laura: Step one – get consensus from experts. Use people at the U of U. Make it a project area – rebuild with energy-efficiency, etc.

Q: Police's hands are tied with regard to crime/homelessness.

Chris: Police are not social workers. Not fair to give police that job. City should have a program with mental health street teams. We need to stop criminalizing poverty.

Phil: Police are stretched and all down around shelters. Being homeless should not be a death sentence.

Laura: Focus on services we can offer these people to re-integrate them into society. Problem with jail policy. Many jail-able offenses aren't jailed because of overpopulation in jail.

Jeff: Drug dealers hang out at shelters. Unless we change our policies, they will be taken advantage of.

Q: There seems to be an unhappiness of the Council with the Mayor. Where do you stand?

Phil: We need to make sure the Mayor succeeds. We need to work together. I work with many different people. If you listen, you will hear solutions.

Laura: I will try to work with her. But bear in mind, we are a check and balance to her.

Chris: You can disagree and be civil. The Mayor ran on the homeless issue and she's not following through. I hold people accountable. Has built strong relationships with current council and current mayor through work. Also does divorce law, which has taught to wrk long term toward solutions between people at war.

Closing comments.

Meeting ends 8:40 PM.

Upcoming CHNC Meetings:

August CHNC Board Meeting
Monday, August 7th, 2017
Jex Conference Room, Marmalade Library

August CHNC Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 16th, 2017
Multipurpose Room, Marmalade Library