

AGENDA

OF THE GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

www.slc-avenues.org

January, 2021

Vol. XXV

Issue 1

Representing the Avenues and
Federal Heights neighborhoods
of Salt Lake City, Utah

Chair's Message for January

by Dave Alderman



Happy New Year and Welcome to 2021! While we're all glad to put 2020 behind us, we have to acknowledge that, at least for the first few months, 2021 will also be a challenge. The Greater Avenues Community Council will continue as we have for the last few months, limiting in-person contact and holding our meetings via Zoom. But 2021 does bring new hope for a return to something like normalcy, where we can meet in person again.

The new year is always a time of reflection and looking ahead and probably never more so than this year. Every year, the Board of the GACC identifies issues that the community has expressed an interest in trying to address or become more knowledgeable about. Key issues from previous years include Air Quality, Emergency Preparedness, Affordable Housing, Traffic, Homelessness, and Safety. What issues would you like to see the GACC address this year, or maybe you might want to help work on with a committee? Let me know at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

The GACC also has several high-profile events that we normally put on every year, but could not in 2020 due to Covid-19 impact. However, we have hopes that we will be able to have these events this year, even if not in the same way that we might have before. The Memory Grove Clean-up, Street Fair, Avenues Choir, and Avenues Athletic Association all attract a large following that brings our neighborhood together. Each of these will be looking for help as we move through the year. Please consider volunteering.

But what about other ways to participate? The easiest way is to attend our monthly meetings. Since these are now held via Zoom, you don't even have to leave your house. Each meeting has report outs from several key figures – the Fire Department, Police Department, City Council, Mayor's office, School Board, and Legislative representatives. When I speak to people from other cities, they are amazed at the level of interaction we have with our government officials on a regular basis.

With the Legislative session starting shortly, our January meeting will address some upcoming air quality legislation and how we can participate in the legislative process.

We'll also have a vote on amending our bylaws to bring us into the Zoom age.

Also, as we transition to the new year, I would like to

GACC January 6th Virtual Meeting

- 7:00 to 7:05 *Welcome, Announcements.*
- 7:06 to 7:45 *Reports: Fire, Library, Police, City, County, School Board, Legislative.*
- 7:46 to 7:55 **Jen Dailey-Provost** 2021 Legislative Session during Covid Restrictions.
- 7:56 to 8:00 *GACC Bylaws Amendment Vote.*
- 8:01 to 8:30 **Ashley Miller**, *Breathe Utah.*
- 8:31 to 8:40 *Open Forum.*
- 8:41 to 9:00 *Adjourn.*

Details will be posted at the GACC website <https://slc-avenues.org/>.

The password and meeting ID will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m. the day of the 7 p.m. meeting. Also, as we transition to the new year, I would like to

acknowledge the work done by Laura Cushman as Chair of the GACC over the last year. When she volunteered to be Chair, she knew that she would have challenges throughout the year. But no one had any idea just how challenging the year would be. As the year progressed, we moved from in-person meetings to no meetings to Zoom meetings. Laura led us through the transition and helped to keep the community engaged. *Thank you, Laura.*

The objectives of the GACC listed below allow for a broad scope of activities. But these all require input and involvement from the community. So please let me know your concerns and ideas at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org, or better yet attend one of the monthly meetings. I hope to see you there!

The objectives of the Greater Avenues Community Council are to:

- Provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual concern;

Continued on page 4

the AVENUES

Community Meetings

If you have questions please contact GACC Chair Dave Alderman at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org. All are welcome!

GACC Council Virtual Meeting

GACC Virtual Meeting will be on **January 6th** at 7 p.m. Details will be posted at the GACC website <https://slc-avenues.org/>. The password and meeting ID will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m. the day of the meeting.

GACC Board Virtual Meeting

GACC Board Virtual Meeting will be on **January 13th** at 7 p.m. If you wish to participate, send a message to the chair Dave Alderman at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

Community Life / Resources / Free Stuff!

Sweet Branch Library, 455 F Street, 801-594-8651, www.slcp.org/branches/view/Corinne+and+Jack+Sweet.

The Library Express Service has paused! Holds-to-Go, take-n-makes for all ages and printing-to-go services are still available Monday - Saturday from noon to 5:45pm. The Library will be closed for all services on Friday, Jan 1 (New Year's Day) & on Monday, Jan 18 (Martin Luther King Day Jr. Day.)

Kids Calendar

- Look for storytimes, book reviews, crafts and other activities on Biblioboard! It is a platform SLCPL is using for online programming and is found on the City Library website slcp.org. Storytimes online slcp.org/virtual-storytime; Online Book review slcp.org/favorite-reads; Online Creative corner slcp.org/creative-corner. -Check out Book Bundles! Sweet Library is offering 4-5 books bundled together in categories of picture books, beginning readers, and graphic novels for quick check-out.

Teen Calendar

-Tween LGBTQ+ Book Club. This book club is an inclusive, safe, monthly hangout for LGBTQ+ tweens and tween allies. We will choose books about characters who identify as LGBTQ+, play games, write, and have conversations. We will meet on the Third Tuesday of the month. For Tweens ages 10-12. Zoom Link and current book selection available at slcp.org or the library's Facebook page. -Teen Book Club, Sat, Jan 9th 2-3pm. Sweet Teen Squad member Kamryn will lead a discussion on the novelization of the Broadway smash-hit Dear Evan Hansen by Val Emmich. Zoom link for the event can be found on the Events page of slcp.org.

The Agenda

Publisher's Statement

The monthly Greater Avenues Community Council newsletter "The Agenda" is mailed free to all residences in the Avenues. This publication is created to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council. Mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. For advertising call 801-859-5858 or email newsletter@slc-avenues.org.

GACC 2021 Officers and Publisher Contacts:

Chair: Dave Alderman, gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

Chair-elect: Gwen Springmeyer gaccchairelect@slc-avenues.org.

Treasurer: Michael Hughes, gacctreasurer@slc-avenues.org.

Secretary: Dianne Leonard, gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org.

Newsletter Editor: Martina Nesi, newsletter@slc-avenues.org.

The GACC web page is www.slc-avenues.org.

-**Animal Crossing** with the City Library. The library hosts virtual event hours for library patrons that play the game to come visit and interact with our library in a digital space. Visitors can explore the island and our virtual library building, use our "Makerspace," and ask staff questions. The library's Island is open Fridays from 3-5pm (except for January 1st). Our Friend Code is SW-6225-7649-2110. -**Teen Squad** - School Year Edition is a teen volunteer opportunity for students to learn about library work behind the scenes, accomplish needed volunteer hours, and pursue a library-related project of their own choosing during the school year. Unlike our summer program, there is no collective start and end date. Teens can apply at any time between October 1st and March 31st and will have up to six weeks to complete their project and any needed volunteer hours. Volunteers will be matched with a teen librarian who will meet with them virtually on a regular basis to help develop their project and a timeline for meeting their goals. Completed volunteer projects should complement City Library services and materials, support the Library's mission, and be accessible to library patrons.

Adult Calendar

- **Sweet Reads** Get to know some of the faces from your neighborhood and read a variety of books from all sorts of genres. This book club will meet virtually on Zoom, on the fourth Tuesday of each month. In January, we'll be reading *The Geography of Bliss* by Eric Weiner. Please email Jen Scott at jscott@slcp.org if you would like to join!

Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class, Federal Heights Ward Building, 278 North Alta Street, East Entrance. Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. FREE! Everyone Welcome! Questions? Jan Root, 801-455-2082, janroot@xmission.com.

City Academy, 555 E. 200 S., www.cityacademyslc.org. Are you tired of the same-old, same old-school? City Academy Charter School is enrolling now for Fall 2020. A wide range of options for learning in class, online, at local colleges and in our city. Smaller classes and flexible scheduling. Check us out at cityacademyslc.org or call 801-596-8489.

Tenth East Senior Center. Please check out our Virtual Senior Center Course Catalog at <https://slco.org/aging-adult-services/>. We offer self-guided, online - YouTube, online - Live and phone-based classes. Lunch served drive-thru style from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. Are you in need of a nutritious breakfast? Tenth East is now offering breakfast meals and weekend meals during the drive-thru for weekday lunches. Meals are available for participants 60 years of age and older. The Center is at 237 S 1000 E; enter on the north driveway to reach the pick-up in the rear.

Edit from the December issue - Chair Message: with the apologies for the omission, we add her title: **Dr. Katherine Kennedy**, our SLC School Board Representative.

Avenues Scouts Registering New Youth

Long-time Avenues Scout Troop 34 and Cub Pack 3034 are registering new youth. We are an all-denomination youth group active for over 100 years with a great tradition of camping, outdoor activities, rank advancement and community service. Troop 34 is for ages 11 to 17 and meets Wednesday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian church on C Street at South Temple. Cub Pack 3034 is for kindergarten through 5th grade and meets Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adult leaders are needed for the Cub Pack also. Girls, if you like being in the outdoors and enjoying outdoors activities like camping, hiking, canoeing, etc., we have something for you. We are looking to start up a girls Troop. Please contact Dan Zaharias at DanZaharias@gmail.com or call 801-808-6683.

GACC is Pleased to Announce our 2021 GACC Board and Officers

2021 GACC OFFICERS

Chair: Dave Alderman
Chair-Elect: Gwen Springmeyer
Secretary: Dianne Leonard
Treasurer: Michael Hughes
Past-Chair: Laura Cushman



Dave Alderman
2021 Chair



Gwen Springmeyer
Chair Elect



Dianne Leonard
Secretary



Michael Hughes
Treasurer



Laura Cushman
Past Chair

BOARD MEMBERS

Area 1 - Canyon Rd/West Aves
*Sarah La
*Kathryn Wright

Area 2 - Ensign

Martina Nesi
*Jennifer Gueldner

Area 3 - Northcrest

Beverly Langu
Carleton DeTar
Craig Provost
Dave Van Langeveld
Jill Van Langeveld

Area 4 - Mideast Avenues

Daniel Gaffin
Michael Hughes
Larry Spell
*Dianne Leonard (returning)

Area 5 - Midwest Avenues

Phil Carroll
Laura Cushman

Area 6 - Lindsey Gardens

Brian Berkelbach
*Merrilee Morgan

Area 7 - Eastern Avenues

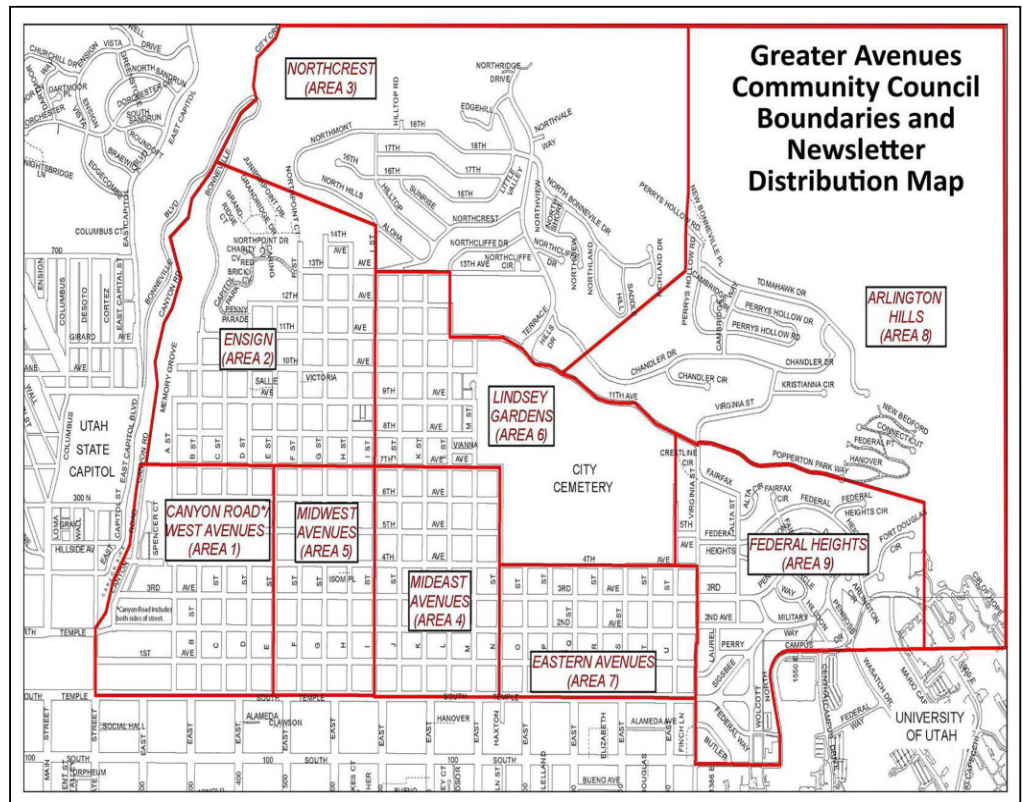
Dave Alderman
Peg Alderman
Genevieve Atwood
Robyn Christensen

Area 8 - Arlington Hills

*Jenny Hewson

Area 9 - Federal Heights

Gene Fitzgerald
Gwen Springmeyer



The GACC Vision Statement and entire Bylaws can be seen at:
<https://slc-avenues.org/about-the-council/vision-bylaws>.

Walking Tours with Social Distancing

Salt Lake Modern, a program of Preservation Utah, has initiated a program of self-guided walking tours to view mid-century architecture throughout the Valley. If the weather is sunny, get the kids, the dogs, and the masks! Then look on the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SLModern>) for upcoming walking tours. The first one was announced on December 4; you already have a choice about where to go. Of course there is no time limit. Just wait for good weather. Expect future tours of the University of Utah, the South Temple historic district, the Upper Avenues, and more distant locations in the Olympus Cove, Westshire, and St. Mary's neighborhoods.

HAPPY
January

Air Quality: Do spikes of PM_{2.5} pollution have an effect on our brains?

On November 23, 2020 the University of Utah released the findings of a study trying to answer the question: “Do pollution spikes of PM_{2.5} have an effect on our brains?” Over the years many studies have shown that chronic high levels of PM_{2.5} cause problems with the respiratory system. Newer studies are also linking a variety of neurological problems in children and adults to the very dirty air. However, no one had studied the effects of PM_{2.5} pollution spikes like we have in Salt Lake County especially during our winter inversions. You can read their complete study using the link at the end of this article.

• **What they did:** The State of Utah has been testing 3rd and 8th graders for several years with a standardized test called SAGE test (Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence). The researchers looked at the math and English scores of the third graders in 156 primary public schools in Salt Lake County for 2017. They focused on the percentage of students whose scores were lower than grade-level expectations. In order to ensure that air pollution was the only variable affecting test scores, the researchers created a school disadvantage variable and they also accounted for the school’s location.

Then, they evaluated each school’s chronic and peak air pollution concentrations which they received from the EPA’s Downscaler data. On average, schools had chronic PM_{2.5} levels of just over 8 micrograms per cubic meter. To establish peak air pollution episodes, the researchers identified the number of days each school was exposed to PM_{2.5} levels in the 95th percentile. The peaks for the year averaged 23 micrograms per cubic meter. For context the EPA’s unhealthy air standard is 35 micrograms per cubic meter.

• **What they Discovered:** Chronic pollution exposure was associated with lower test scores, however the effect disappeared when researchers controlled for the social disadvantage factors. *In contrast, the frequency of peak pollution exposure was associated with a higher percentage of students who tested below grade level in math and English, even after controlling for social disadvantage.*

• Their Suggestions:

1. Our legislators could advance public health initiatives that protect children’s exposure to air pollution.
2. The state could improve regulations that would prevent schools from being built in high pollution areas.
3. Schools could invest in better air filtration systems in classrooms to help mitigate the poor air quality which already exists. (The schools districts are working on this).
4. State and federal legislators could advocate for *lower* federal air pollution standards in the face of growing evidence that even low PM_{2.5} concentrations do damage to the human body.

Casey Mullen, one of the authors of the study -- “Here in Utah, with our constant air quality issues throughout the seasons, we need to increase awareness about air pollution exposures. This is a conversation everyone should be having—people need to be informed about what’s at stake”.

My personal suggestion: Don’t make any important decisions during peak PM_{2.5} concentration days.

You can find the full study at <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/17/18/6931/htm>.

by Jill Van Langeveld

Trails Trails Trails

Have you been in Popperton Park, City Creek Canyon, or the foothills recently and noticed anything new?? These are exciting times as the Foothill Trails Master Plan starts to be implemented.

Several new trails have been or are in the process of being constructed in Popperton Park, the City Creek area, and Morris Mountain area. There are new walking trails, and new biking trails. At Popperton Park, there is a lovely, undulating hiking loop behind the Popperton Garden plots - a great trail if you need some quick exercise and reflection. This trail is OPEN, so try it out, walkers! The well-used trail south of Popperton Park Way will be limited to walkers and a beginner bike loop has just been completed as well as two downhill-directional biking trails to the east of Spring Gulch. And after extensive consideration, due to the sensitive nature of the wildlife and botanical habitat within Spring Gulch, the City’s Trails Division has decided not to build the planned walking loop in that space. You may have also noticed a couple of new trails traversing City Creek Canyon. The Lower City Creek Loop is a designated walking trail and is already open and ready for use. Access to this trail is available from the 8th Avenue Switchbacks, from Bonneville Boulevard, and 500 North. Finally, there are new trails under construction up at Morris Mountain. One wonderful ridge trail will provide walkers access to fantastic vistas overlooking the northern extent of City Creek Canyon. This trail is open and ready for use. The downhill biking trail that is under construction on Morris Mountain snakes along the east side of the mountain and intersects with other trails at multiple locations. While these trails

will provide fantastic opportunities for future recreation, it is important that these brand new trails be given the opportunity to rest, settle, and harden before they are opened. If the bike trails are used while they are still closed, they risk causing significant erosion. PLEASE stay off the newly constructed closed trails, as the signs state only YOU can prevent trail erosion!

Visit www.SLCTrails.com for more information. Digital and printable maps are being uploaded weekly.

by Jenny Hewson (with input from Tyler Fonarow - Trails Projects Specialist, Salt Lake City Corporation).

Chair article continued from page 1

- Establish working groups and committees to facilitate issue resolution;
- Promote activities that enhance and enrich the community;
- Make improvements to the community in order to protect the unique character of the Avenues;
- Provide and expand communication links with governmental, civic and community organizations;
- Provides benefit to the broader Avenues community with the use of GACC funds;

The Council may take actions or positions that impact the greater community and fall under the above objectives.

Salt Lake City Cemetery Closure Update!

The Sexton of the Salt Lake City Cemetery, Keith Van Otten, provided a recent update on the continued closure of the cemetery due to the September storm. The full text is available at <https://www.slc.gov/parks/city-cemetery/>.

Keith highlighted that due to the historic nature of the cemetery, the extent of the damage especially to headstones and monuments, and the need to work with the State Historic Preservation Office, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and an archeologist, it is a slow process putting the Cemetery back together! Further, safety hazards remain at the cemetery including the presence of tree root balls and stumps, and the need to fill multiple large holes that resulted from the downed trees. While we miss the cemetery, in this interim period we are forging ahead with the creation of a future *Friends of the Salt Lake City Cemetery* group. A number of residents have already asked how they can be involved in the future preservation and restoration of this wonderful historical and cultural treasure. *Thank you* to each of you who have already been in contact. If you are interested in learning more about the Cemetery and how you could be involved in the future Friends group, please send an email to Jenny Hewson (jenny.hewson@gmail.com). In upcoming GACC newsletters, we will identify specific volunteer roles that need to be filled within the group, as well as future volunteer activities.



2021 General Session of the 64th Legislature

The legislative session will run from January 19 to March 5, 2021. To limit the spread of Covid-19, the Capitol Complex is closed to the public. All meetings will be held electronically using Webex. Members of the public may attend committee meetings using Webex and provide comments on agenda items. A computer or phone with internet access is required to attend a Webex meeting.

You can view the procedures and guidelines for remote public comment and virtual meeting instructions at the Utah State Legislature website – www.le.utah.gov.

Sign Up for the Clear the Air Challenge

The Greater Avenues Community Council has registered as a team for the Clear the Air Challenge. The challenge begins February 1st, and is a month-long competition that gives us the chance to reduce our vehicle emissions. By driving less and driving smarter, we will ultimately help improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion and conserve energy in Utah.

You can learn more at ClearTheAirChallenge.org. This site lets you track how much you reduce your driving by carpooling, taking transit, walking, or skipping the trip altogether.

Use the link below to register as part of the GACC team and we can track how much our community has helped the air quality in February.

<https://travelwisetracker.com/s/greater-avenues-community>.

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GACC January 6th Virtual Meeting!

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 website <https://slc-avenues.org/>.

The password and meeting ID will be posted
 at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m. on
 the day of the 7 p.m. meeting.

Important dated material. Please deliver in-home by December 31.

Gina Koziatsek

801.631.6446

Gina.Koziatsek@UtahHomes.com

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