

GACC Community Meeting Minutes **January 7, 2026**

Attendance: Steve Miller, Dianne Leonard, Amy Merritt-Smith, Courtney Henley, Gwen Springmeyer, Jenn Beck, Paul Walton, Jurphy, Merrilee Morgan, Lori Galindo, Kathryn Wright, Cheryl Hofstetter, Larry Perkins, Ryan Kendrick, Michael Hughes, Jo Ann, Hilary Jacobs, Jim Jenkin, Blake McClary, Carleton (Z), Craig Provost (Z), Heather Hubbard (Z), Lexi Hoggan (Z), Lindsay (Z), Tatyana (Z), Catherine (Z), Jill Van Langeveld (Z), Michelle (Z), Allie (Z), Nate (Z). Guests: Alicia de Leon, Sam, Carlton, Dave Alderman, Peg Alderman, Robyn Christensen, Todd Weiler, Chris Wharton, Jen, Brandy, Ruth Morgan, Ashley, Jen Plumb, Mary Maloney, Fire Dept.

Welcome Steve Miller - announcements - donations to school lunches can be done at the GACC website. Community Presentation on Care Communities on 1/18.

Community Kindness Jenn Beck - Award to Alana Palau and Christian Palau. Nominated by Briana Lynch - they took care of her cat and veggie garden when they were out of town. They are great neighbors!

Mayor's Office Update

Alicia de Leon - State of the City address will be 1/27 @ 7pm. Reviews the past year achievements and challenges and outlines policy going forward. Viewable on YouTube. Winter Olympics Watch party, free to the public starting 2/6. More info to come. Enbridge pipeline replacement project on South Temple, starts on Jan 5th for 6-8 weeks.

Library Update

Mary Maloney - Four armchairs are being re-upholstered, should be a quick turn-around time. In January they are doing adopt-a-pet and kids get a stuffed animal to care for. On the website, slcpl.org, click on the explore tab and there is a lot of information and databases and downloadable resources. Pick up a bookmark at the desk with more info. Closed on 1/19 for MLK day.

Legislative Update

Senator Weiler - Senate Majority Caucus priorities are: Energy Solutions, Next Gen AI Tech, Water Usage and Conservation, Great Salt Lake Preservation with a possible fund donation from Romney Group, and Election Safeguards. Comments on the moratorium/ban on transgender care for teens. Comments on water and air quality.

Rep Daily-Provost - (Minority Whip on the appropriations committee). Passing the budget is priority. Estimated 1600 bills for this session. Create failsafe for home owners insurance, especially for high-risk areas. Work with criminal justice and mental health for recovery planning. Wants better budget resiliency for uncertain times. Suggestion to review Wildfire Partners out of Colorado.

Senator Plumb - Very important to show respect and care. Priority to defend against bad policies. Health and Wellness policies are critical - water, air quality and care for all

marginalized populations, policies for unsheltered community, national organic reduction (composting) bill, purple alert system resources bill, vitamin K infant administration bill.

Fire Department

Cpt. Scott Winkler - 35,013 calls in 2025. Fire dept is hiring. Fire.slc.gov and go to 'careers'. Keep fire hydrants clear on snow days. HB 48 - homeowner's insurance in high-risk areas: There are 1100 parcels that are considered high-risk. At the station level, they are conducting assessments as quickly as they can. Not sure if the assessments will affect insurance at this point.

Council Member Wharton - Council passed the ballpark plan. RMF 35 passed. Passed annual water conservation plan, and received an update on the public safety plan. For 2026 - new leadership will be elected for the council on the 12th of January. Priorities: avoiding a property tax increase, homeless shelter functionality and funding, Fleet Block development progress, improvement on parks and trails. Questions: any update on motorcycles revving their engines in the middle of the night? Permanent sound meter has been installed to collect data to illustrate the problem. How did we end up with a \$40 mil deficit in city budget? Lots of factors contribute to a deficit (property taxes low and appealed, money diversions to other projects etc). Rezoning of 80 acres of Northpoint wetlands? Potential for a land swap for more sensitive land.

Salt Lake School Board

Ashley Anderson - Financial auditors report - commended for our auditing practices. Budget discussions will be beginning in January. West High re-build is progressing - communicate concerns with traffic and construction. Unfunded mandates are a struggle for the board. Questions - school closures? Birth rates are declining. They are getting a demographic refresher report to evaluate. They aren't planning any closures until at least winter, 2027. Budget deficit this year? Auditing practices help avoid large deficits. Potentially selling closed properties? Evaluation is ongoing to see whether there would be a benefit.

LDS Hospital

Brandy Lee - Flu is no joke. Take precautions to avoid getting the flu - it is hitting Salt Lake hard. Upcoming storm - wear appropriate clothing for the temperature and footwear for icy surfaces. LDS Hospital is 121 years old today! Renamed as a top Maternity Hospital in US News and World Report.

SLPD

Detective Marie Stewart - Police Dept has gone through some restructuring this year. Rape and Sexual Assault is one of the most underreported crimes, but we are seeing more reporting. Help singles that are dating to be safe. Copper wire theft is increasing and the losses have been over \$2 million to the city. They are getting locking metal lids for the wiring boxes in the city. Questions: Can we monitor the wiring theft on the market? Wiring isn't always being sold, but is potentially being used in construction. How many SL officers

live in SLC? Information isn't currently available, and there are downsides to living in the city that is policed. There is no less dedication for those who don't live in the city.

Vote on Bylaws Revision Steve Miller - Merrilee Morgan moved to accept the bylaws as presented last month. Ryan Kendrick seconded. Committee will continue to work on suggestions for changes. Jim Jenkins dissented. Motion is approved.

RMF 35 Jim Jenkin - Between South Temple and 3rd Ave and between A-I streets could be affected. The purpose is to allow more density on smaller lots. The likely place that we could see changes is ADUs in backyards and when a multi-family dwelling seeks to increase their footprint during a remodel. There is the potential for renovated construction to be closer to existing homes. There is an overview of the zoning change on the city's website - search RMF35. Some say that we are protected by Historical district, but there are exceptions.

Open Forum - Question about receiving utility bills late.

Adjourn and Clean Up