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# AGENDA

## OF THE GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

[www.slc-avenues.org](http://www.slc-avenues.org)

**January 2024**

Vol. XXVIII

Issue 1

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

### **Got Something to Say?**

#### **Come to the GACC Open House Meeting**

*by 2024 GACC Chair Joseph "Jurphy" Murphy*



Happy New Year! As is customary with the GACC, a new year means new board leadership, and I am humbled and honored to serve you as the 2024 GACC Chair. As the board prepares for another year of service to you, our neighbors, I have found myself humming along to Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*. Like Anna in the musical, the GACC board's favorite subject is "getting to know you, getting to know all about you."

#### **GACC Open House: January Council Meeting**

In an effort for us to get to know each other better, after our typical community reports, our January council meeting will be an interactive opportunity for us all to get better acquainted.

**=What:** We will be hosting an **open house** where you can **voice Avenues issues that matter most to you for the upcoming year**. These could include Virginia St road works, Rocky Mountain upgrades in the foothills, the city's traffic calming plan, the Avenues Street Fair, the Avenues Choir, our GACC meeting schedule, or even this newsletter itself.

There will be poster boards and stations around the room where you can voice what matters most to you. Also at the various stations will be representatives of the GACC committees so you can learn more about the amazing work our volunteers do for you outside our monthly council meetings.

**=Why:** What you say will help **shape the GACC board's annual objectives** and efforts throughout 2024

**=Who:** All are welcome to participate in providing constructive feedback.

**=Where:** Sweet Library or on Zoom (link uploaded closer to the meeting), or sending in comments using the QR code

**=When:** During our normally scheduled council meeting

**=Not able to Attend?** Please use the QR code to provide feedback in advance.



Customer Feedback  
docs.google.com

**=Next Steps:** The GACC board will review your comments and use them to select strategic objectives for 2024. These objectives will be provided at the February or March council meeting.

I truly hope you take the opportunity to share your thoughts--whether that be (1) in advance using the QR code above; (2) the night of at the in-person meeting, or (3) the night of using the Zoom meeting. I also encourage you to check out the rest of this newsletter where you can find a description of our GACC committees. I look forward to hearing from you!

My email is [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org).

## **GACC in Person and Virtual Meeting January 3rd from 6:00 pm to 7:40 pm**

### ***Agenda***

6:00-6:05 Welcome, **Jurphy Murphy**

6:06-6:50 Community Reports

6:51-7:40 **GACC Open House**

(serving as our Open Forum)

The January 3rd Community Meeting

will be a hybrid. Meet in person at the Sweet

Library, 455 F Street, at 6:00 pm, or join on Zoom.

We will post the Zoom Meeting Link and Password

at <http://slc-avenues.org/>

at 5:00 pm on January 3rd

### **Board Member Spotlight: Jim Jenkin**



My wife, Yvonne, and I moved from Seattle to 5th Avenue in 1991, and I became aware of the GACC through the newsletter and started attending meetings. I participated in traffic and land use matters, and served two terms on the SLC Transportation Advisory Board. I am a founding parent of the Salt Lake Arts Academy, and my career was as a research lab manager. I developed my personal definition of evil, in contemplation of

a Utah legislative action, as "The intentional increase in human suffering", and am guided by this principle. In 2010 I chaired the GACC, but in 2011 we had to move with our lab to Kansas City, MO. In 2021 we both retired and were happy to return to the home on A Street formerly occupied by my in-laws.

For the past year I have served as GACC Secretary, and now happily pass the baton to Dr. Steve Miller and I will take the Chair of the Land Use Committee. My hobbies include singing, bowling, and home improvement.

"When we all stand together, we grow our village stronger;"  
Lynz Morahn.

the  
**AVENUES**

**GACC Board Meeting - Hybrid**

**January 10th, 2023 at 6:00 pm**, Sweet Library. All are welcome. If you wish to participate or for special accommodations, contact GACC Chair Jurphy Murphy at [Gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:Gaccchair@slc-avenues.org)

**Community Resources**

**Sweet Library Events** [www.slcp.org/](http://www.slcp.org/) 801-594-8651

Monday - Thursday 10am - 8pm

Friday & Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday Closed

**ALL City Libraries are CLOSED on New Year's Day**. Monday, January 1 2024 & Martin Luther King Jr Day. Monday January 15, 2024

**Kids Calendar**

**Book Baby storytime**. Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am. A fun storytime that encourages playful interactions between little ones and their caregivers. Ages 0-3.

**Preschool Storytime**. Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. Stories, rhymes, and fun to help kids get ready to read! Ages 3-5.

**Playtime**. Friday mornings from 10 am - noon. Playtime is an unstructured time for little ones to play with toys and make new friends! Drop in anytime between 10am-12pm.

**Adopt a Pet**. Pick up a little animal buddy and an activity sheet at any City Library location during the early part of January. Available while supplies last.

**Mother Goose Games**. Sat. Jan 20 at 11am - Noon. With a caregiver, babies and toddlers can have fun moving with active play inspired by Mother Goose Rhymes

**Teen Calendar**

**Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners (10 years old and up)**.

A friendly introduction to Dungeons & Dragons for first-timers, led by an experienced player. Held on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

**Adult Calendar Book Club**. Sweet Reads Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 7:00pm in the meeting room to discuss **Ariadne by Jennifer Saint**. Copies of February's book, **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** by Betty Smith, will be handed out at the end of the evening.

**The Agenda**

**January 2024, Volume XXVIII, Issue 1**

*Publisher's Statement*

*This Greater Avenues Community Council newsletter "The Agenda" is mailed free each month to all residences in the Avenues. This publication is to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council.*

*Mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.*

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Secretary: **Steve Miller**, [gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org)

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Newsletter Editor: **Martina Nesi Lenzi**, [newsletter@slc-avenues.org](mailto:newsletter@slc-avenues.org)

The GACC web page is [www.slc-avenues.org](http://www.slc-avenues.org)

**Community Resources, cont.**

**Law Enforcement/Crisis Lines:**

Crime in Progress 9-1-1  
Police Non-Emergency 801-799-3000  
Detective Marie Stewart 801-799-3012  
[marie.stewart@slcgov.com](mailto:marie.stewart@slcgov.com)  
Domestic Violence Hotline 801-799-3756  
Suicide and Crisis Lifeline 9-8-8  
Drug Hotline 801-799-3784  
Gang Hotline 801-799-GANG  
Traffic Complaint Hotline 801-799-3311

**Fire Department:**

Fire or Health Emergency 9-1-1  
Non-Emergency 801-799-3473

**City:**

Bulk Waste Removal 801-535-6953  
City Council 801-535-7600  
Garbage Cans 801-535-6999  
Graffiti Removal 801-972-7885  
Homeless Outreach Services 801-799-3035  
Housing/Zoning Enforcement 801-535-7225  
Mayor Office 801-535-7704  
Noise Complaints 801-799-3000  
Parking Enforcement 801-535-6628  
Parks Department 801-972-7800  
Snow Removal Complaints 801-535-2345  
Street Lighting 801-483-6738  
Urban Forestry 801-972-7818  
Water Conservation 801-483-6860

**County:**

Animal Services 385-468-7387  
Health Department 385-468-4100  
Household Hazardous Waste 385-468-3862  
Transient Camp Clean-up 385-468-4100

**Community:**

Adult Protection Services 801-538-3567  
Child Protection Services 801-488-2620  
Community Resource 2-1-1  
Legal Aid 801-328-8849  
Urban Wildlife Assistance 385-419-3405  
UTA [rideuta.com](http://rideuta.com) or 801-743-3882

**GACC**

Website [www.slc-avenues.org](http://www.slc-avenues.org)  
Orange Crossing Flags 801-201-3415  
Street Fair [www.avenuesstreetfair.org](http://www.avenuesstreetfair.org)  
Wildfire Info [AvenuesWildfireLiaison@comcast.net](mailto:AvenuesWildfireLiaison@comcast.net)

**Tenth East Senior Center**

237 S 1000 E, M-F 7:00-4:00 with lunch 11:30-12:15. Enter on the north side for plenty of parking in the rear, 385-468-3140 or [slco.org/tenth-east-senior-center](http://slco.org/tenth-east-senior-center). In addition to fitness classes such as yoga, the Center is adding new activities in 2024: Flash Fiction Workshop Wednesday, 1/17 12:30-2:00, please register ahead and Aging Mastery Thursday, 2/15-4/18, 12:00-1:30

**Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class**

Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. FREE! Everyone Welcome! Contact Jan Root for our current location and for any questions at 801-455-2082, [janroot@xmission.com](mailto:janroot@xmission.com).

**Free Yoga Class Open to All**

The free community yoga class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 AM at the LDS Chapel at 135 A Street. Please bring your own mat and a strap. Barbara Cramer 801 355-1856.

**Fencing**

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## GACC Committees by Gwen Springmeyer

**Avenues Grants** – This committee receives and reviews applications from Avenues residents to provide funds to complete Community Improvement Projects.

**Housing and Land Use Committee** – This committee reviews zoning variances and follows other Land Use issues focusing on updating the Avenues Master Plan.

### Events and Activities:

**Avenues Athletic League** - This committee was formed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in partnership with the GACC. It has been inactive for three years but will likely start again next year. They ran three leagues: volleyball, basketball, and soccer.

**Avenues Choir** - The Choir does a free Holiday concert every year and functions with the support of the GACC. Everyone can join with no audition or fees.

**Memory Grove** – The Committee plans for and conducts the Annual Memory Grove Clean-Up every spring.

**Popperton Plots Community Garden** – This group coordinates with Wasatch Community Gardens to manage the garden.

**Street Fair** – This Committee organizes the annual street fair on the second Saturday of September.

### Board Operations:

**Civic Engagement** - The Committee seeks to get more people involved in our community by promoting increased interaction between our elected representatives & the public, including voter registration, meet the candidates' events, and civics literacy.

**Memory Grove Foundation** – This group advocates for preserving, maintaining, and enhancing Memory Grove.

**Orange Crossing Flags** – This committee supplies the orange flags for the flag holders at the intersections.

### Preparedness

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** – This committee promotes training for volunteers to help their communities survive disasters, such as significant earthquakes, severe storms, or major flooding. They organize a community emergency preparedness fair and coordinate with the SLC Office of Emergency Management.

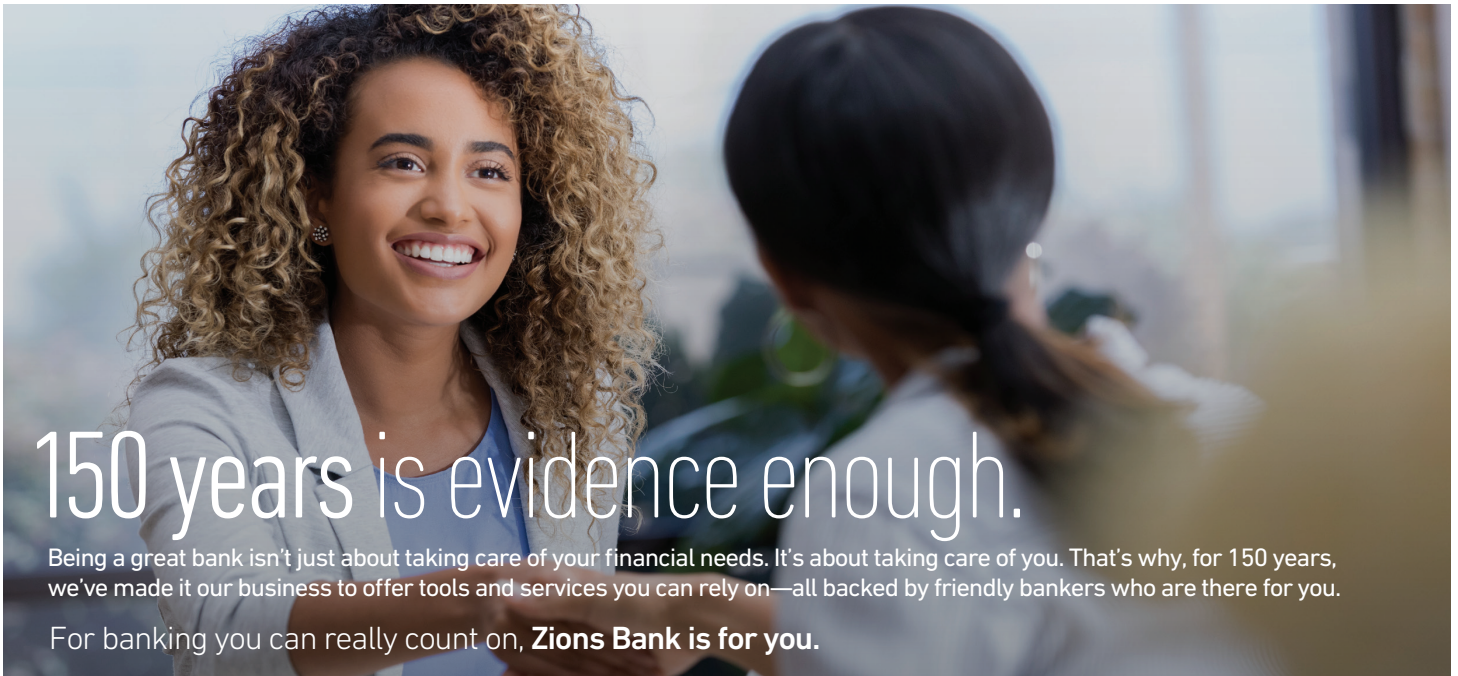
**Wildfire Preparedness** - The mission is to educate Avenues residents about the dangers of wildfire within our community and to help them prevent, prepare, and mitigate. This group coordinates various programs and events with the City Council and the Fire Department.

### Communication:

**Newsletter** – These volunteers coordinate the publication of a monthly newsletter mailed to all Avenues residents.

**Social Media** – The committee manages posting to the GACC Facebook and Instagram pages.

**Website Management** – These volunteers directly update GACC website content and oversee communication and account maintenance with third-party service providers.



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## Unmasking the Badger

By Hilary Jacobs



Badgers appear prominently in lore across diverse cultures. While we identify with their characters in stories (such as Mr. Badger from *The Wind and the Willows*) would you know a badger if you saw one? Did you know that badgers inhabit the Salt Lake City Foothills?

The American Badger is a member of the Mustelidae, a diverse family of carnivorous mammals that includes weasels, otters, ferrets and wolverines. The badger's range spans the western, central and northeastern United States, and from northern Mexico to central and southwestern Canada. They inhabit relatively dry locations, including grasslands, forests of juniper, gamble oak, ponderosa pine and sagebrush.

Badgers are stocky. They are usually 23-30 inches long and weigh 14-19 pounds. Their short powerful legs and long claws are ideal for digging their burrows. With thick tan-gray coats, badgers are easily recognized by the distinctive white stripe that runs from their black snout over their head.

Badgers eat a variety of rodents, snakes (including rattlesnakes) and other prey that they dig out from underground. They will enlarge other animals' dens to make their own burrows where they can safely sleep, be protected from weather, avoid larger predators and raise their young.

Amazingly, badgers and coyotes will hunt together to improve their success rates. When a badger flushes a rodent out of its hole, the coyote may catch it as it runs to get away. And when a coyote chases an animal into its hole, the badger can grab it. Some badger populations are designated threatened. Fragmentation of their habitats has resulted in loss of adequate available prey and fresh water sources causing their numbers to decline.

While we don't often encounter badgers our activities can impact their lives greatly. Preservation of our natural lands protects the habitats of our native species.



Photo by Busath Photography

### Message from Chris Wharton

Best wishes for the New Year!

Read about what the City Council is working on in 2024 and stay updated on events in the city community by signing up for my monthly District 3 newsletter at <https://mailchi.mp/slcgov/council> or use the QR code.



Sign Up for Council Emails!

Feel free to reach me at [Chris.Wharton@slcgov.com](mailto:Chris.Wharton@slcgov.com) if you have any concerns.

See more at <https://www.slc.gov/district3/>

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## Avenues Community Improvement Grant Applications Available

by Peg Alderman

As you may know, the Greater Avenues Community Council raises funds for various purposes including the costs of the monthly newsletter, the GACC web page, the Avenues Street Fair web page, our State and IRS registrations, and other administrative costs. The GACC Bylaws and our mission statement indicate that available GACC funds be used for the betterment of our Community.

We are pleased to announce that the 2024 GACC budget includes \$3,000 for Community Improvement Grants. The Avenues Grants Committee was formed with the purpose of engaging the Avenues Community in the identification of and completion of projects to enhance life on the Greater Avenues.

Our hope is that through the completion of projects that reinforce these missions, neighbors working together will enhance a sense of community, pride, safety, and joy for all Avenues Residents. The application and answers to Frequently Asked Questions are available on the GACC web page at <https://slc-avenues.org/our-neighborhood/avenues-grants>.

Grant applications will be accepted 1 February 2024 through 1 October 2024.

Projects can be of a physical nature as well as educational, environmental...the possibilities are only limited by your imagination. What can make the Avenues better for all?



Visit the web page for more information.

<https://slc-avenues.org/our-neighborhood/avenues-grants>

Email

Scan the QR code to start your application!

## City Creek Project Updates

by Elmer Acevedo

### Ongoing Construction Activities

- Crews will continue to perform construction activities for the new permanent retaining wall at the water treatment plant parking lot.
- Crews will continue mechanical and electrical modifications to the existing filter building.
- Removal of existing equipment and structures will continue at various locations throughout the construction site.
- Construction equipment will continue to be transported throughout the canyon to prepare the construction site for upcoming activities.

### Upcoming Construction Activities:

- Crews will prepare to install underground conduit to support electrical utility needs for the water treatment plant.
- Crews will prepare for construction of the new permanent retaining wall at the backwash tank.
- Crews will prepare for structural modifications to the existing filter basin.

Visit our web page at <https://www.keepitpurecitycreek.com/>





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This publication, ***The Agenda***, is the monthly newsletter of the Greater Avenues Community Council, and is mailed free to all residents. *January 2024, Volume XXVIII, Issue 1.*

*The Greater Avenues Community Council recognizes the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes, whose ancestral homelands we occupy today. The Council honors the enduring relationship that exists between these peoples and their traditional lands, and we thank them for their longstanding land stewardship.*



The Great Salt Lake is close to the lowest levels ever recorded. The Great Salt Lake Collaborative explores solutions to save this critical body of water. Visit us to learn more: <https://greatsaltlakenews.org/> Join a rally hosted by Save Our Great Salt Lake on January 20, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Utah State Capitol. This event will kick off the 2024 Utah legislative session.

**RSVP and learn more here.**



## Sock Drive Success!

by Ali Barnes

Thank you to all who helped make the sock drive a success! We collected 3,926 pairs!



Students at Ensign Elementary and Wasatch Elementary helped immensely with our drive.

Our community has made a big difference in many people's lives. Thank you for your generosity!

## Enviromental Tips

by Tom Brooks

Great news: New Electric Vehicle (EV) sales are at almost 10%. One of ten new cars sold is an EV. It makes sense for new car buyers to consider an EV. New EV prices have fallen far below the Average Cost for a new car @\$48k. Driving an EV combats Climate Change, contributes to clean air, reduces respiratory sicknesses, saves on fuel and maintenance costs, and reduces our country's dependence on oil, which reduces prices. Where we still have a lot of ground to catch up with China at 25% and Norway at over 90%, we can always do better. I know it isn't possible for everyone but statistics show that EVs meet the needs of 85% of Vehicle owners. Our cold climate isn't an excuse, as evidenced by Norway.

Have you noticed the new EV Rivion - Amazon delivery vans? They're amazing!



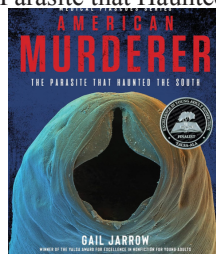
Save Our Foothills is a conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the foothills natural areas adjacent to the city. We are committed to saving the environmental integrity of these fragile public lands for future generations see more about our work at what you can do to help at <https://www.slcfhothills.org/>

## The Annual Battle of Books!

by Ashley Anderson, Salt Lake School Board

This spring, K-8 students from across the Salt Lake City School District will compete in the annual Battle of the Books. Whether or not you have a student in district schools, this book list has something for everyone and I'm happy to share my top picks to wrap up winter break with good reads.

Blue by Nana Ekua-Brew Hammond: the only picture book in the battle is great for families to read together. Pick up a copy to learn about the cultural significance of the color blue throughout history. Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas: for the graphic novel aficionado, this book follows a middle schooler through life changes and breaks down swim team stereotypes. American Murderer - the Parasite that Haunted the South by Gail Jarrow: it sounds



like a true crime podcast, but the third installment of the "medical fiascoes" series focuses on hookworm. This is a perfect audiobook for families with kids of different ages with varied interests.

Out to Get You - 13 Tales of Weirdness and Woe by Josh Allen: for older students, this is a more modern take on the Scary Stories series you may have loved as a kid.

None of these are your style? Find all 39 titles on the district's library technology page: [slcschools.org/departments/library-technology](https://slcschools.org/departments/library-technology). Also make sure to thank a librarian in 2024; did you know our district has certified teacher librarians in every school? As public education continues to face challenges, it's important to celebrate all the good happening in Salt Lake City schools.

Ashley Anderson is the school board representative for Precinct 3. You can reach out to her at [ashley.anderson@slcschools.org](mailto:ashley.anderson@slcschools.org)

