



**Great Avenues Community Council
NEW BOARD MEMBER TRAINING
December 2023**

GACC MEETINGS

The general Community Meeting is on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We meet hybrid with in person at the Sweet Library and a Zoom option. We will continue to provide a virtual options as long as any board members requests that option.

The link to the meeting is posted on the GACC website, <https://www.slc-avenues.org/> by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Board members are expected to attend the community meetings. Attendance at 50% of the meetings is required.

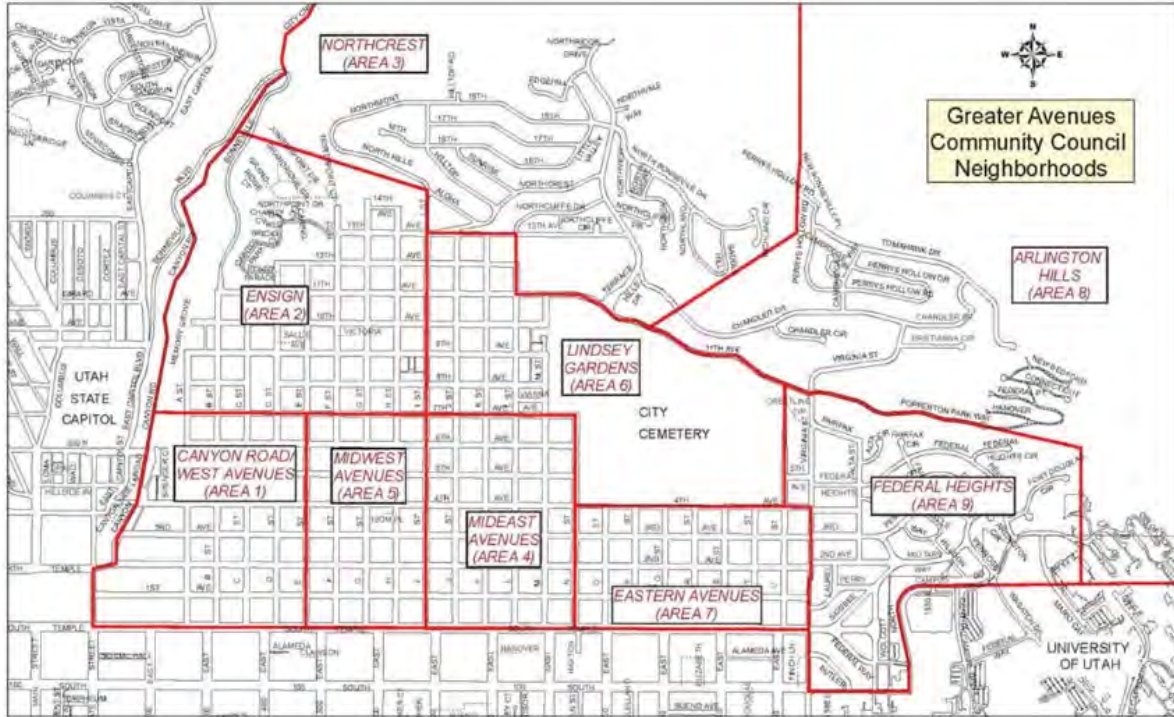
The Board meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month. Those meeting are also hybrid with in person at the Sweet Library and a Zoom option. Again, we will continue to provide a virtual options as long as any board members requests that option. Board members are expected to attend the board meetings. Attendance at 50% for the year is required.

MISSION STATEMENT - The objectives of the Greater Avenues Community Council are to:

1. Provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual concern
2. Establish working groups and committees to facilitate issue resolution
3. Promote activities that enhance and enrich the community
4. Make improvements to the community in order to protect the unique character of the Avenues
5. Provide and expand communication links with governmental, civic and community organizations
6. 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.

1. **Provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual concern.** This is the purpose of the monthly community meeting and the monthly newsletter. Membership in the community council is open to anyone 16 years of age or older who is a resident, property owner, or owner of a licensed business operating in the Greater Avenues District, which is situated within the boundaries. There are nine geographic neighborhoods that form the GACC.



One role of the board is to determine the ‘issues of mutual concern.’ We accomplish this at the monthly board meetings, discussing issues and selecting topics for presentations and newsletter articles. The chair manages the process, but the board members make the final decisions by formal vote.

The issues should be specific to the Avenues Community. That does not limit the board from expanding to issues in other geographic areas. In 2022, the board decided to hear speakers and produce articles about the proposed quarry in Emigration Canyon because it is a broad issue of community concern.

NEWSLETTER

The GACC Newsletter is called The Agenda. The council produces and mails a monthly community newsletter, with the assistance of a volunteer editor. The GACC pays for the newsletter to be printed and delivered to all addresses within the GACC boundaries. Our circulation is just under 9,000 residences and businesses. Over the years, suggestions have been that we should move away from a printed newsletter. The overall value of having a physical newsletter delivered to each residence still outweighs an argument to move to electronic. Over 50% of the residents on the Avenues are renters, many with annual or frequent turnover. The hard copy lets us greet and communicate with all, including established homeowners and seasonal renters. The information in the newsletter is available to all, and all are welcome to attend our meetings. There is no practical way to gather that many email addresses and keep a current and updated list. The cost of the printing and mailing is covered by advertising income and a donation from Zions Bank. Our newsletter is

the
A V E N U E S

the envy of other community councils and allow us to provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual concern.

2. Establish working groups and committees to facilitate issue resolution

By forming committees, the GACC can work on short and long-term projects that align with our objectives. The GACC Chair, with the approval of the Board, may establish or dissolve committees of two types:

Standing Committees - These address general or long-term issues and exist until specifically dissolved.

Ad-hoc Committees - Formed to address short-term issues and are automatically dissolved on their one-year anniversary unless the Chair or Board explicitly renews them. The GACC currently has no ad-hoc committees.

The current structure of the GACC is shown below.

2024 GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Committees



GACC Standing Committees - *Italic* = Non GACC Board Member serving.

Avenues Athletic League – Jill Van Langeveld Liaison, Michael Hughes Treasurer
This committee is currently inactive. It was formed in 2017 at the request of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They donated the use of their cultural halls and provided most of the volunteers to run the leagues. Three leagues were initially held, each one playing at a different time of the year: Coed Volleyball (September-November), Mens Basketball (January-March), and Coed Soccer (May-July). Participation fees covered facility fees (soccer fields), equipment expenses, and referees for basketball. The AAA shut down during COVID-19 and has not yet returned. The GACC has run pickleball events in the past, and this will likely continue.

Avenues Choir - *Peggy De Azevedo* Chair, Michael Hughes Board Liaison, Ryan Kendrick GACC Treasurer, *Gina Duncan, Chuck Clark*
The GACC has a representative serving on the Choir Board. This person is a liaison between the GACC Board and the Choir Board and may or may not be the GACC Treasurer. This person helps plan events, solicit new choir members, and publicize choir participation and performances. This person also reports to the GACC Board about the Choir schedule and finances and facilitates GACC newsletter articles.

Avenues Grants – Peg Aldermen Chair, Joseph Murphy, Hilary Jacob, Michael Hughes, Gwen Springmeyer
The Avenues Grants Committee receives and reviews applications from Avenues residents to provide funds to these residents to complete Community Improvement Projects. There are five appointed board members. A selection committee of ten, one representative from each of the Greater Avenues Neighborhoods and one representative from the City, assist the committee in deciding which project to fund. This committee is currently full.

Bylaw and SOP – Joseph Murphy & Gwen Springmeyer Co-Chairs, Dianne Leonard, Michael Hughes
The GACC has viable bylaws to govern the organization. The board last did a major revision of its Bylaws in 2014. The GACC bylaws outline the activities and duties of the officers, board, and members, and set procedures for elections and other procedural matters. The Bylaws and SOP committee is currently in the process of reviewing and updating the bylaws. A new draft will be brought to the GACC Board of Directors for discussion and approval, then to the general community for discussion and approval.

The bylaws require us to maintain a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to implement the bylaws. Years ago, we had SOPs for every committee. Somehow, those were lost. We are currently in the process of recreating those SOPs for each committee. It is a valuable process because it requires the committee chairs to evaluate their work and renewed goals. This committee should have both board and council members.

Civil Engagement – David Berg Chair, Gwen Springmeyer, Steve Miller
The GACC Civic Engagement Committee seeks to get more people involved in our local and broader community. We generally do this by promoting increased interaction between our elected representatives and Avenues residents, including voter registration, meet the candidates' events, how to vote, and civics literacy wherever civic engagement opportunities arise.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Carleton DeTar Chair, *Scott Rosenbush*, Craig Provost, Lori Galindo.
Like most other cities in the US, Salt Lake City promotes neighborhood volunteer Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) who train to help their communities survive disasters, such as significant earthquakes, severe storms, or major flooding. The GACC CERT committee promotes emergency preparedness for all, encourages residents who can train for and participate in CERT, organizes occasional CERT exercises, runs an informational and recruiting booth in the annual Avenues Street Fair, shares in organizing periodic community emergency preparedness fairs, and coordinates with the SLC Office of Emergency Management.

Finance – Ryan Kendrick Chair, Gwen Springmeyer, Phil Carrol, Michael Hughes
This committee supports the GACC Treasurer's work and reviews GACC financial reports at least quarterly. Essential responsibilities include reviewing the schedule of recurring GACC reporting obligations (state agencies, permits, and annual tax return) to ensure their timely completion. Committee members assist with creating the annual GACC Budget, annual tax return, and other agency reports. They ensure adherence to best financial practices and oversee internal controls/bylaw consistency. They help create or review reports to government agencies, including grant applications.

Land Use Committee– Jim Jenkin, Chair, Michael Hughes, *Chad Ariss*,
Salt Lake City allows the GACC to review zoning variances and new building or demolition applications within the GACC area. the City also contacts our council to present ordinance changes and other land use related matters.

It is the primary responsibility of the Land Use Committee to monitor these applications and present them to the GACC within the 45-day comment period, or ask for citizen input in a timely manner.

In addition, the Land Use Committee addresses other Land Use issues in the Avenues area. A current focus of the committee is updating the Avenues Master Plan. Another issue is the possible closure of LDS Hospital. The new Land Use Committee chair plans to schedule a regular in-person meeting, most likely monthly, at the Sweet Library, and will give regular reports to the GACC board and community via presentations at GACC meetings, and with newsletter and GACC web page articles.

the

AVENUES

Memory Grove Clean Up – Phil Carroll Chair, Brian Berkelbach, Kathryn Wright

The Memory Grove Clean-up Committee plans for and conducts the Annual Memory Grove Clean-Up on the second Saturday of May. The GACC has been coordinating this clean-up every year since 1997. This involves significant coordination with our partners, the Salt Lake City Parks Department, LDS Hospital, and other church and community groups. The work includes cleaning up debris after winter, pruning, and planting new flowers and trees. A free lunch always follows the cleanup, with the lunch being held in City Creek Park.

Memory Grove Foundation – *Craig Ogan* Chair, Phil Carroll, Michael Hughes Treasure

The Memory Grove Foundation is a not-for-profit organization closely associated with the GACC and the Memory Grove Clean-up Committee. Their goal is to advocate for the preservation, maintenance, and enhancement of Memory Grove. They raise funds for Memory Grove projects. The members are primarily residents near Memory Grove with their eyes on the park and canyon daily. They work closely with Salt Lake City Parks and the Memory Grove Clean-up Committee to advocate for the park and canyon. They are beginning a conversation about doing a fall workday before Veterans Day to spruce up the park for an annual event honoring Veterans.

Nominating Committee – Gwen Chair, Robyn Christensen, Craig Provost, Phil Carroll, Daniel Sowards

The GACC chair appoints the Nominating Committee in September. The immediate past chair is always the nominating committee chair, and there are three additional committee members. The task is to prepare a slate of board candidates and officers to present at the October Community Meeting and to be voted on at the November Community Meeting. Committee members contact the community to recruit board members willing to serve and verify their eligibility. The committee also recruits candidates for chair-elect, treasurer, and secretary. Members of the Nominating Committee cannot be simultaneously candidates for GACC Officer positions, but can be GACC voting board members.

Orange Crossing Flags – Jill Van Langeveld, Michael Hughes

Because crossing the street is safer using an orange flag, the GACC joined the City's Orange Flag program. We have numerous Orange-Flag-intersections in the Avenues. City Transportation assigns the locations, and approves new locations based on citizen requests. Families are then asked to adopt an intersection by completing a form. We then coordinate with the City to install flag holders at the intersection. The GACC supplies the flags, which are stored at the Sweet Library. Our current supply of flags is the result of an Eagle Scout Project. The volunteers check out the flags at the Sweet Library and put several in each holder at their intersection. They monitor the holders to replace stolen or damaged flags. The Orange Flag Committee keeps a current list of all volunteers and Intersections, and sends out reminders.

Popperton Plots Community Garden – *Bronti DeRoches & Ed D'ellesandro* Chairs, Michael Hughes Liaison

Our liaison interfaces between the GACC Board, the Popperton Plots gardener team and the Wasatch Community Gardens organization. The liaison informs the GACC board of Popperton Plots' activities, helps publicize initiatives, and provides

the

A V E N U E S

information about how to apply for a plot. This representative will report to the GACC Board about the garden's activities and financial needs and facilitate GACC newsletter articles. Because Popperton Plots is planning an expansion, this person would help with the expansion planning, including forming a fundraising plan.

GACC STEERING COMMITTEE – Jessica Dalrymple Chair

The steering committee leads and oversees the work of three important GACC sub-committees – Newsletter, Web Page and Social Media.

Social Media – Mary Grazel Chair, Brian Berkelbach, Robyn Christensen, Joseph Murphy

The committee manages the posting of GACC information to the GACC's social media including Facebook and Instagram. We post upcoming events related to our community, such as meeting announcements, our Emergency Preparedness Fair, Annual Memory Grove Cleanup, Avenues Street Fair, and Salt Lake Pickleball Fest. Please follow us on FB and IG. https://www.instagram.com/gacc_slc/

Street Fair – Daniel Sowards Chair, Joseph Murphy, Brian Berkelbach, Dave Alderman, Peg Alderman, Kathryn Wright, Phil Carroll, Jill Van Langeveld, Robyn Christensen, Gwen Springmeyer, many others.

The Avenues Street Fair Committee is the heart of pulling together the annual fair to provide a memorable experience for our neighborhood and a presence for local businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, artists, crafters and entertainers. The committee meets the second Saturday of every month at 9:00 am starting in March and continues meeting until the fair on the second Saturday of September. Each committee member oversees a specific facet of the fair, so we have many roles for different interests. This is a fantastic committee for anyone who enjoys collaboration and planning/executing events. See www.avenuesstreetfair.org for more information.

Website Management – Michael Hughes, Joseph Murphy, Lori Galindo

Individuals on this committee should be skilled and comfortable working with websites and related service providers. Committee members help develop, plan, and keep a schedule of recurring website-related events (software subscription renewals, etc.). They coordinate between the newsletter printer, newsletter editor, and website to promptly get the latest issue online and the newest content to the editor. Also involved is regularly – near daily - updating website content for GACC, Street Fair, and Choir websites. These volunteers directly update website content and oversee communication and account maintenance with third-party service providers XMission and Infobytes. This committee reports monthly to the GACC Board.

Wildfire Preparedness – Shane Carlson

The mission is to educate Avenues residents about the dangers of wildfire within our community and to help residents prevent, prepare, and mitigate fire danger. We work to create a neighborhood that is resilient to wildfire and whose residents proactively work to reduce the risks associated with living in a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The committee meets 2-3 times/year with roughly 4-5 hours of committee work each month. There is general community education through the GACC website, a monthly



Wildfire Tip, informational articles in the GACC Newsletter, an annual wildfire presentation at a GACC community meeting, and a booth at the street fair. This group coordinates various programs and events with the City Council, SLC Fire Department and state and national fire organizations.

AD-HOC Committees

Formed to address short-term issues and are automatically dissolved on their one-year anniversary unless the Chair or Board explicitly renews them. The GACC currently has no ad-hoc committees.

CITY ADVISORY BOARDS

The GACC also has volunteer representatives on various Salt Lake City advisory boards, civic committees, or affiliated organizations. <https://www.slc.gov/boards/>

2023 GACC Representatives

1. City Creek Water Treatment Plant – Kathryn Wright
2. Park, Natural Lands, Urban Forest, and Trails – Phil Carroll
3. Transportation Advisory - Dave Alderman
4. Friends of the Cemetery – Dave Alderman Chair, Gwen Springmeyer
5. I Street Bike Park Stakeholder Working Group – Beverly Language and Gwen Springmeyer
6. Salt Lake City Foothills Stakeholder – Gwen Springmeyer
7. Urban Forestry Subcommittee Liaison – Vacancy

3. Promote activities that enhance and enrich the community

The GACC annually provides an Emergency Preparedness Fair and works with the City to organize the Annual Memory Grove Cleanup. Of course, the Avenues Street Fair, which is our biggest event, provides richness to the community and raises funds. We periodically do random events such as the Salt Lake Pickle Ball Fest.

4. Make improvements to the community in order to protect the unique character of the Avenues. Example: In 2014, the GACC leadership worked with the City to establish a community garden. Earlier community attempts had failed. Today, we have a thriving community garden, Popperton Plots on Popperton Way east of Virginia Street and 11th Avenue. The GACC is currently interested in fundraising to expand the garden by doubling its size. The GACC remains involved in providing financial functions and protection through our Federal Nonprofit status

5. Provide and expand communication links with governmental, civic and community organizations

The Greater Avenues Community Council is a Salt Lake City Recognized Community Organization. We are one of 22 community councils in Salt Lake City. While not part of Salt Lake City's official government, we have a significant relationship with the City. The City has a formal process to recognize community organizations, and we maintain that status by yearly application. They require us to register with the State of Utah as a not-for-profit organization. The City does not tell us how to manage our organization, and we do not report our activities or answer to them in any way. The Mayor's Office assigns a liaison to work directly with the GACC to provide

communication between our leaders and members with City departments and staff. We enjoy good working relationships with those City Departments. Our monthly community meetings include time on our agenda for the Police Department, Fire Department, City Council, Transportation, Public Lands, and Library. We regularly provide time on our agenda for updates on various City projects, such as the Foothill Trails and the reconstruction of Virginia Street. As a recognized Community Council, we participate with other community councils by being a member of the Salt Lake Community Network. This organization is for the councils' leadership and provides valuable city-wide information, training, and collaboration. The GACC also includes time on the agenda at our Community Meetings for our elected state representatives and senators and our National Congressional Representatives. The GACC has federal 501c3 nonprofit status and its net income is exempt from taxes.

6. Provides benefit to the broader Avenues community with the use of GACC funds

Over the decades since it was formed in the mid-1970's the GACC has funded various community projects. We recently formed a Grants Committee to formalize the application process and expand the use of GACC funds to fulfill this mission. See Avenues Grants Committee information above. The Avenues develops an annual budget which is presented to the community for a vote every November. In addition the GACC board can vote to expend up to \$500 on single projects that benefit the Avenues community and fall within its approved budget.

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

The council plays a large role in the community. We interact with local, state, and federal leaders. These government agencies do not tell us what to do, and we do not tell them what to do. The GACC does not take a formal stand for or against government policies or actions. We can provide a forum for a topic of community concern. Occasionally the GACC announces a community vote on an issue. When that occurs, we only report the results of the vote. We would never communicate to the City. "The GACC is opposed to XXXX." We would instead share the results of our meeting, discussion, and the results of any vote taken. An example is a request for a review of a zoning change. We would hear from the City staff member working on the request. We would listen to the developer or homeowner. We would also provide time for any community member to discuss the request. We would then communicate the result of the discussion to City staff. We would not state approval or opposition. We would write something like, "GACC Community members discussed building height, potential traffic increases, parking challenges, and noise restrictions." When we do take a vote, we never vote on an issue at the same meeting when we hold the discussion. We always wait one month and post the pending vote in our newsletter. We recognize that is sometimes frustrating to our members. We came to this strict policy the hard way. Many years ago, we would take a stand in opposition or favor of government policies or programs. We learned that the process was divisive and caused discontent among our members. We would experience a loss of valuable community or board members over issues. We decided it was not worth it to antagonize our members, and we rarely had the kind of impact we wanted anyway.

the

AVENUES

The information above is meant to help GACC Board members or those interested in serving understand what the GACC does, why, how it functions and the structure of the board and committees. Please reach out to our 2024 GACC Chair Joseph “Jurphy” Murphy at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org with any questions or if you would like to serve in any of the above capacities.

Greater Avenues Community Council
www.slc-avenues.org