# Fairpark Community Council Gazette



Sept 2014

Issue 82

### Fairpark Community Council Meeting

Thursday, Sept 24th, 6:30 pm

Northwest Recreation and Community Center

1255 West 300 North (South Building, enter through north door)

# 2014 Utah State Fair Success A Plan for the Fairpark's future?

This year's Utah State Fair was smiled upon with good weather that brought record numbers of people to the 10-day event and filled many Fairpark Community streets with parked cars.

Another possible ray of sunshine appeared with an offer by the REAL Salt Lake to build a new soccer stadium for their minor league team, the Monarchs, at the Fairpark. Dell Loy Hansen, REAL Salt Lake president, is offering to spend \$13 to \$18 million to build a 8,000-seat sports arena that, in addition to the Monarchs, could host other team sport and be used for concerts and public events.

#### Recent Fairpark Struggles

The Fairpark entered 2014 facing serious questions on its viability as the site for the annual Utah State Fair. Poor Fair attendance in 2013, largely the result of bad weather, seemed to cap years of decreasing Fair crowds and the deterioration of many Fairpark buildings.

The poor performance in 2013 cost the Utah State Fair dearly in regards to its financial situation. After approaching the Utah Legislature for over \$1million to cover its funding short-fall, the Fairpark's crisis deepened when Utah State inspectors condemned two of the Fairpark's three animal barns. Ultimately, the State of Utah did allocate money to cover the funding shortfall and over \$2 million to upgrade the barns.

But the reality is that years of inadequate maintenance has diminished the Fairpark's attractiveness as the site for the annual Utah State Fair and its ability to host other events that could improve the Fair's financial status. Many state legislators and other state leaders questioned the wisdom of pouring more money into the Fairpark to simply prevent further deterioration. Isn't there a better use for this prime North Temple property? Where do we go from here?

(Article continued at www.fairparkcommunity.org)

#### **Agenda**

6:30	Welcome/Announcements
6:35	Public Safety Reports
6:50	City Council Reports
7:10	Utah Legislative Report
7:25	Utah Fairpark Status: Michael Steele, Exec. Director, Utah State Fair
7:55	Update on issues and projects
8:00	Adjourn
8:05	Adopt-A-Spot volunteer meeting

Please join us at our first Adopt-A-Spot volunteer Meeting in the Party Room at the Northwest Community Center at 8:00pm, on Thursday, September 25th. We will meet right after the Fairpark Community Council monthly meeting. In this initial meeting, we will briefly discuss the program, the training & orientation, types of volunteer projects, and a Q & A.

Our mission is to build a strong, local volunteer group committed to keeping our parkway beautiful, well-cared for, and safe. This is an amazing opportunity to make a real difference in our community. Please join us! All ages are

#### **Council Meeting Preview**

- -The Utah State Fairpark saga has, for months, captured the interest of the Fairpark Community. Michael Steele, Utah State Fair's Executive Director, will update us on this year's successful Utah State Fair, the details of REAL Salt Lake's proposal to build a soccer arena at the Fairpark, and what needs to happen in the upcoming Utah legislature to ensure the Fairpark's future. He will also answer any questions we have for him.
- -Last month, we learned about the changes in the staffing of the community detectives assigned to our area. Meet Detectives Carlos Valencia and Cale Lennberg, our new community detectives.

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#### **Northwest Recreation and Community Center Activities**

Fun classes for kids at Northwest Rec. Center

- Taryn It Up (movement/dance)
- Basic guitar
- Self defence
- Social and physical for children (2 1/5 -5)
- Ongoing swimming and outdoor soccer

Go to www.recreation.slco.org/northwest/ for further information on all of their programs or call: 385-468-1305

Salt Lake Community Network - Fairpark Community Council Branch 606 Trolley Square Salt Lake City, UT 84102

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JOIN US ON SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

SUNDAYS: Sunday Bible Study: 9:45AM Sunday Services: English 11 AM - Noon

Spanish 1 PM - 2 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS:

Men's Bible Study: 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study: 6:30 PM Youth Night (6th-12th grade): 7:00 PM



\*May not be combined with any other offer. Excludes gift cards, taxes and labor. Salt Lake location only. See store for details.