

CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE
CIVIC EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING 642 NORTH 400 WEST, NORTH SALT LAKE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

FINAL

PRESENT: Elexis Contreras
Dallas Golden, Chair
Sarah Jensen
Catherine Johnson, Vice Chair
Tammy Clayton, City Council

EXCUSED: Emily Carr

STAFF PRESENT: Jon Rueckert, Public Works Director; Randy Simmons, Operations Manager; Carmen Wilson, Operations Manager; Linda Horrocks, Communications Coordinator; Julie McLaughlin, Recreation Manager.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Dallas Golden, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

a. NSL PHOTO CONTEST

Dallas Golden reported that entries for the NSL Photo Contest are due on September 26, 2025, with only eight submissions received so far, though more are anticipated. The contest features adult and kids categories, with a suggested 12-and-under division. Entries will be compiled into a PDF for Committee voting (first, second, third in each category), potentially shared with City office staff and the Arts Committee for additional input. Linda Horrocks noted the contest's joint alignment with visual arts under the Arts Committee, and Tammy Clayton suggested including Arts Committee members in judging. The Committee discussed printing options for winners' canvases including Costco or Shutterfly for discounts.

b. HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

The Committee discussed detailed plans for the October 25, 2025, Halloween Spooktacular at Tunnel Springs Park, focusing on the zombie-themed 5K race and family activities. Dallas Golden updated the Committee on securing Peter Wirthlin for race timing (using a generator-powered clock), Rachel the storyteller, and zombies (Enos Beebe's son and track friends, with Julie McLaughlin recruiting Henry Hyde and extras from her staff). The race route is an out-and-back from the golf course to the church turnaround (approximately 5K on sidewalk), starting at 10:00 a.m. with setup at 9:30 a.m.

The Committee refined the Zombie mechanics which included: runners wear flags (e.g., torn sheets tucked at the side or multi-flag belts for multiple chances), with zombies pulling them to "infect" participants (no elimination, but survivors get prizes). Zombies include fast runners (delayed start by 60-90 seconds) and walking ones stationed along the route for surprise. Prizes include pumpkins (donated or purchased from Cross E Ranch via Heather, aiming for 25-30) marked with Sharpies for first/second/third and best costumes, plus stickers (e.g., "I Survived" or "Infected," designed by Linda Horrocks, potentially via Sticker Mule or Cole). Carmen Wilson confirmed the event budget is \$2,300 for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

The Committee discussed planned activities including: bounce houses (1-2, \$150-250 each, coordinated by Julie McLaughlin and Randy Simmons), cornhole (city sets provided), crafts (headed by Sarah Jensen), karate demonstration (Gian's World Martial Arts), face painting (Amy Ambler, contacted by Tammy Clayton), balloon animals (Georgette Harold, contacted by Dallas Golden), photo backdrops (spiderweb with balloons, budgeted \$250 corner arch), and Eaglewood Golf Course booth (Linda Horrocks to confirm). Donuts (300, coordinated by Catherine Johnson from JJ's Donuts or Lee's Market with discounts), chocolate milk (purchased morning of), and water (city-provided) would also be available. Youth City Council will staff stations for treats/toys (Tammy Clayton to confirm costumes/makeup and budget for thrift store outfits).

The Committee members mentioned promotions should include flyers distributed at schools (Orchard, Foxboro via connections) and Peach Jar. Logistics: police notification for traffic (Linda Horrocks), message boards/road closures/cones (Public Works), tables (6-7), chairs, sound system, generator, U-turn signs, air horn, and mosquito spraying. A follow-up email thread will track assignments and progress, with potential subcommittee meeting if needed.

c. WINTER LIGHTS FEST

The Committee briefly noted plans for the December 2025 Winter Lights Fest at City Hall amphitheater, including lights, Santa arrival on fire truck, caroling, hot chocolate, fires, and lines for photos. Reindeer were discussed as a potential addition (Elexis Conteras to explore affordable options via connections). Detailed planning will occur at the next meeting.

d. 250th ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA IN 2026 INCORPORATION INTO EVENTS

Linda Horrocks reported submitting the application to designate North Salt Lake as a Utah 250 City, including Committee details, potentially securing \$1,500 for swag. She summarized planned events (photo contest, 250-mile challenge, house decorating, Veterans Day, Liberty Fest) and forwarded a state newsletter link with the 250-mile initiative (tracking exercise from July 5, 2025, to July 4, 2026). Catherine Johnson will forward to schools/PTAs and seek responses. The City allocated \$2,500 for events. Veterans Day (November 11, 2025) lunch plans were discussed, potentially tying into senior lunch bunch (second Wednesday) or a separate weekend/evening dinner; Tammy Clayton will seek City Council approval by October 7. Veteran highlights will start in the October newsletter (Catherine Johnson to draft paragraph and select first veteran). Promotion includes pre-race announcements at Spooktacular and emails to registrants.

Tammy Clayton left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

4. RECAP OF UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY – LATINO HERITAGE

Elexis Contreras recapped the September 22, 2025, event as successful with good attendance, music, dancing, and engagement, though the dance floor vendor arrived late (skip it next year). It was less attended than Juneteenth but positive; suggestions include earlier start times to avoid daylight loss.

5. PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Jon Rueckert reported the school supplies donated at the Back to School Night were at Public Works and needed to be distributed to a school. Adelaide Elementary which is a Title I school was discussed as a recipient.

6. CITY COUNCIL UPDATES - COUNCILMEMBER TAMMY CLAYTON

There were City Council updates.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 26, 2025

The Committee reviewed and approved the Civic Events Committee minutes of August 26, 2025, as written.

Committee Member Dallas Golden moved to formally approve the meeting minutes from August 26, 2025. Committee Member Catherine Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Contreras, Golden, Jensen, and Johnson. Committee Member Carr was excused.

8. SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT CIVIC EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Committee scheduled its next meeting for October 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Works Building, focusing on Winter Lights Fest and Veterans Day.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The foregoing was approved by the Civic Events Committee of the City of North Salt Lake on October 28, 2025 by unanimous vote of all members present.



Dallas Golden, Chair



Wendy Page, City Recorder

