

CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE  
CIVIC EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING  
PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING 642 NORTH 400 WEST, NORTH SALT LAKE  
OCTOBER 28, 2025

**FINAL**

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

EXCUSED: Emily Carr  
Elexis Contreras

STAFF PRESENT: Jon Rueckert, Public Works Director; Randy Simmons, Operations Manager; Carmen Wilson, Operations Manager; Linda Horrocks, Communications Coordinator; Craig Black, Police Chief; Mitch Gwillam, Assistant Police Chief.

OTHERS PRESENT: Russ Stirling, Ultimate Inflatables.

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

Russ Striling, Ultimate Inflatables, showcased a variety of family-oriented inflatables and activities that could be rented for City events including: a 40-foot slingshot, wet/dry slides, contained foam pits, age-specific bounce houses for toddlers, Zorb balls, obstacle courses, rock walls, extreme air jumpers, Velcro walls, VR systems, bungee runs, jousts, and escape rooms. He emphasized fun for all ages, safety, and flexible pricing models. He outlined options for City contracted free public events versus ticketed unlimited access (e.g., \$10 per person as done in Woods Cross), staffing choices (company-provided attendants for high-risk items like rock walls or volunteer-trained for simpler units), no delivery/setup fees, generator rentals if needed, and advance booking priorities for municipalities, while addressing wind safety protocols like sandbagging or staking.

The Committee expressed interest in options for varying event scales, from single bounce houses for Monday food trucks to multi-unit setups for major events, and appreciated the contained foam for the foam pit and all-ages appeal to complement existing vendors.

### 3. RECAP OF EVENTS

#### a. HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

The Committee members praised the Halloween Spooktacular event's strong turnout, excitement on social media, and scenic Eagleridge Drive route improvement over prior years' industrial paths, with positive feedback on free entry boosting participation.

Chief Black and Deputy Chief Gwilliam highlighted public safety concerns from zombies startling runners into traffic, noting instinctive flight responses led to near-misses despite six officers' presence. They recommended earlier police involvement starting in August for future planning, route adjustments to avoid busy Eagleridge Drive (favoring looped neighborhood paths around Sugar Plum Lane or park trails with minimal elevation), partial road closures or barriers/cones to contain zombies in safer zones like parks, and enhanced signage (e.g., painted arrows, halfway markers). Chief Black cautioned against having golf cart patrols to slow vehicles.

Committee and staff suggestions included confining zombies to designated low-traffic areas for manageability, adding 20-25 zombies next year with better spacing/training to grab one flag at a time (flags worked well without breaking), staff-applied makeup, optional zombie volunteer sign-ups separate from runners, and potential add-ons like commemorative t-shirts/stickers for purchase (keeping the race free). Additional enhancements discussed were improved activity wayfinding to reduce long lines and isolation (e.g., relocating trick-or-treat stations nearer face painting/balloons, integrating the storytelling witch), extended taekwondo demonstrations, and minor incident notes related to a fall. The Committee also noted Julie McLaughlin's emailed input on flag mechanics, zombie quantity/placement for herd effects, and safety prioritization, while appreciating media coverage.

### 4. EVENT WRAP UP

#### a. NSL PHOTO CONTEST

Dallas Golden stated the NSL Photo Contest results were finalized with patriotic themes yielding high engagement; adult winners were first place to a fireworks capture with a veteran's portrait, second to a scenic neighborhood shot, and third to a reflective door image, while youth first place went to a twinkling-eyed veteran portrait taken by Dallas Golden's daughter (processed independently to avoid bias). He indicated there were some disqualified entries that violated rules like non-NSL locations. He reported all winners would be contacted for City Council recognition on November 18<sup>th</sup>, with prints for display; and leftover promotional items like balloons and coloring books were retained for future use.

5. UPCOMING EVENT PLANNING

a. SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL EVENT FOR VETERANS IN CONJUNCTION WITH SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH

The Committee talked about the Semiquincentennial Veterans Event with Senior Lunch Bunch (Nov 12<sup>th</sup>): RSVPs are due by Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, centerpieces should be coordinated via Wendy Page (801-335-8709), no food duties for the Committee, potential short program (patriotic sing-along or City Council remarks), flags (50–100) along City Hall railing with set up by Public Works, and veteran highlights solicited for newsletters.

b. WINTER LIGHTS FEST

The Committee discussed Winter Lights Fest (Dec 1, 6 p.m.) including: tree lighting at 6:15 p.m., carolers recruited (starting at 5:45 p.m.), Santa/fire truck arrival, face painting, scones/hot chocolate (Jon Rueckert and Tammy Clayton coordinating, with the Youth City Council serving), photo ops, playlist ready; mural unveiling announced (spotlights, no crowd crossing busy intersection); setup beginning at 2 p.m.

c. 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA IN 2026 INCORPORATION INTO EVENTS

The Committee had a discussion about the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of America integration including: swag ordering (America250.utah.gov), Walk250 tracking challenge with newsletter runner graphic. The Committee also mentioned shirts with the logo could be designed so members could wear them at all upcoming events.

6. PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Jon Rueckert noted invitations were sent to the Committee for the Mayor and City Council Holiday Boards Party to be held December 4, 2025. He reminded everyone to RSVP before November 1<sup>st</sup>. He also advised the Committee that the City's website was recently updated to [nslcity.gov](http://nslcity.gov).

6. CITY COUNCIL UPDATES - COUNCILMEMBER TAMMY CLAYTON

Tammy Clayton stated due to her work schedule she would need to recruit help with the scone preparation for the Winter Lights Fest event. She also confirmed that she and the City had Blackstone grills to help with cooking the scones. Sarah Jensen and Jon Rueckert agreed to help with scone dough preparation and set up. Dallas Golden confirmed his daughter could also help with the scones that evening.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

The Committee reviewed and approved the Civic Events Committee minutes of September 23, 2025, as written.

**Committee Member Dallas Golden moved the Events Committee approve the meeting minutes from September 23, 2025. Committee Member Catherine Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Golden, Jensen, and Johnson. Committee Members Contreras and Carr were excused.**

8. SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT CIVIC EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Committee scheduled its next meeting for November 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Works Building, focusing on Winter Lights Fest.

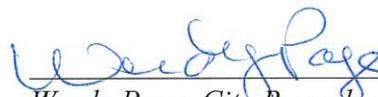
Sarah Jensen indicated she might not be able to attend that evening due to family conflicts.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

*The foregoing was approved by the Civic Events Committee of the City of North Salt Lake on November 25, 2025 by unanimous vote of all members present.*

  
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Dallas Golden, Chair

  
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Wendy Page, City Recorder

