



PARKS & RECREATION

JENNY WILSON
Salt Lake County Mayor

Robin Chalhoub
Department Director
Community Services

MARTIN JENSEN
Division Director
Parks & Recreation

Salt Lake County
Government Center
2001 S. State Street
Suite S4-700
(385) 468-1800

Mayor Jenny Wilson
Salt Lake County
2001 S State Street, N2-200
Salt Lake City, UT 84190

October 13, 2022

Re: Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee Nominees

Dear Mayor Wilson,

Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation respectfully requests your consideration of the following renewal and nominees for the Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee:

Kael Weston (renewal)
Benjamin Cook
Deborah Gatrell

Carrie Butler
Bennion Gardner
Angela Gong

Kael Weston is an **at-large member** whose first term ended in December 2021. Kael is interested in completing a second term and provides extensive policy experience and government relations skills.

Carrie Butler would represent **district 5** and brings a unique and much-needed public health perspective. She is interested in improving quality of life, health, and the overall cost of caring for our communities and recognizes the value open spaces provide to health and wellness.

Benjamin Cook has deep roots in Utah and would represent **district 6**. He has a passion for data-driven, community-focused, problem-solving decisions, and, as a single professional, brings a perspective outside the traditional family-user viewpoint.

Bennion Gardner would represent **district 2**, is active in community engagement, and founded the Oquirrh Foundation to increase preservation and awareness of the importance of open space.

Deborah Gatrell would be an **at-large member** and is a long-term educator and Utah National Guard pilot with a strong passion for future open space planning.

JENNY WILSON

Salt Lake County Mayor

Robin Chalhoub

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Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee Nominees (cont.)

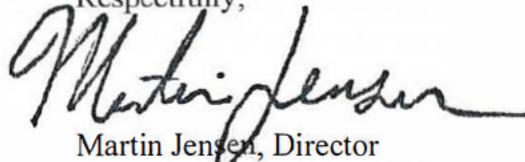
Lastly, **Angela Gong** would be an **at-large member** who brings environmental science, research, and finance skills to the committee. She moved to Utah because of the incomparable outdoor opportunities and is passionate about making open spaces available for all who live in and visit Salt Lake County.

In accordance with County ordinance, the nine-member advisory committee includes three at-large members and one representative from each County Council district.

As detailed in the accompanying applications and resumes, the nominees presented provide diverse perspectives and interests, as well as years of combined experience in government, public relations, environmental science, public health, and outdoor recreation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,



Martin Jensen, Director
Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation

Attachments: Applications, Resumes, and Proposed Roster

cc:

Erin Litvack, Deputy Mayor

Robin Chalhoub, Community Services Director

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee

Proposed Roster, October 2022

| Name | District/City | Term | Core Inputs |
|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Blouin, Nate | 4 South Salt Lake | 1/19 – 12/23 *1 st * | Avid outdoors enthusiast, newly elected state representative. |
| McIff, Rhetta | 3 South Jordan | 9/15– 9/23 *2 nd * | Actively involved in park development and is an open space advocate. |
| Reale, Sarah | 1 Salt Lake City | 8/21– 8/24 *1 st * | Outdoors enthusiast interested in a balance between urban and open-space development. |
| Weston, Kael | At-large Salt Lake City | 1/20 – 12/21 *2 nd * | Previous at-large member with extensive policy experience and government relations skills. |
| Butler, Carrie | 5 South Jordan | | Long-term resident and public health professional interested in the intersection of public open space and public health. |
| Cook, Benjamin | 6 Draper | | Deep roots in Utah with a passion for data-driven, community-focused, problem-solving decisions. |
| Gardner, Bennion | 2 South Jordan | | Active in community engagement and founded the Oquirrh Foundation to increase awareness of the importance of open space. |
| Gatrell, Deborah | At-large West Valley City | | Long-term educator and Utah National Guard pilot with a strong passion for future open space planning. |
| Gong, Angela | At-large Holladay | | Environmental science educator and researcher who moved to Utah because of the incomparable outdoor opportunities. |

Legend:

| | | |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| Active Member | Renewal | Nominee |
|---------------|---------|---------|

Board Composition:

- Nine members
 - Six County Council District representatives
 - Three at-large members
- Term: Four years
 - No more than two terms of four years each

Application Form

Profile

Carr e _____ E _____ But er _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Home Address

Utah Public Health Association _____ Executive Director _____
Employer Job Title

Home Address

Suite or Apartment

City

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

I have been a Salt Lake County resident for 20 years. My family and I live in South Jordan and enjoy a lot of the recreation that the southwest valley has to offer. I currently serve as the executive director for the Utah Public Health Association, and have worked on policy initiatives within the state of Utah that improve air quality, improve access and affordability of health care, and improve safety. I have two children who attend schools in the Jordan School District and the world's cutest dog, named Sanderson Cooper. I like to hike, read, and explore.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I have an interest in bringing a public health perspective to the board. I am particularly interested in how pace and accessibility to pace can impact overall health of individuals and communities.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

I have two advanced degrees in public health and public policy that I earned from the University of Utah. I have worked in advocacy at both the state and local level for several years and I have served on the board for Utah Moms for Clean Air and the Utah Child Care Cooperative. My work has been very cross sectional and has led to my participation in a variety of tangentially related but not completely connected sectors. This has given me a chance to create cross section collaboration to solve some really challenging policy issues we face as a state.

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

I am particularly interested in public health, and how implementation processes in an upstream way can improve quality of life, health, and overall cost of caring for our communities, including and specifically our most vulnerable ones. I believe this is a perspective that could be useful to the conversation when discussing the limited resources and open spaces left in our county.

[Resume_CB_2022.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 5

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *



Languages *

English

Other

Carrie Butler

EDUCATION

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 2015-2018
Master of Public Health and Master of Public Policy

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 2013-2015
Bachelor of Arts in Health, Society and Policy

- *Summa Cum Laude*, Dean's List

EXPERIENCE

Executive Director, Utah Public Health Association 2021-Present

- Developed systems for board members and committees to adhere to IRS standards and requirements
- Created public facing legislative bill tracker and policy strategies to guide advocacy efforts on a state and local legislative level
- Developed working relationships with stakeholders including local health departments, the state health department and community-based organizations to better collaborate on common policy goals
- Organized the speaker series on public health presented at the Hinckley Institute of Politics
- Planned programming for mentorship, job resources, professional development opportunities and networking events for all UPHA members
- Provided technical assistance for the planning and implementation of the statewide annual public health conference
- Provided oversight for the development of federal funding for the capacity building for community health workers
- Hired and guided team members in the development of a professional association for community health workers
- Increased financial transparency and financial solvency in compliance with guiding nonprofit principles and regulations
-

Director/Owner, Upstream Consulting, LLC 2020-Present

- Worked with clients on a variety of public health policy issues including housing, firearm responsibility, diabetes prevention, racism and climate change.
- Created relationships with media and media experts to push out messages in support of public health efforts around safety during the pandemic.
- Directed and developed research on housing and eviction laws in conjunction with stakeholders and funding programs across the state.
- Worked with legislators on key issues to embed a presence and respect for public health organizations.

Policy Director, Action Utah

2018-2020

- Oversee development of annual bill list and policy priorities on municipal and state levels.
- Build relationships with legislators, lobbyists, advocates, and others regularly to acquire data, convey research, and lobby for policy outcomes.
- Pursue community advocacy opportunities through state legislative initiatives.
- Analyze policies and programs being presented at the legislative level.
- Develop strategy for messaging of key policy priorities.
- Recruit and manage interns and manage fellows program.
- Consult on advocacy efforts for partner organizations.
- Present information to diverse audiences on best practices for civic engagement and relationship development.

Health Policy Coordinator, Action Utah

2017-2018

- Tracked and reported on legislation pertaining to health care and public health during the 2017 legislative session.
- Made recommendations on key policy areas for Action Utah members.
- Coordinated efforts for civic engagement on health policy issues.

Epidemiology Field Coordinator

2015-2017

- Coordinated outreach efforts for collaborative study on biomonitoring.
- Developed analytical methods for collected data.
- Worked with state Environmental Health Director on project planning.
- Created and assessed target Utah populations for biomonitoring.
- Researched, created, and administered exposure assessments to target populations.
- Developed risk communication strategies and coordinated return of results.
- Coordinated efforts with community partners and guidance panel.

Graduate Assistant, Huntsman Cancer Institute

2015-2016

- Performed data analysis and interpretation using Stata software.
- Wrote and prepared academic papers for publication describing findings of Huntsman Cancer Institute research.
- Produced visual representations of data to communicate results.

Owner, Carrie Butler Photography

2002-2016

- Created a referral-based business through client relationship development.

- Worked with over 200 clients, coordinating, and photographing sessions and editing photos to send as final deliverable.
- Supervised development of product design and delivery through subcontractors.

PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- *American Public Health Association Policy Action Institute, 2022*, Panelist, Advancing Policy to Improve Health, Washington D.C.
- *Public Health Advocacy in a Conservative Rural State*: American Public Health Association annual conference 2021, Denver Colorado
- *Advocacy 101*. Co-presenter, Utah Housing Coalition Utah Housing Matters 2019 conference, Ogden, Utah.
- *Healthcare Markets: Pricing and Competition*. Panelist, Healthier Rural West 2019 Summit, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- *Four Corner States Biomonitoring Consortium Collaborative Effort*. Presenter, Utah Public Health Association 2017 conference, Park City, Utah.
- *Diet and the risk of head-and-neck cancer among never-smokers and smokers in a Chinese population*. *Cancer Epidemiology*, 46 (Supplement C), 20–26. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.canep.2016.10.014>
- *Four Corners States Biomonitoring Consortium: Lessons Learned During Implementation*. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice: JPHMP*, 23 Suppl 5 Supplement, Environmental Public Health Tracking, S93–S96. <https://doi.org/10.1097/PHH.0000000000000602>

VOLUNTEERING

Utah Public Health Association

- Past board member, serve on board as part of policy and advocacy unit.

Utah Childcare Cooperative

- Currently serve as member of Advisory Board.

Moms for Clean Air

- Donate volunteer hours providing policy analysis.

The Road Home

- Volunteer in the Road Home's Preschool Program.

Application Form

Profile

Benjamin

First Name

Cook

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Home Address

Employer

Job Title

[Redacted]

Home Address

[Redacted]

State or Zip

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

As a lifelong resident of Utah, I'm a resourceful and creative leader with more than 15 years of experience. I graduate from the University of Utah and consider myself to be a lifelong learner. I am passionate about art, business, the outdoors, and ensuring that Utah cultivates healthy communities for generations to come. My family lives in Utah, with my Mom being a first generation immigrant and my Dad having deep ties to Cache Valley. I am singing with two adorable yellow Labrador retrievers.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I was born and raised in Utah and love our beautiful communities and states. I'm looking for an opportunity to give back and serve our community in a meaningful way.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

I have an undergraduate degree in Communications from the University of Utah and am completing my Master's Degree in Marketing and Communications from Northwestern University this spring. I have more than 15 years of professional work experience including serving key leadership roles in both medium and large size companies. I have volunteered for community boards, worked in the Utah Courts as a mediator, pay coordinator for the Murray Symphony, and was the producer for Sandy City's production of Beauty and the Beast.

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

I believe I would bring a uniquely balanced perspective to the board. I'm someone who has deep roots and connections in Utah, yet a progressive viewpoint and vision for what our state should become. I use data to drive decisions making and believe that building consensus and strong collaborations across viewpoints is critical for success. I don't have an affiliation with a political party, so I work to find common sense solutions. Additionally, as a single professional I can bring a perspective outside the traditional family viewpoint.

[Ben-Cook-Resume-22.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Demographics

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Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 6

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *

Languages *

English

Benjamin Cook



Resourceful and creative marketing and communications leader with more than 15 years of experience. Skilled at developing data-driven strategies that deliver. Builder of fun, engaged, world-class teams.

Areas of expertise: marketing, brand management, communications, strategy, consumer insight, and healthcare.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE •

Vice President of Marketing | Health Catalyst

🕒 Aug 2019 - Jan 2022

Publicly traded tech company providing data and analytics to hospitals, providers, and payers. B2B, high growth, SaaS, 1,000+ employees, \$200M annual revenue. Responsibilities and key achievements:

- » Lead a team of marketing professionals who helped drive 22% year-over-year growth through B2B strategies focused on awareness, demand generation, and customer loyalty.
- » Accountable for key activities across the consumer journey, including: webinars, trade shows, conferences, events, user group, and campaigns. In 2020, team engaged 11,500 leads (4,200 net new) and influenced 70 sales opportunities representing \$25M in ARR.
- » Oversee strategic engagements and contracts with 9 industry/analyst groups to gain consumer insights, shape the market, and increase awareness. In 2020, hosted 96 engagements, included in 33 industry reports, and saved \$100K+ through contract negotiations.
- » Expert user of marketing tech for campaign optimization, attribution, and measuring ROI. Tech stack includes Salesforce, Pardot, Bizible, ON24, Basecamp, and Adobe Creative Cloud.
- » Develop marketing strategy for new business activities, including international markets, adjacent markets (life sciences/pharma), and merger & acquisition activities.
- » Report to Chief Marketing Officer and accountable for \$3.3M marketing budget.

Director of Marketing & Communications | Intermountain Healthcare

🕒 Aug 2018 – Aug 2019

Internationally recognized, nonprofit health system with 24 hospitals, 160 clinics, 39,000+ employees, a health insurance company, \$8B annual revenue. Responsibilities and key achievements:

- » Led teams responsible for marketing, brand, and communication strategies for a portfolio of system wide initiatives, including: a children's hospital, a 220-bed community hospital, pediatrics, nursing, patient experience, research, and reputation.
- » Served on children's hospital executive management team; consulting on all issues affecting internal and external stakeholders, including leaders and physicians at affiliated University.
- » Drove marketing and sales to cultivate business in new markets through strategic partnerships and campaigns. Increased awareness and referral patterns by 17% across five states, resulting in millions in new revenue.
- » Developed marketing and communication strategy for first-ever, \$500M capital fundraising campaign. Effectively collaborated with development, foundation, administrators, consultants, agencies, and other key stakeholders.
- » Accountable for marketing and communication strategy for local, regional, and national campaigns. Managed agency relationships. Campaigns involved paid, earned, and owned.

Marketing & Communications Manager | Primary Children's Hospital

🕒 July 2011 – Aug 2018

Nationally ranked pediatric teaching hospital for the University of Utah. 3,500+ employees, 1,200+ physicians, \$1.06B annual revenue. Responsibilities and key achievements:

- » Created hospital's first-ever marketing strategy. Launched paid marketing campaigns in 2013 increasing unaided and aided awareness, consideration, and likelihood to recommend.
- » Worked with media relations to pitch and place stories in local and national media, resulting in an average \$100K value in earned media each month.
- » Supported internal employee and patient safety communication efforts that helped increase overall HCAHPS patient satisfaction ratings and decrease serious safety events.
- » Launched editorial process and team for content marketing. Created first blog and email program at Intermountain Healthcare in 2012 improving engagement and building the largest social media following in our market.

Marketing & Communications Specialist | Associated Food Stores

🕒 Sept 2008 – Dec 2010

Wholesale food and grocery distributor serving more than 400 independent retail locations across eight western states. 1,500+ employees, \$1.5B annual revenue. Responsibilities and key achievements:

- » Managed website initiative to improve online marketing for retail members, resulting in 20 new websites and more than \$100K in annual cost savings in first year.
- » Developed go-to-market strategy and built partnerships with national CPGs to drive online, digital coupon adoption among targeted customer segments.
- » Planned and executed over 50 media and brand activation events driving customer engagement at retail locations in key markets.

EDUCATION • 🎓

Master of Science – Integrated Marketing Communications
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Bachelor of Science – Communications, minor in English Literature
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
Magna Cum Laude

Graduate Certificate – Conflict Resolution, Negotiation, and Mediation
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

STRENGTHS • 🦾

Creative Thinker • Ardent Collaborator • Excellent Listener • Problem Solver • Strong Writer
Detail Devil • Design & Composition • Continuous Learner • Tech Savvy • Healthy Dose of Snark

INVOLVEMENT & HOBBIES • 🚴

Court-Approved Mediator • Certified Personal Trainer • Murray Symphony • Avid Skier • Cyclist
Boston Marathon Qualifier • Published Photographer • Coffee Snob • Yellow Labrador Retrievers

Application Form

Profile

Bennion

First Name

Gardner

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Home Address

Cyprus Credit Union

Employer

Vice President of Business Services

Job Title

[Redacted]

Home Address

[Redacted]

State or Zip

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

I live in South Jordan with my wife and two sons. We lived in Magna for 12 years before moving to Daybreak. In Magna I served as President of the Chamber of Commerce and worked with the County to strengthen the local economy. I also served on the board of The Oquirrh Theater, was a member of the Lions Club and served in other roles in the community. Two years ago I founded The Oquirrh Foundation to educate and educate students and organizations on the importance of preserving open space within and surrounding the Oquirrh Mountains.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I am a lifelong resident of Salt Lake County. I have watched the valley grow over the years and have been frustrated with the lack of access to open space for residents on the west side of the County. I would love to share my insight and pass on to find opportunities for the County to provide more equitable access to the outdoors.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

As President of The Oquirrh Foundation I have been involved in and supportive of the County's efforts to add trails to Butterfield Canyon and plan for future growth through the West Bench General Plan. Through my professional work I am familiar with real estate and land use planning.

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

I think there are huge opportunities to add open space on the west side but time is running out given the current pace of development. The Oquirrh could help relieve pressure on the Wasatch Mountains. Preserving open space on the west side will also reduce the amount of driving residents need to do to access nature and help our air quality. I have spent a lot of time exploring the west bench and Oquirrh Mountains where public access is allowed. I would love to learn from other board members who have been working on open space issues for many years already. I think my unique perspective would add a beneficial component to the group.


Upload a Resume

Demographics

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Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 2

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *



Languages *

English

BENNION GARDNER



Experience

Cyprus Credit Union, West Jordan, Utah
Vice President of Business Services, (2012 – Present)

Zions First National Bank, Salt Lake City, Utah
Branch Manager, Magna Branch (2008 – 2012)
Officer Development Candidate, (2007 – 2008)
Branch Manager, Sandy East Branch (2006 – 2007)
Commercial Loan Specialist, (2005 – 2006)
Direct Sales Branch Specialist, (2005 – 2005)
Teller, West Jordan Branch (2001 - 2002)

FinHogar Mortgage, Murray, Utah
Mortgage Lender, (2004 – 2005)

Education

Western CUNA Management School, Graduate 2019
University of Utah, Bachelors of Finance, 2007
American Institute of Banking, Banking and Finance Diploma, 2007
Taylorville High School, Graduate 2001

Leadership and Achievements

- Founder and Executive Director, The Oquirrh Foundation (2019 - Present)
- Board Member, South Jordan Chamber of Commerce (2019 - Present)
- President of the Magna Chamber of Commerce (2010 – 2013)
- NAGGL Conference and Education Committee Member (2013 - 2016)
- Enrollment Committee Member for Utah Partners for Health (2011 – 2014)
- Advisory Board Member for the Community Development Fund of Utah (2012 – 2015)
- Accreditation Committee Member for the Magna Senior Center (2013)
- Member, Main Street implementation Group (2012 – 2014)
- Founder and Director for the Main Street Arts Festival (2010 – 2015)
- Member of the Magna Arts Council (2009 – 2016)
- Treasurer and Board Member for the Oquirrh Hills Performing Arts Alliance (2008 – 2009)
- Taught over 500 High School and Elementary Students as part of the ABA's national "Get Smart About Credit Day" and "Teach Kids to Save Day" (2006-2012)
- Member of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), (2005 - 2007)
- Served on the Taylorville City Economic Development Committee (2004 – 2005)
- Awarded the USAA National Collegiate Education Award (2005)
- Future Business Leaders of America, Member (1998 - 2002), President (2000 - 2002)
- Awarded a Presidential Leadership Scholarship from the University of Utah
- Named the Top Business Student at Taylorville High, Class of 2001

Application Form

Profile

Deborah

First Name

Gatre

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Home Address

Granite School District

Employer

Teacher

Job Title

[Redacted]

Home Address

[Redacted]

Street or Apt

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

I've taught in Granite School District for the past 12 years and have also served in the Utah National Guard for 21, based out of South Valley Regional Airport for most of that time. I'm a National Board Certified Teacher and a Lieutenant Colonel in the 300th Military BDE based out of Draper. I also teach as adjunct faculty through SLCC.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I have watched the Salt Lake Valley change dramatically from the area as a part in the National Guard over the past two decades, and I would like to be involved in planning for the future to better meet resident needs as the last open space in the valley gets built out in the near future.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

As a Geography teacher, I have a strong background in sustainable development. As a Soldier, I have training in Military Intelligence analysis and problem solving in complex situations.

Deborah Gatrell

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

As a professional military pilot, I am always looking at the big picture and looking ahead. We need to be proactive rather than reactive. I am also a patron of the arts, as I enjoy the Utah symphony and periodically attend events at the West Valley Cultural Celebration Center. I love hiking, but am sorely disappointed that there are so few trails on the West side of the valley. The trails on the East bench are great, but the canyons are overrun. I appreciate the network of trails in the cities that are being developed along canyons, the MVC, etc, and look forward to contributing to this effort.

Upload a Resume

Demographics

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Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 2

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *

Languages *

English

Political Affiliation

None Selected

Deborah L. Gattrell, NBCT, M. Ed

Objective Serve as a member of the SLCo Open Space Trust Fund and ZAP II Committees or where needed

Skills & Abilities Teaching, Leading others, Planning and Execution, Collecting data, Writing, using Microsoft and Google products, including Google Forms for surveys, etc.

Experience Soldier, Utah Army National Guard

January 1999 - present

- Enlisted 1999; Officer since 2003
- Blackhawk Pilot since 2005
- Experience in Human Resources, Command Leadership & Intelligence
- Lt Col currently assigned as 300th MI BDE S3 Operations Officer

Teacher, Granite School District

August 2009 - present

- 6 years High School Social Studies Teacher
- 5 years as the only Social Studies teacher in a program for Young Mothers
- 1 year Junior High Social Studies teacher
- Presenter at district conferences & state Social Studies conference

Education Brigham Young University - Provo, Utah – Social Science Composite B.S, 2003.

3.86 GPA, Graduation cum laude with University Honors; Honors Thesis: *Pedagogical Change in a Conceptual Course: A Case Study of Physical Science 100 at BYU*

University of Phoenix – Phoenix, Arizona (On-line Campus) – M.A. Education, emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction, 2016.

3.97 GPA; Coursework included Assessment & Evaluation, Research for Improved Practice, Advocating for Learning, and Engaging in Communities of Practice

Leadership Currently serving as Department chair (5 years) and New Teacher Mentor (4 years)

Teacher in church women's organization (5 years)

Utah Teacher Fellow, elevating teacher voice in education policy (2 years)

Utah Education Association National Board Certification Jump Start facilitator (2 years)

Company Commander, HHC/2-211th GSAB (2 years)

References Craig Stauffer, former principal, Hunter High School

████████████████████

████████████████

Tabitha Pacheco, Supervisor, Utah Teacher Fellowship

████████████████████

████████████████

LTC John Darrington (Ret), former UTNG Deputy Intelligence Directorate Chief

████████████████████

████████████████

Application Form

Profile

Angela _____ M _____ Gong _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Home Address

Granite School District _____ Teacher, junior or high math _____
Employer Job Title

Home Address

State or Zip

City

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

I remember coming to Utah to visit family as a child, and thinking that the mountains were the most magnificent things I'd ever seen. Now that I live here, I still think so. After growing up in New Hampshire, I came to Utah for college, where I studied Environmental Science, Economics, and Music. I have been working and studying education for the past 10 years, teaching middle school science for 4 four years, working in a large-scale national assessment (the NAEP), conducting educational research, and now teaching junior or high school math. I returned to graduate school at Stanford for a joint master's program in Education and Public Policy. I've finished my first year of teaching in Granite School District, with interest in school leadership. After grad school, my husband and I were both working remotely and could have moved anywhere. We wanted to come to Salt Lake to be close to family and to enjoy the incomparable outdoor opportunities here. We're loving being here.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I have always been interested in being in open spaces. As a child, I loved poking around in the woods behind my house in New Hampshire, discovering through experience the ecological principles and relationships I later studied formally when I majored in Environmental Science. I remember a class I took about ecology that often made me feel so down about the negative environmental impact humans have had on so many environments. Strangely, my classes for my minor, Economics, were what cheered me up--those classes convinced me that humans have the capacity to solve even complex, thorny problems. I still believe that. Although the Salt Lake Valley's population is slated to continue growing, we have the capacity to make sensible and forward-looking decisions about how we use land. When my sister-in-law, who works for the City of South Jordan, told me about the Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee, I leapt at the chance to serve. I'd love to be involved in helping make decisions about the land in our valley so our open spaces will continue to allow Salt Lake Valley's unique communities--including the human ones--to thrive.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

I have studied environments from the granular to the big picture level, and from ecological aspects to how humans influence and are influenced by those environments. As a teenager, I worked as a technician at the University of New Hampshire's Stormwater Center and as an assistant to a PhD student studying the effects of invasive common bedstraw on pasture soils in the Northeast. As an undergraduate I majored in Environmental Science and minored in Economics. I taught middle school science, often using my background in ecology to (or at least try to) inspire students to enjoy the curriculum. In graduate school I studied Public Policy. Last summer I took a Utah Master Naturalists course on Watersheds (offered through USU), which let me study from the top of the valley's watershed in the high Uintas down to the Great Salt Lake.

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

I am new to the valley but have deep family roots here--my mom grew up in Utah, and my parents came here for college--so I combine experience outside the valley with the love of a local. I have formally studied ecosystems and processes that shape them and the people that live there. I live on the east side of the valley but work on the west side. I hope to add a voice of passion for the environment with a head for the processes and finances that underpin our valley's open spaces to support making spaces that we can all the residents of Salt Lake County.

 Upload a Resume

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 4

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *



Languages *

English

Political Affiliation



ANGELA GONG

Education

Stanford University Graduate School of Education / Public Policy Program

Sep 2017 – Jun 2019

MA (Education)/MPP

Completed PhD courses in qualitative, experimental, and quasi-experimental methods.

Topics included school leadership, instructional leadership, education history and reform, assessments, policy analysis, design thinking, econometrics, statistics.

Bruce M. Owen award recipient for outstanding Public Policy graduate student.

Internships

Trellis Education—supported start-up in developing new science teacher pipeline and PD.

San Francisco Unified School District—supported social-emotional learning initiative.

Redwood City School District—conducted short study of student support referral process.

Brigham Young University

Aug 2005 – Aug 2011

BS (Environmental Science); minors in Economics, Music; Cum Laude (top 7%) with University Honors.

Received Hinckley Scholarship: four-year, full-tuition award given to top 50 of 8,000 incoming students.

Lab experiences in Soil Analysis Lab and Genetics Lab. Summer intern at UNH Stormwater Center.

Work Experience

West Lake Junior High (Granite School District)

Jul 2021 – Present

Math Teacher, 7th and 8th Grade

Teach ~100 students math concepts and skills. Use data to understand and respond to student needs.

Policy Analysis for California Education

Jun 2018 – July 2021

Research Analyst

Conducted qualitative research on California continuous improvement network (CORE Districts) on program implementation, trends, learnings, and participants' experience. Led study on cross-district collaboration.

Served as project manager for research on cohort of 30 schools improving 9th grade support.

American Institutes for Research

Nov 2015 – Jun 2017

Test Development Associate

Reviewed NAEP math and science items, interactive digital tools, and scenario-based computer tasks for accuracy, clarity, and framework alignment.

Center for Assessment

Mar – May 2016

Research Assistant

Assisted with a short-term study (~10 hours) to investigate NGSS performance assessments.

Oklahoma Centennial Mid-High School (Oklahoma City Public Schools)

Aug 2011 – Jul 2015

Science Teacher (4 yrs), Science Department Chair (2 yrs), 8th Grade Chair (2 yrs), Leadership Team member (3 yrs)

Taught science to 7th and 8th graders (120 students/year) in Title I SIG school. Served on 12-member team of administrators and department chairs to improve school-wide instruction and teacher development; led departmental collaboration to implement initiatives and reach team goals. Designed and presented PD at school and district meetings on new teacher support, ed tech. District Teacher of the Year Finalist (2014-15).

Activities and Service

Recreational learning and coursework

Nov 2020 – Present

Utah Master Naturalist course on Watersheds (USU); Introduction to Algae (Coursera); Foraging Edible Wild Foods in Utah (SL Community Ed.).

Science is Elementary

Apr 2017 – Nov 2018

Volunteered leading low-income elementary students in STEM activities about once a month in school year.

Oklahoma State Department of Education

Aug 2013 – May 2014

Designed and piloted virtual professional learning community with 8th grade science teachers.

Current Utah teaching license in Secondary Education, Middle Level Science, Math 2

Application Form

Profile

John Kae

First Name

Weston

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Home Address

Marne Corps University

Employer

Endowed Charitable Insurgency & Terrorism

Job Title

[Redacted]

Home Address

[Redacted]

State or Zip

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

Former or committee member, *at large* -- seeking another term writer / teacher former congressional candidate (Dem), CD2, UT, 2020 presumptive Democratic nominee, U.S. Senate, 2022

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

Continue work on this important body as we help identify & protect open spaces in SL County -- and also help move other counties across Utah toward more open space protection in our fast-growing Beehive State

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

BA, University of Utah MPH, University of Cambridge Fulbright More bio/writing: www.kaeweston.com

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

deep policy experience and problem-solving skills in government (11 years in the U.S. State Dept, 7 of 11 in Iraq & Afghanistan) political/campaign experience relationships with key local decision-makers and others outside Utah



Upload a Resume

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District *

District 4

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *



Languages *

English

Political Affiliation



Kael Weston



*

EXPERIENCE

Marine Corps University Foundation **2018-present**
Adamson Chair in Insurgency & Terrorism **Quantico, VA**

Westminster College **2017-20**
Writer in residence Honors College **SLC, UT**

University of Utah **Fall 2019**
Co-taught course on the European Union **SLC, UT**

Department of State (1999-2010)

In early 1999, I was accepted into a State Department internship program in the International Organizations bureau. At the conclusion of my three-month internship, the Department hired me to assist in Security Council-related issues at the U.S. Mission to the UN. During this time, I was accepted into a Ph.D. program in London and, the following year, awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in the Netherlands. In 2000, I passed the Foreign Service written and oral exams (Political Cone) and was placed on the eligible hires list for new political officers while my Top Secret security clearance was being processed. Then 9/11 happened. The Department asked me to return to New York in fall 2001 to accept a policy position in the Political Affairs Section of the U.S. Mission to the UN.

Given new national security priorities focused on Al Qaeda and international counter-terrorism initiatives, the Department assigned me to lead U.S. efforts in the UN Security Council to freeze and block Al Qaeda-linked assets. In this role as the U.S. representative on the UN Security Council's Al Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Committee, I drafted and negotiated Chapter VII UN Security Council resolutions. I was also a member of the U.S. Mission to UN's Iraq team in the run up to the Iraq War. Much of my work in this period focused on the UN Oil-for-Food Program and international sanctions regime on Iraq, in addition to overall counter-terrorism strategy in the multilateral setting.

My follow-on State Department assignments included seven consecutive years in Iraq and Afghanistan (2003-2010):

Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad (2003)

I was part of a small State Department contingent in Baghdad beginning in summer 2003 based at the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), which oversaw the U.S. administration of Iraq. I was assigned to work with Iraq's truckers in order to help ensure the movement of food and supplies across the country as the insurgency gained strength.

This was a sensitive and demanding job given the deteriorating security situation and rising discontent among large parts of the Iraqi population.

Fallujah, Iraq (2004-2007)

In summer 2004, Amb. John Negroponte asked me to be the State Department representative in Fallujah, where I acted as the political adviser to the commanding general (Gen. James Conway) of U.S. troops in western Iraq (mostly Marines, who numbered approximately 38,000 at the time). I reported directly to the embassy political counselor, Amb. Robert Ford, and Amb. Negroponte in Baghdad. I was responsible for devising the political strategy in Anbar Province, particularly in and around Fallujah. This period included “Operation Al Fajr” or “New Dawn” -- the biggest battle of the Iraq War. With Marines and soldiers, I helped lead U.S. efforts to rebuild the city and engage with local political, tribal, and religious leaders. This job involved coordinating with the U.S. military the actions of thousands of troops and millions of dollars in U.S. reconstruction funds. The State Department awarded me the Secretary of State’s Medal for Heroism for my work with the U.S. military in Fallujah and Anbar Province.

Khost Province, Afghanistan (2007-2008)

Upon leaving Fallujah in February 2007, the U.S. ambassador in Kabul (Amb. Ronald Neumann) asked me to be part of his forward-deployed team in Afghanistan. I represented the State Department for almost a year and a half in Khost Province located on the eastern edge of Afghanistan and one-time home of Osama bin Laden and Jalaluddin Haqqani. My work centered on Pashtun tribal engagement and close coordination across all political and military issues with Governor Arsala Jamal, the top Afghan official in the region. In my related role on the Khost Provincial Reconstruction Team, I helped direct approximately \$50 million in reconstruction funds on high-priority projects, such as roads and other infrastructure, education, and reconciliation initiatives with former Taliban fighters. I focused my political reporting (cables to Washington) on “human capital” areas, such as engagement with university students, Khost University professors, ex-Taliban fighters, madrassa students and mullahs, and key Pashtun tribal leaders.

Sadr City, Iraq (2008-2009)

Midway through my second year in Khost, Ambassador Robert Ford requested I return to Iraq to join the embassy’s Political Section in October 2008, where he was again serving as the political counselor. Much like my role in Sunni-dominated Fallujah, I represented the State Department in this Shia section of Baghdad, home to millions of Iraqis who had been repressed under Saddam Hussein. My work focused on engaging local leaders in advance of an upcoming Iraqi election and impending U.S. troop drawdown. The embassy assigned me to determine the best way to reduce the U.S. military presence in the violent area. I also advocated a shift in policy to manage more effectively U.S. reconstruction funds (tens of millions of dollars) at a time when U.S. policy prioritized pressing the Iraqi central government to do more with its own resources.

Helmand Province, Afghanistan (2009-2010)

In spring 2009, while I was based in Iraq, the Marine commanding general of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, then BGen. Larry Nicholson, requested that I be assigned to work with him as the State Department representative at Camp Leatherneck. (He and I had first worked closely together in Fallujah in 2006-2007, an especially red year in which we suffered 93 KIA in one Marine regiment.) The State Department approved my transfer. At the time, U.S. troop levels numbered just under 11,000 in Helmand Province. Within six months, BGen. Nicholson and I were overseeing a surge of troops into the Central Helmand River Valley, whose numbers rose to approximately 20,000 as President Obama escalated the war. The general's and my primary tasks included formulating counterinsurgency strategies in coordination with local leaders and the British government, which had ordered almost 10,000 of its own troops into the poppy-filled area. One of the biggest battles of the Afghanistan War (in a place called Marjah) occurred during the Marines' deployment and my time with them. I collaborated closely with Helmand Governor Mangal during this period, in addition to UK diplomats based in the provincial capital, Lashkar Gah. Helmand was the most violent province in the country during our time there, with the highest casualty count (KIA and WIA) among U.S. troops and British forces.

**Private Sector: Caerus Associates and Deloitte Consulting
Washington, DC (2010-2015)**

Based on my decade-long career in the State Department and assignments in some difficult places in Iraq and Afghanistan, I decided it was time to leave government service and begin to reflect, analyze, and write about these experiences. (Books being, I believe, their own kind of public service.) I wanted to focus on lessons learned and apply them more formally to the policymaking process. After resigning from the State Department in 2010, I worked as a consultant in the private sector for two companies: Caerus Associates, 2010-2013 (founded by Dr. David Kilcullen) followed by Deloitte Consulting, 2013-2015.

**Knopf Doubleday Publisher
Penguin Random House
New York, NY (2012-present)**

While transitioning from the private sector, I worked with a literary agent to sell a nonfiction book to Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Penguin Random House. I completed the 200,000-word manuscript in late summer 2015. Several rounds of editing followed through early 2016. The book is titled, *The Mirror Test: America at War in Iraq and Afghanistan*, and was published May 24, 2016. It is a first person account of America's two longest wars.

EDUCATION

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Honors B.A., History / Political Science (degree date: 1996)
Summa Cum Laude

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

M.Phil., European Studies / Politics (degree date: 1998)
Cambridge Trust Scholarship

London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK

Ph.D. Coursework in International Relations
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship

University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

International Relations, EU politics
Fulbright Scholarship

Honors / Awards

Secretary of State's Medal for Heroism; Superior Honor Awards; Group Superior Honor Award; Franklin Award.

Selected Publications

Alfred A. Knopf / Penguin Random House: *The Mirror Test: America at War in Iraq and Afghanistan* (May 24, 2016)

Foreign Affairs: "War Downsized" / co-authored with Dr. Carter Malkasian (February 13, 2012)

References

State Department:

-Ambassador Robert S. Ford, former U.S. ambassador to Syria, Algeria
Senior Fellow, Middle East Institute, Washington, DC

-Ambassador John D. Negroponte, former Deputy Secretary of State, DNI,
Deputy National Security Advisor, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Iraq,
Honduras, Mexico, Philippines
J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Professor of International Affairs, George
Washington University, Washington, DC

-Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann, former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan,
Bahrain, Algeria
President, American Academy of Diplomacy

Defense Department:

-General Joseph F. Dunford, former chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington,
DC

-General Robert B. Neller, former commandant, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, DC

-Lieutenant General Larry D. Nicholson, retired, former commanding general, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan