

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – BOARD STUDY SESSION
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024
7:00 PM
PLANNING AND OPERATIONS FACILITY
1011 E. KERR AVENUE
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61802**

The study session meeting of the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners was held Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at the Planning and Operations Facility, 1011 E. Kerr Avenue, Urbana, IL at 7:00 pm. The notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the park district administrative office and at the location of the meeting. Copies of the notice and agenda were received by each commissioner of the district and by local newspapers, radio, and television stations at least forty-eight hours before the meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois. A copy of the notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Also available for inspection are all documents that were reviewed or approved at the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
President Michael Walker		X
Vice-President Cedric Stratton	X	
Commissioner Laura Hastings		X
Commissioner Roger Digges	X	
Commissioner Meredith Blumthal	X	

Also present were Tim Bartlett, Executive Director;
Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation;
Derek Liebert, Superintendent of Planning and Operations;
Andy Rousseau, Project Manager;
Keenan Portis, Park Planner;
Jeff Martin, Farnsworth Group;
Allison Jones served as Recorder.

I. Call to Order

Vice-President Stratton called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

A. Remote Attendance

There was no remote attendance requested.

II. Accept Agenda

COMMISSIONER BLUMTHAL MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DIGGES TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

III. Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

IV. Discussion

A. Weaver Park Master Plan – Review Updates

Staff introduced Jeff Martin with Farnsworth Group. Jeff Martin presented the design work for 2 options for the Weaver-Prairie Park Master Plan. Staff and Jeff reviewed the process for this work, which began 2 years ago, as well as additional community engagement efforts in the last few months. Jeff Martin presented specific information on the current conditions of the property, including natural areas, turf, woodland, and wetland. Staff also presented information on the spoil pile, also known as the “sledding hill.” Staff and Farnsworth propose the removal of the spoil pile, which is likely just old construction debris from the 1970s. Staff note further testing is being conducted to determine the best course of removal of the pile. Next Jeff reviewed the details of the Master Plan proposals, including amenities, trails, facilities, features, uses, natural areas, safety, community need, lighting, cooperation with other entities/stakeholders, and programming ideas.

Board and staff discussed the options and provided feedback. They also discussed next steps, cost estimates, development timeline, community partners, and grant possibilities. The Board expressed support for the plan with the option of removing the spoil pile.

V. Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Digges reported multiple instances of positive community feedback for the in-progress renovations of PrairiePlay at Meadowbrook.

VI. Adjourn

Vice-President Stratton adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Cedric Stratton, Vice-President

Timothy A. Bartlett, Secretary

(Seal)

Date Approved: September 10, 2024