

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – BOARD STUDY SESSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026
6:00 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, February 3, 2026 at the Planning and Operations Facility, 1011 E. Kerr Avenue, Urbana, IL at 6:00 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 Cedric Stratton	X	
Vice-President Meredith Blumthal		X
Commissioner Laura Hastings		X
Commissioner Sarah Roper	X	
Commissioner Ashley Withers	X	

Also present were:

Rachel Lenz, Executive Director;
 Laura Orcutt, Superintendent of Business Services;
 Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation;
 Janet Soesbe, Community Program Manager;
 Mark Schultz, Public Information & Marketing Manager;
 Amy Banner, Environmental Program Manager;
 Leslie Radice, Aquatics Manager;
 Kyle Mills, Athletics Supervisor;
 Jameel Jones, Outreach & Wellness Manager;
 Allison Jones served as Recorder.

I. Call to Order

President Stratton called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

A. Remote Attendance

There was no remote attendance requested.

II. Accept Agenda

COMMISSIONER WITHERS MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROPER 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. Auditor Presentation

Laura Orcutt introduced Tom Siwicki with Sikich CPA LLC, the auditors for the District. Tom Siwicki presented a summary of the FY 2025 annual audit, including the GFOA Certificate of Achievement, financial, income, and fund statements, pension liability information, and auditor communication. He also noted that the UPD received a “unmodified” or “clean” opinion on the audit, reflecting that the statements are accurate and compliant with auditing standards.

B. Recreation Programs Review

Corky Emberson provided an overview of the 2025 recreation program statistics, including a rough analysis and discussion of programs and activities for the calendar year. He noted that the Board will receive specific program numbers at the next regular Board meeting.

Mark Schultz provided a review of marketing projects, advertising efforts, and upcoming projects for the marketing department.

Leslie Radice provided information for the aquatics department, including an analysis and discussion of programs, activities, events, and attendance.

Kyle Mills reviewed efforts in the athletics department, including their move to the new Health & Wellness Center, as well as summer camp and program attendance.

Janet Soesbe reviewed community programs, special events, partnerships, and upcoming programs for the summer.

Jameel Jones reviewed outreach & wellness programs, participation, and upcoming programs and events.

Amy Banner discussed environmental programs and services, summer camps, special request programs, and upcoming programs.

The Board and staff discussed the recreation program statistics and commented positively on all the successes over the last year.

V. Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Roper commented on her positive experience attending the annual IPRA conference in January.

VI. Adjourn

President Stratton adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM.

Cedric A. Stratton, President

Rachel D. Lenz, Secretary

(Seal)

Date Approved: March 10, 2026