



*It is the mission of the Urbana Park District to:*

- Improve the quality of life of its citizens through a responsive, efficient, and creative park and recreation system,*
- Pursue excellence in a variety of programs, parks and special facilities that contribute to the attractiveness of neighborhoods, conservation of the environment and the overall health of the community.*

**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF MEETING  
URBANA PARK DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (UPDAC)  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019  
7:00 PM  
PLANNING AND OPERATIONS FACILITY  
1011 KERR AVE.  
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61802**

- I. Call to Order - Introductions**
- II. Public Comment**
- III. New Business**
  - A. Update on the UPD Strategic Plan. UPD Staff and Consultant
- IV. Questions and Answers – Answer any questions as follow up from last month’s meeting**
- V. Reports**
  - A. UPDAC Chair
  - B. Director
  - C. Board Representative
  - D. UPD Projects update
- VI. Approval of the Minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting.**
- VII. UPDAC Member Comments and open discussion**
- VIII. Adjourn**

***Upcoming meetings:***

*October 22, 2019  
November 19, 2019 (1 week early)  
December – no meeting*

**\*\*\*This month’s secretary is Sarah Roper\*\*\***

Note: The Meeting Agenda and Supporting Materials are on the UPD website at <http://www.urbanaparks.org/documents/index.html>; choose the “Public Meetings” category and search for the meeting information you wish to download.

## **UPDAC minutes**

**27 August 2019**

### **Phillips Recreation Center: Teaching Kitchen**

**Attending UPDAC Members:** Niki Ambrose, Kelly Boeger, Tomas Delgado, Lori Ellinger, Jennifer Hardesty, Laura Hastings, Heath Isome, Sue Kim, Ben Kaap, Vanessa Lane, Melissa Logsdon, Jean Paley (Chair), Sarah Roper, Howard Schein, Amita Sinha, Tim Stephens, Cedric Stratton.

**UPD Staff:** Tim Bartlett, Corky Emberson, Derek Liebert, Ellen Kirsanoff, Andy Rosseau, Caty Roland, Alex Ivanova.

**UPD Commissioner:** Nancy Delcomyn

**Guest/Visitors:** Fred Delcomyn (UPD Foundation), Audrey Ishii (Community presenter)

**Pre-Meeting:** Scrumptious dinner preceded the meeting with a special platter by Leah Bodine (UPD Cooking Instructor),

I- Meeting called to order by Jean Paley at 7 PM.

Welcome to new members and introductions of UPDAC members and UPD staff.

#### II- Public Comment

- Audrey Ishii addressed issues relating to the community garden in Meadowbrook Park.
- Primary Issue: Sustainability and Equity. Currently we have a 36% vacancy rate, a reliable level of participation, a low yield of crops, problems with deer.
- We need: permanent manure and composting ability of users. Assign a person to run the sustainability program (Suggested Andrew Bock). UPD needs to subsidize soil health so that people can use gardens without burdening monetary outlay.

After Ms. Ishii left, comments/questions:

- Nancy Delcomyn: Audrey has opened the door and the Board is involved in looking at this situation. Manure is an issue since gardeners begin in the spring, but the manure needs to be applied in the fall
- Sarah Roper commented that she gardens at Meadowbrook and sees no difference between manure-treated and non-manure-treated soil. Probably, soil quality is the issue.
- Derrick Liebert stated that the UPD is looking into whether manure is the solution to addressing soil productivity.
- Jennifer Hardesty commented on protocol involved with public commentary: We listen and the public commentator presents and then leaves before UPDAC discusses. Public commentary is not meant to become a dialogue.

### III. New Business

#### A-Year in Review

- Ellen Kirsannoff distributed a summary of this past year's accomplishments  
It reflects a year's planning process

#### B. Overview

Tim Bartlett discussed the capital improvement program.

We get feedback on proposed projects that have need, and we then prioritize.

We then see how this fits with our five year rolling capital situation

E.g., projects

- Corkey Emberson: UPDAC is part of facility studies
- Andry Rosseau: Phillips center updating (wellness, teaching kitchen) keeping in mind older folks, kids, special needs, rentals (e.g., birthday parties).
- Planning of Phillips playground involved kids from Cannan Academy, one of the highest user groups. (Cedric Stratton commented that UPD Camp kids love this park.)
- Corkey: future planing for Phillips: Patio upgrade, metal roof (metal is to be used for future roof work of our buildings).

#### C-Strategic Planning

- Derek Liebert: 2020-2024 goals to be presented with finish dates and costs.  
We'll work with available funds without a tax increase.

### IV. Q and A

None

### V. Reports

- Fred Delcomyn discussed the Urbana Parks Foundation
  - The Foundation has more leeway in how/when to spend money on UPD needs.
  - 2017: \$1 million in assets; turned \$250,000 to the UPD
  - Goal of fundraising campaign = \$2 million
  - September 2019 = \$1 million; now = \$1.25 million; board contributed \$300,000
  - Consultants: have three pillars:
    - 1-endowment to generate income. Goal = \$1 million to generate \$40,000/year;
    - 2-Improvement of Crystal Lake Park;
    - 3-Youth Scholarships
  - What can we do to help?:
    - 1-Donations—network to get donations;
    - 2-Next summer host neighborhood meetings to educate Urbana residents about the Foundation.

- Tim: The UPD has four “arms”: The Foundation, The Board of Commissioners, UPDAC, the UPD Staff
- UPDAC Chair  
None
- Director: Two highlights
  - Art Fair (2020 is August 1
    - Sue Kim: Great for kids
  - “Downtown Get Down”. Growing

Board Rep

Nancy: The Board listens to UPDAC  
“You Belong Here” is from UPDAC

D. Projects Update

Andrew:

- 1-Path on South end of Crystal Lake Park will be completed when money become re-available
- 2-Leal Park: expand parking

VI. Approval of Minutes: moved and approved

VII- Open Discussion

Lori Ellinger:

- Thanks for dog park drainage update; Timely notice of changes.
- Please think about friends who would be interested in One-to-One mentoring in th CU Schools.

Tim: Introduced staff and what they do

Kelly Boeger: Cooking classes for 11-14 year olds kids last summer was great.

VIII-Move to adjourn

Moved and seconded