



*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, MARCH 27, 2018  
7:00 P.M.  
505 W. STOUGHTON AVE.  
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801**

- I. Call to Order – Introductions**
- II. Public Comment**
- III. New Business**
  - A. Presentation on Updates and Program uses at the Phillips Recreation Center. Janet Soesbe, Community Program Manager, Andy Rousseau, Project Manager, and Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation.
- IV. Questions and Answers – Answer any questions as follow up from last month’s meeting**
- V. Reports**
  - A. UPDAC Chair - nominations
  - B. Director
  - C. Board Representative
  - D. UPDAC Committees
- VI. Approval of the Minutes of the February 27, 2018 meeting.**
- VII. UPDAC Member Comments and open discussion**
- VIII. Adjourn**

***Upcoming meetings:***  
*April 25, 2018*  
*May 22, 2018*  
*June 26, 2018*  
*July - no meeting*

**\*\*\*This month’s secretary is Melissa Logsdon\*\*\***

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.

## **February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Minutes**

### **Urbana Park District Advisory Committee Meeting**

#### **Attendance**

**Attending Members:** Roger Digges, Marianne Downey, Lori Ellinger, Jennifer Hardesty, Kay Holley, Brad Hudson, Sue Kim, Vanessa Lane, Melissa Logsdon, Amita Sinha, Pauline Tannos

**UPD Commissioners:** none

**Attending UPD Staff:** Corky Emberson, Derek Liebert, Ellen Kirsanoff

**Guests:** Caty Roland, UPD Business Manager

#### **Call to Order:**

Roger Digges called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

#### **Public Comment:**

No members of the public were in attendance.

#### **New Business:**

UPD Business Manager, Caty Roland, introduced her presentation on how the Urbana Park District prepares its annual levy and annual budget. She shared a PowerPoint presentation covering the topics 1. The Levy Cycle, 2. Your Tax Bill and 3. The Budget Cycle.

The presentation began with background information and key definitions. The terms Equalized Assessed Valuation (EVA), Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law were explained and discussed in relation to the Park District Budget. Caty also defined tax caps and talked about the impact they've had on the UPD budget.

The Levy Cycle was presented. Caty noted that setting a higher levy carries no actual risk except for a possible negative public perception. The UPD levy has been proposed based on including Carle property (currently in legal dispute) because, if the Carle property becomes taxable and it has not been included in the levy, there is no way to reclaim those property tax dollars. "Estimate high or leave money on the table."

The next topic was Your Property Tax Bill. Caty showed a sample bill and explained how to read it. For the year 2016, UPD received 11.39% of the Property Tax Revenue for Urbana Residents. This year, 63% of the UPD budget came from property taxes.

The presentation concluded with a review of the budget cycle used by UPD. The UPD budget is carefully tracked throughout the year. Five documents reviewing current budget status are presented at each UPD Board Meeting. All budget information is available to the public and easily accessible through the "Financials" page on the UPD website.

Roger Digges asked about the UPD capital budget. This fund is based on bonds issued and these monies can only be used for Capital Improvement Projects.

#### **Questions from last meeting:**

Ellen Kirsanoff said she has copies of the Power Point presented at last month's meeting available for UPDAC members. The topic was Underrepresented Groups in Parks and Recreations Programs.

#### **Comments:**

Ellen Kirsanoff announced that Jan (?) is putting together an art show at the Philips Center. She invited UPDAC members to contribute artwork to the show. More information will be shared soon. Contact Ellen for details.

Roger Digges is working on a book about the history of Meadowbrook Park. He suggested that UPDAC members look at some of the historical material available on line to appreciate how long it has taken for the park to develop and to learn about the many issues and people who were involved. He mentioned the foresight of the Park District in creating Meadowbrook and the fortuitous meshing of many different visions to end up with the creation of the sculpture garden and the overlook.

Work has begun on the pathway through Crystal Lake Park. Currently, work is being done on the Project Development Report. Building will begin next year. Carle is providing 20% of the funds for this project

Crystal Lake water levels were exceptionally high after recent heavy rains. At its highest, the water level exceeded its banks and came within 5 – 6 feet of the transformer.

Bird walks will be held every Sunday morning at 7:30 am at the Anita Purves Nature Center.

**Reports:**

UPDAC Chair: none

Director: none

Board Rep: none

UPDAC Committees: none

**Approval of the minutes** of the January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 meeting, passed upon motion by Roger Digges and seconded by Lori Ellinger.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Roger Digges at 8:20 PM.