



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, NOVEMBER 17, 2020
7:00 PM**

REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM

VIDEO: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82538499799>

PHONE: (312) 626-6799

MEETING ID: 825 3849 9799

PASSCODE: 698349

- I. Call to Order - Introductions**
- II. Public Comment**
- III. New Business**
 - A. Update on KRT Planning – Champaign County Regional Planning Staff
 - B. New UPD Logo Review
- 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 October 27, 2020 Meeting**
- VII. UPDAC Member Comments and Open Discussion**
- VIII. Adjourn**

Upcoming meetings:

*December 2020-no meeting
January 26, 2021
February 23, 2021
March 23, 2021*

*****This month's secretary is Howard Schein*****

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.

Public Input for Urbana Park District Advisory Committee (UPDAC) Meeting (Tuesday, November 17, 2020)

MEETING ID: 825 3849 9799

PASSCODE: 698349

Anyone can attend the meeting virtually via Zoom. Any member of the public may make a brief statement during the Public Comment portion of the agenda. Per Board rules, comments will have a 2-minute time limit. The Board typically accepts comments but neither the Board nor staff will respond to individual comments during the meeting.

You will be able to use a phone to call in:

- Join by calling (312) 626-6799.
- Callers will then be asked to enter the Meeting ID number followed by the # key. The Meeting ID number is 825 3849 9799.
- Enter meeting passcode 698349, followed by the # key.
- We ask that you please mute yourself until the time for public comment.
- You can toggle between mute and unmute by dialing *6.

You will be able to use a computer to address the Urbana Park District Advisory Committee using Zoom:

- Make sure you have a microphone on your computer if you wish to speak. Please identify yourself for the record if you do speak.
- You do not need to install software to use Zoom. You can click "Join from your browser." It appears that Zoom prefers for users to download and install their meeting client software on your computer. Use whichever option you are most comfortable with, and note it may be browser-specific.
- You should see the meeting video stream through Zoom and hear people talking. The link to join by computer is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82538499799?pwd=TWE0RUFBTDZlUGxpODA4NWUyR3RaQT09>
- If you do not want to be seen, please turn off your webcam video feed as everyone connected will be able to see you and your background.
- This Zoom session will be recorded as part of the record.
- We ask that you please mute yourself until the time for public comment.
- We will not be using the Chat or Participant windows for this meeting.
- You can find tutorials and help information here:
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/enus/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>.

If you are unable to call or video in to the Zoom Meeting, or would prefer to write in, public input can also be received before the meeting via email. Please submit your comments via email by 7:00 pm to erkirsanoff@urbanaparks.org – these will be read per Urbana Park District Board rules and time limits.

Minutes of the Urbana Park District Advisory Committee

October 27, 2020 Held Via Zoom

Attending: Gary Ambler, Nicki Ambrose, Tomas Delgado, Laura Hastings, Ben Kaap, Jean Paley, Ashley Price, Sarah Roper, Howard Schein, Travis Schiess, Amita Sinha, Tim Stephens, Cedric Stratton, Nancy Delcomyn, Tim Bartlett, Corky Emberson, Derek Liebert, Ellen Kirsanoff, Caty Roland, Andy Rousseau, Savannah Donovan, Kara Dudek, Grace Tissier CUSR Staff, Dana Heitz, Kankakee Valley Park District guest.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chairperson Cedric Stratton.

New Business: Tim introduced tonight's program and presenter. Grace Tissier is Director for Champaign-Urbana Special Recreation, a joint program offered by both the Urbana and Champaign Park Districts. Grace provided an overview of the offerings of CUSR, including youth and adult programs and inclusion services for both PD's.

CUSR has worked hard to adapt their programs to the COVID-19 pandemic and the changes needed for safety of participants. Among some of the ways they changed – offering a Virtual program pass, allowing for a 9-week way to register and login to participate in virtual programming. They are also offering online fitness programs, which has turned out to be a very good format for our population.

Starting in June, CUSR began to offer some ways to come back in person and participate. They do a complete assessment of participants, including a health questionnaire that is completed before the program starts. Offerings included; athletic and fitness programs, horseback riding, Theater and Performance classes, their Annual Banquet, a virtual Cupcake 5K with 140 participants (and real cupcakes), Bocce, and Special Olympics Illinois track and field. They hope to be able to do all these in person again in the spring, depending on COVID restrictions.

The old Leonhard Center in Champaign is currently being renovated and will be the new home of CUSR in May of 2021. Nancy asked if that will more room than current space, and Grace said yes, it will suit their needs much better.

Grace explained further how Inclusion Services for both districts works. Inclusion means that CUSR hires and trains aids/staff that will work with a participant one-on-one to help them participate in regular programs offered through either park district. Most of the staff hired to be Inclusion Aids are high school or college-age. They receive lots of training on how to work with people needing special support to fully participate in a program alongside other participants.

Grace has 3 full time Program Coordinators who work with her at CUSR. They also use many volunteers to assist in their programs, giving participants more hands on attention to make the program better for all involved. CUSR also offers door to door transportation services for a \$10 fee.

Next, Tim introduced Savannah Donovan and Kara Dudek, UPD staff, to give a quick overview of the Sustainability Planning the UPD is doing. The UPD has made it a goal to create and implement a Sustainability Plan for the district. The staff Matrix Team is developing a plan for the district. Staff have come up with the acronym CARES-Climate Action, Resiliency, Education and Sustainability. They will start promoting the plan as UPD CARES. Kara gave a brief overview of the goals and objectives of the plan, its Pillars and planned implementation. The matrix team hopes to have it done and ready to present widely by earth Day 2021.

Savannah also introduced to UPDAC the work being done as a partner in the Champaign County Climate Coalition. The UPD is partnering with other organizations as a part of this group actively working in Champaign County to address this issue and work toward solutions.

Reports

UPDAC Chair Report -none

Executive Director's Report – Tim talked about the work that UPD Staff are doing for our DEI initiative (Diversity Equity Inclusion). Staff attended a "Call to Action" meeting lead by the U of I. They presented an aggressive plan to get all units of government on the same page in a unified effort to address issues facing our community.

Board Representative Report – Nancy mentioned The Great ARTdoors project happening in our community. It's a collaborative program by Spurlock Museum and 40North that creates an opportunity for local artists to display work in public settings. The UPD has several of the sculptures in some of our parks. She hopes everyone can get out and see them in Urbana, Champaign and other locations.

Project Update: Andy showed pictures of the most recent work being done in Crystal Lake Park. He described the work that is progressing, and what is yet to complete. He shared a map of the park showing the new proposed path along Broadway Ave. He also updated everyone on the work in Blair Park. We should go out to bid in January of 2021. At the suggestion of UPDAC, handicapped parking is planned for close to Blair Park ballfields.

Ellen asked UPDAC members to share with our guest, Dana Heitz, some of their experiences and opinions of serving on UPDAC.

Motion to approve the September meeting minutes was made by Howard, seconded by Laura. The minutes were approved by all.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jean, seconded by Ashley. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Submitted by Ellen Kirsanoff