



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, FEBRUARY 23, 2021
7:00 PM**

REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM

VIDEO: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84452754270>

PHONE: (312) 626-6799

MEETING ID: 844 5275 4270

PASSCODE: 719184

- I. Call to Order – Introductions
- II. Public Comment
Any member of the public may make a brief statement at this time within the public participation rules of the Board. Please see attached document for details regarding public comment via Zoom.
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the January 26, 2021 Meeting
- IV. Discussion
 - A. Wandell Sculpture Garden and UPD Public Art
 - B. UPDAC Recruitment
- V. Reports
 - A. UPDAC Chair
 - B. Director
 - C. Board Representative
 - D. UPD Projects Update
- VI. UPDAC Member Comments and Open Discussion
- VII. Adjourn

Upcoming meetings:

***March 23, 2021
April 27, 2021
May 25, 2021
June 22, 2021***

*****This month's secretary is Jean Paley*****

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, February 23, 2021)

MEETING ID: 844 5275 4270

PASSCODE: 719184

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. UPDAC accepts comments but neither UPDAC 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 844 5275 4270.
- Enter meeting passcode 719184, 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/84452754270?pwd=aE5EVHFkUDQ4KzcxZTdsMXNBR1ZUdz09>
- 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 khbeccue@urbanaparks.org – these will be read per Urbana Park District Board rules and time limits.

URBANA PARK DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (UPDAC)
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021
7:00 PM-8:30 PM
REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61802

The meeting of the Urbana Park District Advisory Committee (UPDAC) was held Tuesday, January 26, 2021 online via Zoom 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 member of the committee 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.

UPDAC Members	PRESENT	ABSENT
Laura Hastings, Chair	X	
Gary Ambler	X	
Nicoline Ambrose	X	
Kelly Boeger		X
Jonville Chenoweth		X
Tomas Delgado		X
Heath Isome		X
Ben Kaap	X	
Jean Paley	X	
Ashley Price	X	
Sarah Roper	X	
Howard Schein	X	
Travis Schiess	X	
Amita Sinha	X	
Timothy Stephens	X	

Also present were;

- Tim Bartlett, Executive Director
- Caty Roland, Superintendent of Business Services
- Derek Liebert, Superintendent of Planning and Operations
- Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation
- Nancy Delcomyn, Board Vice President
- Kara Dudek, Park Planner
- Savannah Donovan, Environmental Public Program Coordinator

I. Call to Order – Introductions

Tim Bartlett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Tim Bartlett began the meeting by informing the group that Cedric Stratton had filed to run for the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners, and would no longer be able to serve on UPDAC in his capacity as Chairperson or as a regular member due to UPDAC bylaws stating that a member's tenure terminates upon filing for election. He noted that Laura Hastings had agreed to serve as the new UPDAC Chair, and introduced her to the group in her new capacity. Tim also introduced Kelsey Beccue, and noted that she has assumed Ellen Kirsanoff's UPDAC-related responsibilities. Tim then turned the meeting over to Laura.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the November 17, 2020 UPDAC Meeting

Laura Hastings made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2020 UPDAC meeting with a second from Jean Paley. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion

A. Climate Action, Resiliency, Education, and Sustainability Plan (CARES) Plan Draft

Kara Dudek introduced herself, as did Savannah, and both gave a little background about their education in climate action. Savannah noted that they had come to the October 2020 UPDAC meeting with an idea for a plan, and since then had gathered information on what should be included in a plan through a survey sent out to UPDAC, the Natural Areas Committee, UPD staff and board, and the Champaign County Climate Coalition. That survey informed the elements in the draft plan they presented. Kara and Savannah said this would be an opportunity for UPDAC to further inform the plan by looking at it critically for elements that do not make sense, are confusing, or if there are things missing.

Savannah introduced the three pillars of the plan: Communicating Climate Action, Protecting and Strengthening our Natural Environment, and Conserving Resources. She then provided the meaning behind each pillar, and introduced the broader goals that support the pillars. She subsequently introduced the objectives, strategies, and performance measures that will be used to achieve the plan's stated goals in regard to the Communicating Climate Action Pillar. Kara Dudek spoke about the goals, objectives, strategies, and performance measures for the remaining two pillars: Protecting and Strengthening our Natural Environment and Conserving Resources. Savannah then said that they wanted some guidance from UPDAC on how to go about gathering community input to refine the plan. Howie Schein suggested using the neighborhood listservs to communicate to the public, and creating a public Zoom input session. Ashley Price thought it would be a good idea to promote the plan and solicit feedback during busy registration periods. Howie then suggested vehicle decals, and Corky Emberson thought putting a slide on our Bright Signs would be helpful.

B. Questions and Answers

There were many thoughtful questions and discussions about this topic on each of the pillars, and the plan as a whole.

Amita asked about definitions of terms used in the plan, and Savannah responded that they were considering creating a glossary of terms to aid in community understanding. Tim Stephens asked in reference to Goal #5, if we would be working with other park districts on climate action. Savannah answered that we are hoping to be a role model for other districts and community organizations in regard to climate action, and would most likely be working with other districts by assisting them with their own climate action plans, since every agency has differing needs. Jean Paley commented that she thought the plan was very organized and would be easy to edit, and also asked about proper composting. Amita also expressed an interest in learning more about composting and composting programs. Discussion ensued about the partnerships UPD has had in the past on composting education with the City of Urbana, and the University of Illinois' food waste composting program, and how UPD might implement something similar on a smaller scale. Nancy wanted to make sure that UPD communicates our internal climate actions to the broader community. Ashley Price inquired about what climate action programs exist for pre-teens, and Savannah said Camp FRESH, administered by Chelsea Prah is one such program, as is the Youth Climate Justice Forum. Tim Stephens asked about waste/recycle cans in parks, and how we handle keeping waste and recycling separate. Derek Liebert responded and said that UPD does separate pickups, and all recycling is currently single stream. Tim Stephens suggested having a compost bin in addition to the current waste and recycle bins, but noted that it wouldn't be easy to manage.

In regard to increasing biodiversity, Sarah Roper brought up pollinator pockets in the community, and suggested creating snake habitats. Derek Liebert said that there is a snake habitat in at the Perkins Road Site, and that a lot of UPD's work in Natural Areas does increase overall biodiversity. Nancy Delcomyn brought up the idea of promoting sources where people in the community can buy native plants. Derek mentioned that the Headwaters Invasive Plant Partnership is promoting the sale of native plants with local nurseries, and that Grand Prairie Friends has a native plant sale every year. Ashley Price asked about herbicide use near playgrounds, and Derek said that UPD hasn't used herbicides near playgrounds in the past few years, and that they are researching alternatives to herbicides. There was some discussion of gray water re-use, and Derek asked Travis Schiess if he knew anything about those systems. Travis responded that he hasn't worked with them personally, but mentioned that the Illinois Plumbing Code has evolved a lot in regard to gray water re-use, and that cisterns are the most common type of system.

Sarah Roper suggested incorporating the use of environmentally friendly building materials, and asked if there was a UPD policy against purchasing Styrofoam materials. Derek responded that there is no policy in place, but that staff does not buy Styrofoam materials, though it is sometimes received as packaging material in shipments. Tim Bartlett noted that the DART plant recycles Styrofoam, and Laura Hastings commented that a large driver of Styrofoam use is the restaurant industry. Nancy Delcomyn said that C4 could be a driver of change in that regard. Ashley Price asked about methods C4 might use to incentivize restaurants to stop using Styrofoam, and Sarah Roper suggested keeping a list of restaurants with environmentally friendly packaging. Jean Paley mentioned that page numbers should be added to the plan.

V. Reports

A. UPDAC Chair

Laura thanked everyone for coming, and mentioned that Kelsey Beccue would be sending out a Sign-Up Genius to all UPDAC members so they could sign up to take turns as meeting secretary. She also noted that Kelsey has a new template that will make it easier for the person taking the minutes, and it will be emailed out to the secretary of each meeting.

B. Director

Tim Bartlett thanked the staff and steering committee that developed the draft CARES Plan, and said that UPD has made a lot of big moves this year: COVID-19 response, racial justice issues, and climate action to name a few. He then gave some COVID updates now that Region 6 is in Phase 4. UPD is open, but there is some concern that there could be another wave. UPD's plan is to continue to be cautious and make contingency plans in case mitigations are put in place again. Tim also gave an update on the Health and Wellness fundraising process. He noted that we are still waiting to hear about the PARC Grant. Finally, Tim mentioned that UPD recently reviewed the Strategic Plan goals, and that future goals will be more tailored to the Strategic Plan pillars.

C. Board Representative

Nancy said that she will be attending the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference this week, and noted that it will be virtual this year. She mentioned that she will be doing research on playground systems in light of the scheduled replacement of Meadowbrook's Prairie Play Playground.

D. Projects Update

Derek provided updates on several projects. He thanked Sarah Roper for her work with the Blair Park design team, and said that project would be going to bid soon, with a likely award in March. Crystal Lake Park has been seeded, and plugs will be planted this spring. Derek also noted that master plan work continues on the Perkins Road Site.

VI. UPDAC Member Comments and Open Discussion

Kelsey gave a brief synopsis on some changes to UPDAC including the new minutes template and use of annotated agendas. Nancy commented on the importance of UPDAC to the district. Sarah mentioned that UPDAC allows an opportunity to affect change, and have a real impact on the community. Amita also noted that her book, *Cultural Landscapes of India*, has been published.

VII. Adjourn

Laura Hastings adjourned the meeting at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kelsey Beccue

MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FROM: KELSEY BECCUE
CC: TIM BARTLETT, CATY ROLAND, DEREK LIEBERT, CORKY EMBERSON
SUBJECT: UPDAC RECRUITMENT STATUS
DATE: 2/11/2021

Efforts are underway to begin recruitment for the August 2021 UPDAC Class. Our goal in recruiting for UPDAC is to reflect the diversity of Urbana – geographically, demographically, and economically. Strategies to achieve this goal include:

- Coordinating with Marketing staff to issue a press release to the News-Gazette and other media outlets soliciting UPDAC applications, as well as frequent social media blasts.
- Ensuring that a digitally fillable version of the UPDAC application is easily accessible on our website and social media.
- Sharing information about serving on UPDAC with local neighborhood groups and email lists (SUNA, WUNA, etc).
- Working with current UPDAC members and UPD staff to canvass historically underrepresented neighborhoods with flyers and information about serving on UPDAC.
- Coordinating with Outreach & Wellness staff to tap into community networks in historically underrepresented neighborhoods.

We welcome the Board's feedback on these strategies, as well as any additional ideas. It is our expectation that these efforts will result in an increasingly diverse UPDAC membership that represents all of Urbana.