

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – BOARD STUDY SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023
6:30 PM-8:00 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, March 7, 2023 at the Planning and Operations Facility, 1011 E. Kerr Avenue, Urbana, IL at 6:30 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 Michael Walker	X	
Vice-President Meredith Blumthal	X	
Commissioner Nancy Delcomyn	X	
Commissioner Roger Digges	X	
Commissioner Cedric Stratton	X	

Also present were Tim Bartlett, Executive Director;
Derek Liebert, Superintendent of Planning and Operations;
Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation;
Laura Orcutt, Business Manager;
Andy Rousseau, Project Manager;
Kara Dudek, Park Planner;
Jennifer Skulski, Skulski Consulting;
Allison Jones served as Recorder.

I. Call to Order

President Walker called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

A. Remote Attendance

There was no remote attendance requested.

B. Accept Agenda

COMMISSIONER DIGGES MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STRATTON TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA WITH THE ADJUSTMENT OF MOVING III DISCUSSION, POINT B. IMMEDIATELY AFTER PUBLIC COMMENT. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

II. Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

III. Discussion, B. American with Disabilities Act

See below.

III. Discussion

A. Health and Wellness/Core Updates

Director Bartlett provided an overview of the status of the Health & Wellness facility progress, including next steps on budget and financing, as well as information on bidding for the project in March. Staff also reviewed the potential funding gap for the project, and options for fulfilling the spending needs and accommodating cash flow throughout the project. Staff reviewed possibilities for extra funding, including loans, CDs, bonds, and construction phasing and noted that any next steps require finalized bid numbers. Board and staff discussed possible next steps and noted the desire to keep the community updated on the project as it advances.

B. Americans with Disabilities Act

Director Bartlett introduced Jennifer Skulski with Skulski Consulting, the group hired by UPD to review the ADA Transition plan and advise on issues of accessibility.

Jennifer Skulski presented an updated Plan for Inclusion, including an Accessibility Assessment, Self-Evaluation, Transition Plan, and Action Planning. She noted that she suggests reviewing this process every decade for the most up-to-date recommendations. Jennifer reviewed in detail the Self Evaluation, which included a policy, practices, and procedure review, as well staff interviews. Next, she provided Key Findings from the Self Evaluation, including UPD's accomplishing above the minimum recommendations and requirements in nearly all areas. She noted the success of the You Belong Here initiative playing a positive impact, as well as ongoing staff trainings. She provided suggestions for further improvements, including updating and formalizing a grievance procedure, small policy changes, appointing a designated ADA Official, and maximizing work with CUSR and local disability advocacy groups. Lastly, she reviewed the updated ADA Action plan and specific recommendations for corrective action within each UPD facility and property. Through the process Jennifer emphasized Program Access as a foundational principal of the Americans with Disability Act, and she noted that UPD is in line with peer park districts who have been working on their ADA Transition plans in terms of completion. Finally, Jennifer provided staff with next steps, including convening an Accessibility Management Team, continue to build relationships within the disability rights community, prioritizing removal of barriers, and initiating an ADA Action Plan.

Staff noted that they were pleased with this process, as it provided clarity on the ADA Transition plan. Board and staff discussed the process and its impact on UPD, including new facilities, mobility devices, social media, and universal design. The Board thanked Jennifer and staff for all their hard work.

IV. **Comments from Commissioners**

There were no further comments from Commissioners.

V. **Adjourn**

President Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Michael W. Walker, President

Timothy A. Bartlett, Secretary

(Seal)

Date Approved: April 11, 2023