

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 MINUTES – BOARD STUDY SESSION
 TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 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, June 6, 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 Cedric Stratton		X
Commissioner Roger Digges	X	
Commissioner Laura Hastings	X	

Also present were Tim Bartlett, Executive Director;
 Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation;
 Derek Liebert, Superintendent of Planning and Operations;
 Laura Orcutt, Finance Manager;
 Andy Rousseau, Project Manager;
 Jeff Martin, Farnsworth Group;
 Allison Jones served as Recorder.

I. Call to Order

Vice-President Blumthal called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

A. Remote Attendance

There was no remote attendance requested.

II. Accept Agenda

COMMISSIONER DIGGES MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HASTINGS TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

III. Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

IV. Discussion

A. Prairie and Weaver Park Master Plan – Update

Jeff Martin with Farnsworth Group presented draft options for the Prairie and Weaver Park Master plan. He reviewed the timeline for the process and the steps being completed, including staff workshops, public surveys and focus groups, webinars to share information, and finalizing the plan in Fall 2023. Derek Liebert noted that this is a sensitive project, as it involves an important natural area and habitat at Weaver Park, but that UPD will continue to work with local stakeholders to gain feedback on the proposal.

Next Jeff presented 3 options for design layouts for the amenities at the parks, including natural areas, soccer fields, baseball fields, pathways, and parking. Staff and Board reviewed the pros and cons of each options. Important factors considered include parking flow, green space, sports field rotation, trails, protecting the natural area, dark sky lighting, goose management, and maximizing amenities. The Board and staff provided feedback to Jeff to incorporate in the next draft layout option.

B. Blair Park - Phase 2 OSLAD Grant

Staff presented information on next steps for additional updates to Blair Park, specifically potential pavilion renovations. Staff discussed funding, including a private donor and a potential OSLAD grant, as well as amenities that would be added through the process. The Board expressed support moving forward with the OSLAD grant application and further discussions with private donors regarding the project.

V. Comments from Commissioners

There were no further comments from Commissioners.

VI. Adjourn

Vice-President Blumthal adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM.

Meredith Blumthal, Vice-President

Timothy A. Bartlett, Secretary

(Seal)

Date Approved: 7/13/23