



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, APRIL 23, 2019
 7:00 PM
 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS FACILITY 1011 KERR AVE.
 URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801**

- I. Call to Order - Introductions**
- II. Public Comment**
- III. New Business**
 - A. Presentation on Community Coalition by Tracy Parsons; Update on Outreach programs by Elsie Hedgspeth, Outreach and Wellness Manager.
- 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 March 26th 2019 meeting.**
- VII. UPDAC Member Comments and open discussion**
- VIII. Adjourn**

Upcoming meetings:

May 28, 2019
June 25, 2019
July – no meeting
August 27, 2019

*****This month’s secretary is Kay Holley*****

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.

UPDAC Minutes

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Attending: Kelly Boeger, Tomas Delgado, Marianne Downey, Lori Ellinger, Jennifer Hardesty, Ben Kaap, Vanessa Lane, Melissa Logsdon, Jean Paley, Sarah Roper, Howard Schein, Travis Schiess, Tim Stephens, Andy Wszalek, Nancy Delcomyn, Tim Bartlett, Corky Emberson, Derek Liebert, Ellen Kirsanoff

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm. Introductions were done around the room.

Public Comment: None

New Business:

- A. Presentation on UPD **Health and Wellness Facility** by the Planning and Recreation staff – Tim Bartlett, Corky Emberson, Derek Liebert.

UPD is in the planning process of building a new health and wellness center based on the key pillars. Tim gave a history of recreation in Urbana, which has been lacking in the past. Urbana heavily relied on schools to provide recreation opportunities for the community and outdoor activities in the summers. Linking health and wellness is part of the strategic plan. UPD is forming partnership with OSF and looking to move to the next level to combat the health crisis in Urbana, for example obesity, mental health, violence. Partnering with the medical community is a logical next step to address these issues.

Currently there is no such facility in Urbana. UPD has been renting space at the Brookens Center for 20 years. The gym space is uncertain. UPD's goal is to create a space that people want to be in.

Several initiatives have been taken so far. UPD is planning programs around the findings of the underrepresented study results. They have started a Health and Wellness Department. Marketing has been more intentional (You Belong Here campaign) and has won an award.

UPD staff has toured other facilities to model the new facility in Urbana after, such as the Riverplex in Peoria and others. The Riverplex in Peoria partners with OSF and the new facility in Urbana would also partner with OSF to assist with funding and programming. For example, the dietitians from OSF could teach cooking classes in the Phillips Center instructional kitchen, which is now complete. Carle had the opportunity to partner with UPD but declined the offer.

Input from the community questionnaire is being taken into consideration with the construction of the new facility. Respondents indicated they want a facility that is open late, has child care, indoor track, fitness culture, employee wellness.

Jean Paley inquired about the possibility of the new facility offering Silver Sneakers. Tim stated it is being looked at as a possibility. They realize the program is appealing in its ease of use and flexibility, but reimbursement is difficult. The new facility's partnership with OSF could allow prescribed exercise programs overseen by OSF physicians and PT.

Other space considerations were presented, such as good lighting, windows, a welcoming set up, good observation spaces for parents. The draft program includes a full gym that can be divided; spaces for meetings, CUSR programs, birthday parties; locker rooms, cardio/weights, storage, track, kitchenette, group fitness, dances, showers, staff space, and conference room with offices.

A suggestion was made to partner with the Urbana High School for a child care facility in the wellness center. HS students can earn credits.

A question was asked about hosting tournaments to bring in revenue. UPD has worked with Visit Champaign County to bring revenue from outdoor programs, statewide tournaments, etc.

UPD staff will be visiting a new facility in Plainfield, IL which is net neutral energy facility.

Next steps:

- Site and feasibility study. Considerations are costs, size, equipment, location.
- Other partnerships are being explored to incorporate other city/government offices within one building, such as YMCA, MTD, city government offices.
- One of OSF's goals is to have a UGO clinic within the Health and Wellness Center. What else would they like to add?
- Determining how to pay for the facility. PARCS grant could pay for up to 75% and UPD needs to be in a good position to apply in time before the deadline.

Timeframe for the new facility is to be ready to act as soon as possible, but partnerships and grants are key factors in making that happen.

Tim opened the floor to hear feedback from UPDAC:

- Members are excited to have it downtown – closer to Lincoln Square and access to MTD.
- Discussion about other locations: Could Sunnycrest or Orchard Downs be used?
- Parking could be an issue downtown.
- Is Brookens desirable? It gets 100,000 visits per year (soccer, gym space) but people don't want to go to Brookens.
- Programs should have satellite registration or on-site registration.
- Location needs to be intentional – where people who need it can easily access it.
- A suggestion was made to talk to Wal-Mart for funding, which may have an incentive to bring customers to that area of town. Look at Weaver Park area, close access to I74.
- Howard stated location is the primary concern for him, citing less than ideal location of Francis Nelson clinic.
- Tomas stated Lincoln Square Visioning determined housing is needed to support central downtown location.
- Downtown would be a good location for high school and middle school students.
- Jean suggested that MTD could run mini buses dedicated to UPD programs and that the government entities should work together.

B. After the presentation and open discussion, there was a tour of Brookens Center.

Reports:

UPDAC – Melissa stated UPDAC is back at Kerr next month. Parks Lobby Day is April 30 in Springfield at the Capitol. Leaving from Kerr at 8am; event is 10am-2pm. Good opportunity to visit with other park districts and see staff's communication with legislators, which shows representatives that there is value in the park districts. Email Ellen if interested in attending.

Director – Tim reported that the legislative breakfast went well. Tolono, Mahomet, Savoy and Legislators. IAPD had a good turnout with open forums, speakers to discuss issues, questions and networking. Parks Day is May 1st. Legal Symposium is in the fall.

Nancy encouraged members to vote in the April 2 local election – park commissioner seats are open.

T-shirt sizes were collected by Ellen. Shirts are given to UPDAC members to wear at events, etc.

March meeting minutes were approved by Howard, seconded by Jean.

Sarah Roper announced that there is a Trans Inclusive Neighbors event at the Urbana Library and the group is looking for additional meeting spaces.

Howard moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52pm. Jean seconded the movement.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelly Boeger.