

UCAP Advisory Committee Minutes
Urbana City Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room
August 18, 2011

In Attendance:

Melvin Peeples	Tim Bartlett, Urbana Park District
Samuel Johnson	Mayor Laurel Prussing
Frankie Johnson	Alderman Robert Lewis
Dorothy Carter	Lt. Richard Surles
Barbara Lewis	

The meeting was called to order by Lt. Surles at 5:36 p.m.

Tim Bartlett of the Urbana Park District reported that Jettie Rhodes' Day was very successful, commenting that he thought that it was due to the committee's hard work getting the message out. He reported the first Neighborhood Night was a couple of weeks ago in King Park with over 100 people in attendance. Tim then advised the pathway project for King Park will start the following Monday. Part of the project will include taking down about 30 trees, which are poor quality trees. The Park District will be re-planting trees in the spring. Worn out signs in the park will also be replaced. The work should be completed by mid to late fall. There will also be a few accessible benches added in compliance with ADA requirements. Ash trees are being removed from Crystal Lake Park. There is also a new disease affecting Oak trees, which are being removed and burned to prevent spreading of the disease. Trenching is also being used to help prevent spreading of the disease. Tim continued by reporting on the pool design, which is about 50% complete. Bidding for the construction begins in January, 2012, and opening of the pool is anticipated for May, 2013. The Park District is currently working with the Public Health Department on pool options/requirements, as well as conferring with the sanitary district. They applied for an IDNR grant to assist with the pool budget. The grant results should be available in January. All the information is on the website if you wish for further details. Discussion followed.

Mayor Prussing reported the Circle K at Lincoln/Bradley applied for a Class C Liquor License. She wanted to know what the neighborhood thought about this. Discussion followed.

Alderman Lewis reported King School had a grand opening. It was suggested that future UCAP meetings be held at King School, utilizing the community rooms that are available. He continued by providing a description of all the new and upgraded features at the school, vocalizing his pride in the new environmental classroom. Alderman Lewis then reported about the new Aggressive Solicitation Ordinance, emphasizing this is a city-wide ordinance that provides a humanistic approach to dealing with the inappropriate behavior. Discussion followed.

Lt. Surles reported he was also at the King School celebration, stating it was fantastic. He continued by reporting on recent criminal activities in the neighborhood and what the police are doing about the situations. He then fielded questions/concerns from the committee members.

Alderman Lewis added that Chief Connolly brought to his attention some traffic issues in the Eads Street subdivision. He said there is a Traffic Commission meeting in September where they will be discussing the speed limit in that area. They would like to get the speed down to 25 from 30. Discussion followed.

Lt. Surles continued fielding questions/concerns from the committee members. He reported that we hired two new officers, Officer Rich Coleman and Officer Byron Ebbert. Lt. Surles invited everyone to attend the National Night Out at West Side Park on Saturday, August 20th, 2011, 3-8:30 p.m. He also reminded everyone that the Sweetcorn Festival was coming up the following weekend, August 26-27, 2011 as well as the CarX Krazy K. All proceeds from the Krazy K will go to charity.

The next meeting will be November 17, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Cassie Heldman