

UCAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
King School Library
February 16, 2006

In Attendance:

Hayward Patterson
Virginia Patterson
Samuel Johnson
Frankie Johnson
Melvin Peeples

Leonard Christmon
James Hayes, Jr.
Alderman Robert Lewis
Mayor Laurel Prussing
Acting Chief Mike Bily

Acting Chief Mike Bily called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. He announced that the first meeting of the Neighborhood Safety Task Force would be at 7:30 p.m. at the City Building following the UCAP meeting. City ordinances will be the main topic of discussion.

Committee members voiced concerns about dogs running loose in the neighborhood, as well as, large dogs being walked by children who can not handle the dogs if they become aggressive. Discussion followed. In other business, Samuel Johnson suggested a "Catfish Corner" restaurant franchise to fill the vacant Family Video Store building. The mayor suggested having Urbana Community Development investigate that possibility.

Mayor Prussing was asked by Frankie Johnson if any progress was being made regarding the purchase of the local water company. Mayor Prussing reported that the Illinois legislature recently supported a bill in favor of cities having the right to buy the water company by a vote in the Senate Committee of 9 to 1 and in the House Committee by a vote of 8 to 2. The mayor stated that the process to buy the water company will probably take a long time.

Alderman Lewis reported on damage to the monument located at the corner of Fairview and Goodwin. He asked if committee members had been informed about the County Board and the Regional Planning Commission scholarships that are available for local students. Alderman Lewis also reported that sidewalk renovation in the neighborhood is scheduled for 2006 and the installation of curbs and gutters on Mathews Street is scheduled for 2009.

James Hayes asked Acting Chief Bily how the First Thursday meetings were going. Chief Bily reported that attendance has been low, but he anticipates an increase in attendance when warm weather arrives.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Lowery
Recording Secretary