

UCAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Urbana City Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room
February 21, 2008

In Attendance:

Melvin Peeples
Samuel Johnson
Frankie Johnson
James Hayes

Tim Bartlett, Urbana Park District
Mayor Laurel Prussing
Alderman Robert Lewis
Chief Mike Bily

The meeting was called to order by Chief Bily at 5:38 p.m.

Tim Bartlett, Urbana Park District Superintendent of Planning & Operations announced that the tax increase for the Park District on the February 2008 ballot had been defeated. He stated that some cuts in programs and a reduction in hours at Crystal Lake Pool would probably be needed this year. He asked for input from committee members since it is likely the Park District will put the question back on the November 2008 ballot. Discussion followed.

Mayor Prussing announced that calendars, celebrating Urbana's 175th birthday, are available for purchase at the Urbana Public Library and the Urbana City Clerk's Office. Proceeds from the sale of the calendars will be used to finance monthly birthday celebrations in 2008 and for the Art Program. The Mayor also updated the committee regarding the rate hike Illinois American Water Company is proposing to pay for a new water treatment plant to be built in west Champaign. Mayor Prussing reiterated the need for the cities affected by the rate hike to pursue buying the water company. She also reported on the proposed Ameren IP rate hike. Mayor Prussing announced the voluntary snow removal on sidewalks in Urbana has been working out well.

Mr. Lewis reported that he is serving on a task force that is looking into new growth areas for parks in Champaign County. He also reported that on April 6-12, 2008 a program entitled Money Smart Week sponsored primarily by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago will be held in Champaign County. Mr. Lewis announced that the instrumental music program he has helped establish for Urbana students has proven very successful. Champaign Unit #4 is interested in starting a similar program.

Chief Bily reported that January, February and March are relatively quiet months with regard to criminal activity, but he anticipates and is preparing for the usual increase in activity when warm weather arrives.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Karen Lowery, Recording Secretary