

UCAP Advisory Committee Minutes
Urbana City Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room
February 17, 2011

In Attendance:

Melvin Peeples	Tim Bartlett, Urbana Park District
Barbara Lewis	Alderman Robert Lewis
Samuel Johnson	Chief Patrick Connolly
Frankie Johnson	Lt. Richard Surles
Corky Emberson, Urbana Park District	Lt. Robert Fitzgerald

The meeting was called to order by Chief Connolly at 5:35 p.m.

Chief Connolly started the meeting by handing out and explaining beat maps. He further explained “fixed beat assignments”. Chief Connolly also discussed the police department’s organizational structure and introduced Lt. Richard Surles, North Division Commander, and Lt. Robert Fitzgerald, South Division Commander.

Lt. Surles gave his biographical information and distributed his business cards.

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Chief Connolly requested each of the committee members introduce themselves to the lieutenants. Chief Connolly encouraged the members to contact him or the lieutenants if they have any questions or concerns. Chief Connolly then fielded a few questions from the members, encouraging them to call the police when something suspicious occurs in their neighborhoods.

Corky Emberson of the Urbana Park District gave an update on the pool, showing a diagram of the board approved concept. Corky reiterated the pool will be multi-generational and multi-skill level. He also discussed the upcoming tax referendum on April 5th, explaining where the money will be allotted. Discussion followed. Corky concluded by letting everyone know the information is on the Park District website.

Tim Bartlett of the Urbana Park District gave an update on the King Park project using TIF 3 funds, explaining how they are working towards connectivity between the park and school. The TIF money will be put back into the infrastructure of the park, making wider bike paths/trail system and a walking loop; maintaining existing trails with slight modifications. There will also be some tree work done in the park, removing some and pruning some. They would also like to plant some new trees as funds allow. The third part of this project, if there are any funds remaining, would be the proposed sculpture project. Tim continued by offering some long-term goals for the park. Discussion followed.

Alderman Lewis advised there are a lot of things on the horizon, but the real issues seem to be the snow and the potholes. He advised King School is moving along. Traffic accommodations have been made in that area. There are new businesses opening at the Gateway Shoppes. Urbana is in pretty good shape. They've done due diligence over the years in trying to maintain a balanced budget. Things are improving as far as the economy for the City. Alderman Lewis encouraged all to express their concerns and questions and to be informed. He then addressed questions from committee members.

Chief Connolly requested that we discuss at the next meeting about how to recruit members for UCAP. We need more people involved. He also discussed the Neighborhood Watch program. Chief Connolly encouraged committee members to contact the police about suspicious activities and to not hesitate to call him if you have any questions/concerns. Chief Connolly then fielded questions/concerns from committee members.

The next meeting will be May 19, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Cassie Heldman