

UCAP Advisory Committee Minutes
King School Library
February 16, 2012

In Attendance:

Melvin Peeples	Hayward Patterson	Jennifer Ivory Tatum, Principal
Samuel Johnson	Virginia Patterson	Tim Bartlett, Urbana Park District
Frankie Johnson	Dorothy Carter	Vicki Mayes, Urbana Park District
Lashaunda Cunningham	Betty Green	Mayor Laurel Prussing
Barbara Lewis	Scott Rhodes	Chief Patrick Connolly
		Lieutenant Richard Surles

The meeting was called to order by Chief Connolly at 5:39 p.m.

Chief Connolly asked everyone to introduce themselves due to new participants. He then asked members to review the minutes from the November 17, 2011 meeting and provide any additions or corrections. No changes were made.

Tim Bartlett of the Urbana Park District announced the Park District and the City won an Arbor Day award, the Gold Leaf Award, for the joint program at King Park. He then provided an update on Crystal Lake Pool, reporting there was going to a celebration for the demolition on April 5, 2012. Tim then reminded everyone about Jettie Rhodes Day on June 23, 2012 at King Park, where there will be a brief dedication of the pathway system. Tim also reported the City and Park District are moving ahead on the Martin Luther King sculpture, with the City taking the lead on the project. Lastly, he provided an update about Summer Neighborhood Nights. The Crystal Lake Park Neighborhood Night will be May 30, 2012 at the Nature Center. Then the Neighborhood Night at King Park will be August 8, 2012.

Vicki Mayes of the Urbana Park District reported they are very excited about the pathway system and encouraged everyone to get out and make good use of the pathways. She said there are a few more trees to be planted, and Tim added there is a grant to help with the re-planting costs. Vicki was asked about the pathways on snowy days, and she confirmed they were a high priority. When asked about water fountains, she reported there were currently two fountains on the pathway system.

Mayor Prussing started by discussing the snow removal ordinance, announcing the ordinance had passed. She also thanked Mr. Johnson for coming to the Council with his information about clearing sidewalks of snow in the UCAP area, referring to the members as "Leaders of the City". She also mentioned the Circle K on Lincoln and Bradley selling hard liquor, pointing out the City has adopted a new process of notifying residents of the area to see if there are any objections to a liquor license being issued. At this particular location, there were a large number of police calls, so the Urbana Police Department, specifically Lt. Surles, worked with

management to make improvements at this location. Lt. Surles reported that calls for service are down significantly. Mayor said that Alderman Lewis reported about the lighting issue and the broadband project. She then presented a new project called Municipal Electrical Aggregation, explaining that there is a new law allowing the City to put a motion on the ballot to see if the public would like the City to negotiate lower electric rates. This will be on the March 20, 2012 ballot. The City is negotiating with various companies and thinks the rates could be lowered by almost one third. In Urbana, anyone can join and there are no penalties for getting out. If the motion passes, that just means citizens have the opportunity for getting in the program. Mayor Prussing then fielded questions from committee members, reporting there is going to be a campaign with the slogan, "Power is Money". The campaign will provide information to the citizens about the motion on the ballot. City of Champaign will also be involved, so advertising will be done jointly. Mayor Prussing continued to field questions.

Chief Connolly requested UCAP members look over a list of names/addresses of members of the Dr. Ellis Subdivision provided by Dorothy Carter. He asked that members look over the list and provide additions, deletions and addresses for people who might be interested in participating in UCAP. Members should return the list at the next UCAP meeting.

Lt. Surles provided the police update by reporting that Unofficial St. Patrick's Day is coming up soon, March 2, 2012. He encouraged members to be mindful of their children/grandchildren in regards to this event. He further reported the Street Crimes Unit has been very active all over the city and very successful. Chief Connolly encouraged members to call 9-1-1 if they notice any suspicious activity. Chief Connolly and Lt. Surles provided their cell phone numbers to the members, if they have any questions. Chief stressed that 9-1-1 should always be called in life-threatening situations or during crimes in progress.

Chief Connolly then passed out pamphlets about the Citizen's Police Academy, explaining what it is about. He then told members to contact Cassie if they wanted to participate. Chief Connolly then fielded questions/concerns by the committee members.

The next meeting will be May 17, 2012 at King School.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Cassie Heldman