

---

**DATE:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021  
**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Zoom

---

## **A G E N D A**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**
  - a. April 27, 2021
- 3. Additions To The Agenda**
- 4. Public Input**
- 5. Presentations**
  - a. Staff report
- 6. Unfinished Business**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Adjournment**

**You are invited to a Zoom webinar.**

When: Jun 22, 2021 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Community Development Commission

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82278927321>

Or One tap mobile :

US: +13126266799,,82278927321# or +19292056099,,82278927321#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833

Webinar ID: 822 7892 7321

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/koaPPWVSS>



*UNAPPROVED*

**MINUTES**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING**

**Date, April 27, 2021**

**Held virtually via Zoom**

**Call to Order:** Anne Heinze Silvis called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Brearden Belcher, Community Development Specialist, called the roll. A quorum was present.

**Commission Members Present:** Anne Heinze Silvis, Chris Diana, and Rev. Robert Freeman

**Commission Members Excused/Absent:** Patricia Jones, Abdulhakeem Salaam

**Others Present:** Sheila Dodd, Grants Management Division Manager; Brearden Belcher, Community Development Specialist

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 Meeting, and Commissioner Diana seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Petitions and Communications:** No petitions or communications were presented

**Audience Participation:** Chair Person Heinze-Silvis stated that audience members could speak if they so wished or after a particular item is presented, no one from the audience stepped forward to speak

**Staff Report:** Mr. Belcher reported on the ongoing activities in the Grants Management Division. Staff are preparing for HUD monitoring of the CDBG program, which will take place the week of May 24-28, and HOME program monitoring which will take place June 14-19. City of Urbana staff are currently conducting monitoring of Urbana HOME Consortium members. Mr. Belcher then discussed the FY 21-22 Annual Action Plan, which was approved by City Council on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The Plan is due to HUD on May 15, but GMD staff will have it completed well before then.

Mr. Belcher stated that the Urbana HOME Consortium will be receiving additional funding through the recently passed American Rescue Plan. The amount has not yet been confirmed, but will be between 1.6 and 3 million dollars. The Urbana HOME Tech Committee has been discussing what to do with these funds in their monthly meetings. Any updates will be communicated to the Commission. Mr. Belcher then discussed progress on Neighborly grants

management software. Staff hope to launch the program soon. This will greatly streamline the grants application and management process for staff and community members.

**Old Business:** No old business was presented

**New Business:** Mr. Belcher presented a sub recipient agreement between the City of Urbana and Cunningham Township. The City is entering into a 2 year agreement with the Township to provide a sub grant of \$36,687 in Emergency Solutions Grant funding for their rapid rehousing program. Approximately 5 individuals will be assisted by this funding, which will include case management and tenant-based rental assistance to those experiencing homelessness. No action is required of the Commission. This is merely informative.

**Adjournment:** Seeing no further business, Ms. Heinze Silvis adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Recorded by

Breaden J. Belcher  
Community Development Specialist



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### GRANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

**TO:** Community Development Commission Members  
**FROM:** Breaden Belcher, Community Development Specialist  
Grants Management Division  
**DATE:** June 22, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Staff Briefing

---

#### **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Activity**

- ☐ HUD Monitoring
  - HOME monitoring completed last week
  - CDBG monitoring in July
- ☐ Emergency Housing Vouchers: 113 provided to Champaign County. The Champaign County Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless (CSPH) is working with the Housing Authority of Champaign County on a MOU which is a HUD requirement. Both groups will be working together to administer this program.

#### **OTHER GRANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

- ☐ Return to in-person meetings beginning in July
- ☐ Imagine Urbana update
- ☐ Staff attended regular meetings of the Continuum of Care & CoC Executive Committee, Council of Service Providers to the Homeless, Housing Authority of Champaign Co. (HACC) Board of Commissioners, Senior Task Force, and Community Reinvestment Group (CRG). During the next few weeks, all meetings will be held remotely or canceled.



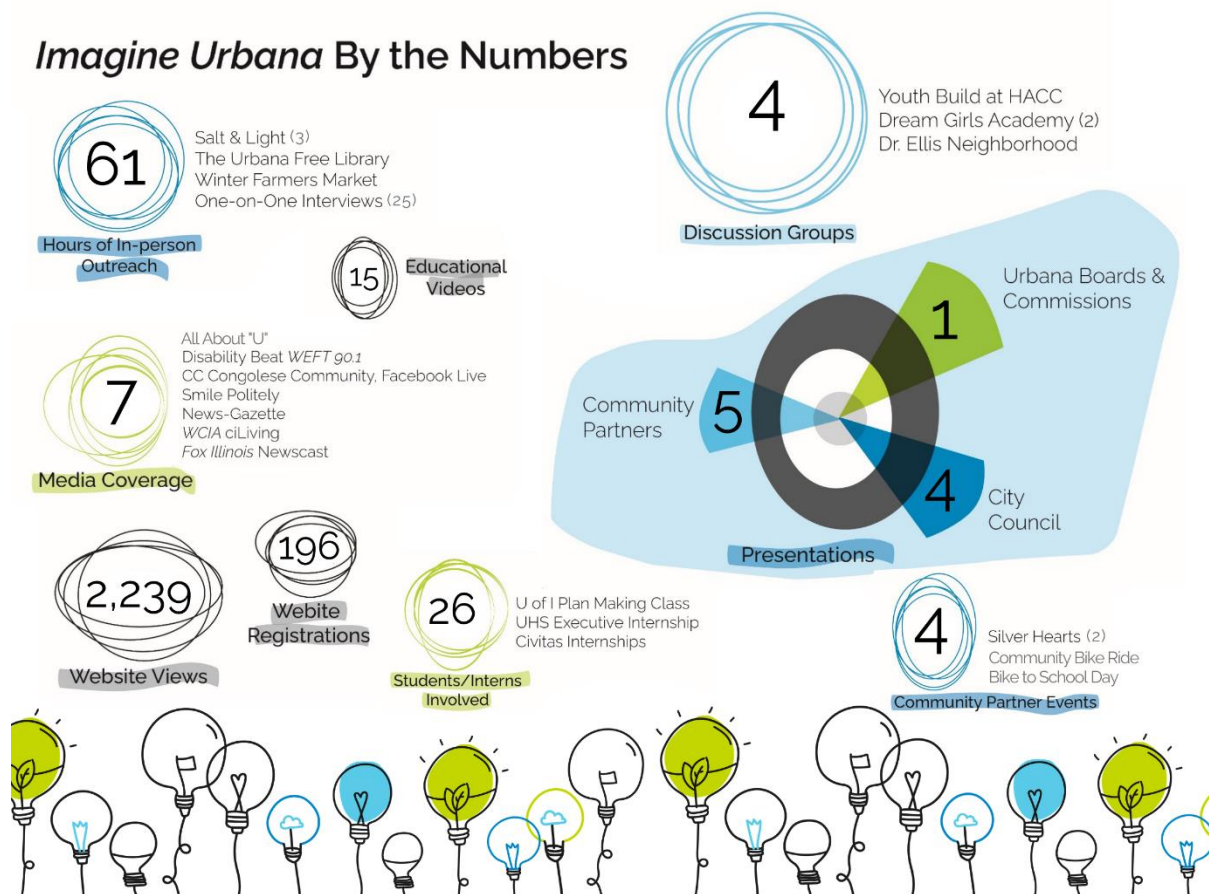
We would like to extend a warm welcome and thank you for signing up for the Imagine Urbana newsletter. This is a great opportunity to stay engaged in the Imagine Urbana Comprehensive Plan process!

Our Comprehensive Plan is a 20-year vision for Urbana's future. This plan will guide City decisions on Urbana's quality of life, arts & culture scene, land use, transportation, infrastructure, environment, economic development, housing, governance, and more. The Comprehensive Plan process is centered on extensive community engagement to identify goals and aspirations for the future development of our community.

The Imagine Urbana Team

Since the website launch, 197 users have registered! Here is a snapshot of our activities to date, including our work with community partners, community outreach events, and media exposure.

## Imagine Urbana By the Numbers



## Upcoming City-wide Engagement

The City of Urbana is launching another community-wide outreach tool by providing a texting/SMS survey in the upcoming month.

All Urbana households will receive a postcard this fall about Imagine Urbana and encouraging everyone to comment and take the survey on the [ImagineUrbana.com](https://www.imagineurbana.com) website or complete the text survey available in four languages --- English, French, Spanish, and Chinese.

---

Find the Imagine Urbana team of City staff and volunteers at summer events across the City. [You can find the current calendar here.](#)

### Here is a list of upcoming events in June where you can find the Imagine Urbana team:

6/13, 2-3 p.m - The Urbana Free Library Crochet Coral Reef [Workshop Reef](#), for more information: [Crochet Coral Reef - Urbana Free Library \(libnet.info\)](#)

6/20, 3-5 p.m - [Young Artist's Studio: Urbana Grows Wild! A Boneyard Arts Festival Young Artist's Chalk-a-Thon](#)

6/26 - CU-PHD Guatemala Consulate Event

6/26 - Urbana *Downtown Get Down*

Save the Date for Head Start Awareness Walk **on September 25th!**

---

### Did you know you can learn more about your Urbana Community Service Providers?

The City of Urbana is one of many providers of public services and resources. [Click on this link to view short videos](#) from providers across Urbana. There are also videos from the City of Urbana's department heads explaining their role at the City.

---



### Meet the New Summer 2021 Interns

Meet our newest interns for the City of Urbana! Lena and Natalie are assisting with the Imagine Urbana Comprehensive Plan Project.



My name is Lena Walker, and I am one of the summer interns for Urbana's Planning Department. I grew up in Carbondale, IL (about 4 hours SW of here), and Illinois is a place very close to my heart. For most of the past decade, I've been living in Portland, OR, and I have a B.A. in Russian Language and Literature from Portland State University. Right now, I'm a graduate student at UIUC, currently finishing my final semester in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. My main planning areas of interest are community engagement and incorporating the arts into planning, so I am especially excited to work with the city this summer on getting feedback for the Imagine Urbana Comprehensive Plan.

When I'm not thinking about urban planning, I enjoy translating Russian poetry, biking, gardening, listening to baseball on the radio, and getting involved in my local community. I'm also an amateur cartoonist and hope to one day get my HAM radio operator's license.



My name is Natalie Wess, and I am one of the summer interns for the City of Urbana's Planning Department. I'm in my final year of undergrad at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, studying Urban and Regional Planning. My specializations in my studies are in Social Justice, specifically related to arts and culture.

I am passionate about museum curation and Asian American studies. I work with the Asian American Cultural Center at UIUC and the Spurlock Museum building an equitable future.

During my free time, I enjoy swimming, cooking food, and photography. I hope that after this internship, I will be able to contribute this experience towards solutions for arts and culture programs in cities.

---

### About the Comprehensive Plan

In case you missed these two short videos on our ImagineUrbana.com website, [click on this link to view](#) Lemond Peppers, Community Engagement Coordinator, describe what is a comprehensive plan and the process that the City will be using for community engagement.

[Click on this link to see](#) members of our collective community that live, work, shop, play, and study in Urbana say why the comprehensive plan is important to them.

---

Remember to provide input by signing in and using the Survey, Urbana Places, and Idea Wall, or check out the ideas posted by the community!

[Click here to take a brief Survey.](#)

[Click here to pin and upload photos of Urbana Places.](#)

[Click here to post comments on the Idea Wall.](#)

Thank you for reading and your participation in this community effort! Contact us at [ImagineUrbana@urbanaininois.us](mailto:ImagineUrbana@urbanaininois.us) if you are interested in future participation in a focus group, and tell us what topic is of particular interest to you.

Keep your ideas coming!

The Imagine Urbana Team

