

UCAP Advisory Committee Minutes
King School
August 21, 2014

In Attendance:

Melvin Peeples	Barbara Thomas
Samuel Johnson	Aaron Ammons
Frankie Johnson	Diane Gottheil - CPRB
Dorothy Carter	Corky Emberson – Park District
Brian Cunningham	Libby Tyler – Community Development
Lashaunda Cunningham	Chief Pat Connolly – Police Department
Scott Rhodes	Lt. Rich Surles – Police Department

The meeting was called to order by Lt. Surles at 5:32 p.m.

Corky Emberson of the Urbana Park District reported that there has been quite a bit of vandalism at the pavilion in King Park, to include lighting toilet paper on fire and drug activity. This is mostly occurring between 2:00 and 4:00 a.m. They are debating whether or not to begin locking the restrooms at night. He then provided an update on Crystal Lake Park, reporting only one fight at the pool this year. Also, they are working on solutions for the lake (duck weed and water meal). Enzyme treatments that are mixed with an aeration process are being done. Water meal and duck weed are not harmful, just look bad. There is a sediment basin, which is full, and they are working on getting it cleaned up. Corky then discussed the events this year, stating it was a successful year for neighborhood events. He also gave them a heads up about the Jazz Walk on September 5, 2014, in Meadowbrook Park. He then fielded questions/comments from attendees. Corky then advised that the attendance for Crystal Lake Pool was 43,000 with a target of 60,000. Lastly, there were a lot of children in camps this year, with 500 unique children in attendance.

Libby Tyler of Urbana Community Development reported there are a lot of new businesses in the downtown area, and the City also added some seating. She further advised the Campus Circle project at University and Goodwin is now under construction. This student housing will have just under 300 units with 500 rooms available. There will also be some retail located on the ground floor. Libby then reported the Sweetcorn Festival begins on Friday, with the headliner on Saturday night being Eddie Money. She also advised today the students at UI moved back in, and the Market at the Square is going well. Libby then reported there has been some talk of a possible medical school right across the street from Campus Circle on the south side of University, where there is an unpaved parking lot (already owned by UI). She finished by fielding concerns from the attendees, which included a discussion about wild animals in the City.

Lt. Surles asked if anyone had questions about Hamilton on the Park. At this time, Diane Gottheil introduced herself as a member of the Civilian Police Review Board. She wanted to advise everyone that the CPRB exists and invited them to attend meetings and provide any suggestions. Then an attendee asked about the article on Racial Profiling and what the Department's take is on that statistics-wise. Chief Connolly then advised of the mayor-appointed racial profiling committee that is analyzing all the data. Discussion followed. Another attendee asked about TASERS and whether or not they have been purchased. Chief Connolly spoke about the CPRB subcommittee that will help write the policy. Then someone asked about Hamilton on the Park, and a discussion followed. Following that, a brief discussion ensued about the Civilian Police Review Board.

Lt. Surles fielded questions/concerns from the attendees. Discussion followed. Lt. Surles then reported on changes occurring at the police department.

Libby Tyler advised about openings on several City boards and commissions, letting everyone know that she can provide them information if they are interested and that applications are available from the Mayor's office, specifically Jolinda Ross.

Aaron Ammons, on behalf of Carol Ammons, reported there would be a listening session on pension and taxes on either September 23, 2014 or October 9, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Cassie Heldman