



**CHAMPAIGN
PARK DISTRICT**



Urbana Park District



MINUTES

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – CHAMPAIGN-URBANA SPECIAL RECREATION JOINT BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022
5:30 PM**

The Champaign-Urbana Special Recreation (CUSR) Joint Board Meeting of the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners and Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners was held Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the CUSR Center, 2212 Sangamon Dr., Champaign, at 5:30 pm. The notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the park district administrative office and at the location of the meeting. Copies of the notice and agenda were received by each commissioner of the district and by local newspapers, radio, and television stations at least forty-eight hours before the meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois. A copy of the notice and agenda is attached to the minutes.

UPD COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
President Michael Walker	X	
Vice-President Nancy Delcomyn		X
Commissioner Cedric Stratton	X	
Commissioner Roger Digges	X	
Commissioner Meredith Blumthal	X	

CPD COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
President Kevin Miller	X	
Vice-President Craig Hays	X	
Commissioner Jane Solon	X	
Commissioner Barbara Kuhl		X
Commissioner Tim McMahon	X	

Also present were:

Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation, UPD;

Joe DeLuce, Executive Director, CPD;

Jameel Jones, Director of Recreation CPD;

Nikiaya Brandon, Adult Programs & Events Coordinator, CUSR;

Christina Mott, CUSR Manager and Athletics & Volunteer Coordinator;

Amanda Carrington, CUSR Center Receptionist;
Cole Alvis, Inclusion and Volunteer Coordinator;
Darrien Watson, Interim Youth and Teen Coordinator;
Andrea Wallace, Director of Finance; CPD;
Heather Miller, Director of Human Resources, CPD;
Jarrod Scheunemann, Director of Administrative Services, CPD;
Allison Jones served as Recorder.

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Walker called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

B. INTRODUCTIONS

1. Introduction of CUSR staff
2. Introduction of Board Members

Staff and Board members went around the room and introduced themselves.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments made by members of the public.

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. CUSR Year in Review

Christina Mott reviewed goals completed from the CUSR Strategic Plan. She also reviewed Mustang Athletics and the Youth and Teen Programs, such as the Sensory Egg Hunt and Sensory Swimming.

Darrien Watson reviewed additional Youth & Teen programming, including summer camps, after school programs, and horseback riding.

Cole Alvis reviewed inclusion aid services and volunteer participation.

Nikiaya Brandon reviewed Adult Programs, such as theater, film, and special events. She also presented information on new programs and special events.

Amanda Carrington reviewed CUSR participant numbers for the year and noted that they are getting closer to pre-pandemic participation levels. She also reviewed Scholarships and noted that over \$6,600 has been paid out in 2022. Next, she reviewed the Annual Awards Banquet in April, the Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser, and the 10th Annual Cupcake 5K event, which involved almost 400 attendees and raised over \$8,600.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of setting December 7, 2023 at 5:30pm as the date and time for the next Joint Champaign & Urbana Park Districts Board Meeting.

COMMISSIONER MILLER MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HAYES TO APPROVE OF SETTING 12/7/2023 AT 5:30 PM FOR THE NEXT JOINT CUSR BOARD MEETING. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

COMMISSIONER STRATTON MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DIGGES TO APPROVE OF SETTING 12/7/2023 AT 5:30 PM FOR THE NEXT JOINT CUSR BOARD MEETING. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

F. ANNUAL UPDATES - URBANA PARK DISTRICT

Corky Emberson presented updates from the Urbana Park District, including efforts on a new ADA Audit, finishing another study with the University of Illinois Diversity Lab on reaching underrepresented populations, and the ongoing efforts of UPD's You Belong Here committee. He also noted that Cole Alvis will be working with UPD staff on inclusion efforts within the district. Finally, he congratulated CUSR staff on their successful CUSR Center.

G. ANNUAL UPDATES - CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT

Director Deluce provided updates on CPD efforts, including the successful opening of the CUSR Center, as well as CPD's nomination as a finalist for the 2022 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Parks and Recreation. He also noted the opening of the new Martens Center, as well as the development of Human Kinetics Park with a playground, community garden, pathways, and multiple sport courts. He also provided information on a collaboration with the University of Illinois Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program to provide an IT hub and computer space for the community at the Martens Center. Director Deluce provided updates on additional projects throughout the district, including pickleball courts, and renovations on the HVAC and sound systems at the Virginia Theater. Lastly, Director Deluce noted his upcoming retirement on 12/31/22 and new director Sarah Sandquist beginning soon.

Jameel Jones also highlighted the over-night space and programming within the new CUSR Center, and desire to make more efforts on joint CPD/UPD programming in the coming year.

H. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF - URBANA PARK DISTRICT

Commissioner Blumthal thanked CUSR staff for all their hard work this year.

Commissioner Walker commented positively on the new CUSR Center and is looking forward to UPD being able to offer additional space at the upcoming Health & Wellness Facility.

Commissioner Digges noted how positive and enthusiastic staff and participants are in the CUSR program review videos.

I. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF - CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT

Commissioner Solon thanked the CUSR staff for their enthusiasm and commented positively on growing participation numbers.

Commissioner McMahon commented on the obvious joy in the faces of CUSR participants and staff.

Commissioner Hayes commented positively on the new CUSR Center and requested that participant numbers be shared with the Board again through e-mail.

Commissioner Miller offered the Board's help in supporting CUSR efforts in any way needed.

J. ADJOURN

President Walker adjourned the meeting at 6:09 PM.