



# THE UPLANDER

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION, EST. 1902

## President's Comments

Hello neighbors!

Hope you are all having a great summer! It's almost time for school to start up again, believe it or not. Peoria Public Schools start up again Wednesday, August 17, and St. Mark's begins Monday, August 22. Move-in day for Bradley University is Saturday, August 20, so we can expect traffic to be a bit heavy that day as the residence halls open for the semester.

And speaking of Bradley, President Gary R. Roberts will be our special guest at our next Uplands Residential Association meeting on Thursday, August 11, at 7 p.m. We meet in the basement of the Bradley Epworth United Methodist Church (use the Elmwood entrance). This is a great opportunity to meet the new president, get to know him, and hear about his vision and future plans for the university and how they might affect our neighborhood. I hope to see many of you there!



Gary Roberts, President of Bradley University

There's another event the same night as our association meeting I wanted to pass along. At 6 p.m. on the 11th, there will be a public meeting regarding the MacArthur Bridge Reconstruction Project at Valeska Hinton Center, 800 W. Romeo B. Garrett Ave. This is the bridge that

runs down the bluff from Moss Ave. south of University. They will be soliciting feedback about ornamental lighting, walls, finials, and other significant architectural features. Just don't forget to be back at 7 for our monthly meeting!

We had some vandalism in the neighborhood recently. Someone apparently ran over and took all of the pedestrian crossing signs that are normally in the middle of the speed humps along the north-south streets. The police have been notified, and the City has ordered replacement signs. They hope to receive and install them by September.

On a positive note, several neighbors got together on June 23 to remove weeds from the curbs on our streets, and it was a great time. We all split into teams and really helped beautify the neighborhood. Thanks to everyone who participated!

I recently received an update from City Engineer Scott Reese regarding the traffic calming plans for the neighborhood. He said they were running a little behind their original schedule, but that they will be "installing the speed feedback signs in early August" and "installing the speed hump on Columbia Terrace in mid-August also."

Finally, please mark your calendars now for Saturday, September 10—that's the date of the annual Uplands Picnic. Sounds like it's far off, but it will be here before you know it! Look for more info in the next Uplander. It's great being a part of such a busy and close-knit neighborhood! See you all soon.

Sincerely,

C.J. Summers

## Uplands Residential Association Officers:

### President: C.J. Summers

1202 N. Institute Pl., 673-8177  
summers1202@sbcglobal.net

### 1st Vice President: J.R. Hinchee

1027 N Maplewood Ave., 868-0110,  
mahkno@comcast.net

### 2nd Vice President: Steve Tyler

1120 N Elmwood Ave., 970-640-8617,  
styler@bradley.edu

### Treasurer: Dustin Draggist

1310 N Glenwood Ave, dustindraggist@gmail.com

### Secretary: Pete Magsig

1320 N Institute Pl., 734-546-2988,  
petemagsig@gmail.com

## Dues

### Uplands Residential Association Fees 2016

The yearly neighborhood fees are \$20.00 per year. Please make checks payable to *The Uplands Residential Association*. If you are interested in donating extra money to our beautification fund please indicate this on the registration form below. You may include the additional amount on the same check as your dues. Your URA dues can now be paid online! We have set up a Paypal account for your convenience. To do so, please visit [www.Paypal.com](http://www.Paypal.com), click Send, enter the URA email address of [TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com](mailto:TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com) and the amount, then click Continue and follow additional prompts. Your dues will be deposited directly into the URA's Checking Account.

In 2015 your dues helped pay for the printing of the monthly newsletter, the annual Easter Egg hunt, the annual Picnic and the renewal of the URA post office box. We continue to plan for the future of The Uplands to make this the best neighborhood it can be and your dues help make this possible!

### THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION 2016 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to volunteer with

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain   | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic         | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification  | <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Range Plans    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Land Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking             |

Send completed form and check payable to URA Treasurer Dustin Draggist, P.O. Box 6532, Peoria, IL 61601-6532. Dues are \$20 and allow the neighborhood to do many good things. Please consider a donation to the Neighborhood Beautification Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES! I/WE will pay our \$20 association dues, and contribute an additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for beautification.

Come hear us  
**ROARRR!**

**P** PEORIA ZOO

2320 N. Prospect Road  
in Glen Oak Park  
A Peoria Park District Facility

**Open Year Round  
10 am-5 pm**

**Amazing views of giraffe, lions, rhinoceros and more in our Africa! exhibit. Walk with wallabies in the Australia Walk-About. Explore the Asian Trail and see tigers and takin. Visit the Tropics with snakes, monkeys and bats. For information visit [peoriazoo.org](http://peoriazoo.org) or call 686-3365.**

### UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA AUGUST 11, 2016—7:00 P.M.

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Welcome Bradley University President Gary R. Roberts
- III. Uplands Business
  - A. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting—Secretary Pete Magsig
  - B. Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Dustin Draggist
- IV. Committee Reports
- V. URA Representatives to Outside Organizations
  - A. Bradley Institutional Planning
  - B. West Bluff Council
  - C. Peoria Alliance
  - D. Western Avenue Greenway
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
  - A. Uplands Picnic Planning
  - B. Other New Business
- VIII. Adjournment

## Uplands Neighborhood Association Minutes June 9th, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 with a quorum of 7 in attendance.

Jennifer Schroer, the City's new Neighborhood Services Coordinator was present.

**Treasurer's Report:** As submitted by Dustin Draggist. It is noted that we have 71 paid members.

### Reports:

Incoming President CJ Summers reviews committee chairs that are listed in the bylaws.

**Audit Committee** – Vacant and inactive. It is unclear what this committee is for exactly.

**Code Violations Committee** – Kara Harris is the last known chair. Need to confirm.

**Long Range Planning** – Dan Armich is the last known chair. Committee is inactive.

**Neighborhood Beautification** – J.R. Hinchee. There are ten residents maintaining the boulevards. J.R. Hinchee was reimbursed for mulch purchase.

**Parking Committee** – Vacant and inactive.

**Traffic Committee** – Vacant and inactive.

**Zoning and Land Use** - Bernie Goitein is the last known chair. Committee is inactive.

**Picnic** – Desiree Kane is the last known chair. Ms. Kane will be contacted regarding the 2016 picnic.

**Garage Sale** – Kay Ahl is normally contacted to set up the advertisement. Otherwise this is inactive.

**Welcome Committee** – This committee is currently vacant and inactive. Christine Wallbom expressed an interest in possibly taking over this role.

Other positions not explicitly in the bylaws:

**Website** – Steve Marx

**Facebook** – Kara Harris and Melissa Stevenson? Need to confirm.

**Uplands Yahoo Group** – J.R. Hinchee

**Next Door** – Chris Setti

**Institutional Planning Committee** – Jerry Jackson. Currently inactive.

**Western Greenway** – Dana Armich. It was noted that a large number of volunteers were cleaning up the

greenway on Saturday June 4th. It was unclear who it was but welcomed all the same.

**West Bluff Council** – Beth Hinchee and Bernie Goitein. CJ Summers attended. The City reported on plans to replace the bridge on McArthur Highway going down the bluff. It is scheduled to be rebuilt in 2017. Access to the bluff at Moss will be closed for two years while this is rebuilt. The city will be holding some public forums to get suggestions for design improvements or alterations while attempting to recreate the historic design of the original bridge.

A member of the Arbor district had approached the Uplands concerning a possible dissolution of the Arbor district. It was confirmed that there will be no dissolution taking place and that the Arbor district needed to do a better job of reaching out to its residents to deal with their concerns.

### Unfinished business:

**Traffic calming:** Temporary speed hump(s) to be installed mid-June [it is currently installed]. The permanent speed hump along the upper 1600 block of Columbia Terrace is scheduled for near the end of July following City Council approval.

**Water line improvements:** There is no timeline yet. The City is awaiting approval of proposed EPA settlement for the combined sewer overflow problem before moving forward on this again. There will be no residential water line work in 2016. Maybe 2017 or 2018 depending on EPA approval and court settlements.

**Weeds:** The city will be spraying Columbia Terrace, Main, and Western for curbside weeds. The city does not have the funding to spray every residential street. It is noted that the weeds do accelerate the street bed's deterioration.

In response to curbside weed growth, 2nd VP Steve Tyler wants to organize a neighborhood curb cleaning crew for June 23rd.

### New Business:

Meet Jennifer Schroer. Ms Schroer is the new Neighborhood Services Coordinator. She replaces Steve Fairbanks who retired earlier in the year. Ms Schroer performs the role of liaison to residents,

associations, and the general public to improve the city's quality of life.

In addition to working closely with neighborhood associations, Ms Schroer coordinates the Citizen Police Academy, manages the Night Out Against Crime, oversees the college internship program, facilitates the Neighborhood Cleanup Program, and coordinates with Community Development regarding neighborhood issues and concerns.

So we talked about the curbside weed situation. In the East Bluff there is a budding effort to employ youth to clean up the East Bluff. It is called 'Lawn n Order' and facilitated by resident neighborhood Officer Hightower. It has been moderately successful, spawning copycat efforts by other kids to pick up trash, pull weeds, and make their place a little better. Could this be done on the West Bluff too? Maybe or maybe not. "Lawn n Order" is getting funding from the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Service. The West Bluff has no similar funding source. We asked if maybe the new West Bluff resident neighborhood Officer Aquilar would be willing to start a similar effort? Perhaps some friendly competition could be organized? East Bluff vs West Bluff? The merits were discussed but no decisions or commitments made.

Ms. Schroer wants to promote the Night Out Against Crime in August. It was noted that the Uplands has not hosted an event for the Night Out in several years. It was too close to the neighborhood picnic and lacked interest. We have tried pooling efforts with the Moss Bradley neighborhood but they too have found a lack of support or interest. It isn't that we are not concerned about crime but perhaps we face comparatively less crime than other neighborhoods with more successful events?

If any Uplands resident wants to get involved we would encourage you to lend support to the events that will likely be held by University East and Columbia Terrace North on the other side of University. In the past their event has been held at Dayspring Park. If you have not been to Dayspring Park on Bourland (head north from Columbia Terrace) there have been some major improvements to this neighborhood park in the last year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:38p.m.

## Welcome New Neighbors

1020 N Parkside Drive  
Michael & Rebekah Eckhardt

1416 W Columbia Terrace  
Justin & Adrienne Locke

1321 W Parkside Drive  
Benjamin & Meredith Messina

1119 N Glenwood Avenue  
Paul & Shelly Fessler

If you are new to the Uplands or know someone who is, please contact Kirk Sheckler at 369-1372. Thanks!

### Welcome Back Whittier Wildcats!

Join us for our first annual Unpack Your Backpack Event on Monday, Aug. 15th, from 5-6 p.m. Meet your teacher for the 2016-2017 school year and drop off your supplies!

**St. Mark School** is excited to welcome our students and families back for the 2016-2017 school year. Our first day will be August 22nd with an 11:30am dismissal. Be sure to pop in for a quick "Meet and Greet" the teacher, visit the classroom, and enjoy a coffee and donut provided by our PSA until 9:00am.

**YAHOO!**  
Groups

Join the Uplands Yahoo group by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uplands/>



The URA is on Facebook. Like us for current news on the neighborhood!

Visit our website:  
[www.TheUplandsPeoria.com](http://www.TheUplandsPeoria.com)  
Email us at:  
[TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com](mailto:TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com)

If you have information for *The Uplander*, please contact Brenda O'Russa at 673-2776 or [bkorusa@comcast.net](mailto:bkorusa@comcast.net)

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