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# UPLANDER

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION, EST. 1902



SEPTEMBER 2018

VOLUME 118, ISSUE 7

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

September 2018

Hi neighbors!

It's time for the Uplands Annual Picnic! Each year, we have a picnic in the park on the second Saturday in September. This year, that's Saturday, September 8. There will be a bike parade for the kids at 4:30 that will start at the corner of Parkside and Columbia Terrace. Kids are encouraged to decorate their bikes for this event. Then, the picnic itself will start at 5 p.m. along Parkside in Upper Bradley Park. Meat (hamburgers, hot dogs), buns, condiments, and water will all be provided by the Uplands Residential Association (URA). We just encourage you to bring a side dish to share. There will be lots of food, games, and music—so come on out and enjoy a picnic in the park with your neighbors!

Also at the picnic will be an opportunity to give towards the Sidewalk Snow Removal Fund for this coming winter. Things went so well last year, we're doing it again! The suggested donation from each household is still \$20. These funds help us pay for a private contractor to plow the sidewalks of the entire neighborhood (including Main and University) whenever we have a snow event of two inches or more. This provides safe mobility for all neighbors, and is coordinated with the City of Peoria to ensure plowed walks don't get re-covered by street plows. We can't afford to do this without your participation, so please plan to donate again this year, or perhaps for the first time.

Due to the picnic, there's no URA meeting in September. So, looking ahead, our next meeting will be Thursday, October 11, at 7 p.m. We've decided to make this a strategic planning meeting where we'll be discussing future neighborhood challenges and how to address them proactively. More details will be provided in the next Uplander. But we'd like to get your input, so please save the date—if you don't attend the URA meetings normally, the October meeting is the one meeting this year you won't want to miss.

See you all at the picnic!

Sincerely,

*C. J. Summers*

## Uplands Residential Association Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2018

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

There were 12 neighbors in attendance

CJ introduced Mike Van Cleve, who is the special guest this evening.

The Uplander wasn't published yet, so minutes approval was deferred.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Deposits		Debits	
Membership Dues x 0	\$0	Uplander printing	\$75
Beautification Fund	\$0	PayPal fees	\$0
Snow Removal Fund	\$0	Snow Removal	\$0

Available Balance \$4,595.14

Beautification Fund Balance \$1,590.59

Snow Removal \$0

Total Paid Members 63

### REPORTS

**Litter Czar Report** - Steve reported on cleanup activities. City has put out 15 additional public trash containers in the area, that have been adopted by local businesses. PDC is renegotiating a new 8 year contract with the city, and will dump those refuse containers on a weekly basis.

No other reports from West Bluff Council or the Greenway.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Planters** - Mike told how he was inspired to change the planters and create a gateway to the neighborhoods. He submitted the proposal to Councilman Grayeb and Scott Reise of Public Works. The artists have committed to touching up as necessary, but the paint should last 5-7 years without fading or needing major maintenance, but residents can come up with another new piece or update over the next 1-5 years.

Steve thanked Mike for underwriting the project, and for "doing something". Mike quoted the paint/equipment at \$400, and the payment to the artists was \$2100. The West Bluff Council paid \$500, University East paid \$200, Columbia Terrace North donated \$100, and other donations were made as well. Mike paid \$1600 out of pocket.

The city purchased plants (chosen by Mike) and they were planted by volunteers and a neighborhood Master Gardener. Mike has been pruning and upkeeping the plants since planting. Steve recommended Mike connect with Peoria CORE, a group with a grant to maintain local public landscaping.

CJ offered that any repainting be done by local artists, and continue to match the other corners/neighborhoods.

Steve moved that the URA spend \$200 to defray the costs of painting the planters. The motion passed unanimously.

Several neighbors expressed concern and a desire to have an input on the next repainting of the planters. There was discussion regarding the maintenance of the planters, and possible repainting. Steve moved that the planters not be completely redesigned or repainted in the next year. There was a second, and discussion was had. Steve added the date September 1, 2019 to be the active date for any future discussion or plans. Motion passed.

*continued*

**REMEMBER, NO SEPTEMBER MEETING  
WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE UPLANDS PICNIC  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

**BIKE PARADE: 4:30  
Corner of Columbia Terrace & Parkside  
PICNIC: 5:00  
Upper Bradley Park**

**Next URA Meeting: October 11 at 7:00 P.M.**

## PICNIC PLANNING

The picnic committee hasn't met, so there is no update. Dan did suggest that we ask the neighborhood bluegrass band (Rage Club) to play at the picnic. All approved, and Dan will ask them. Committee will meet early next week.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Support for WCBU** - CJ read the letter to BU President in support of the future of WCBU, asking Bradley University to do all in their power to preserve the future of the radio station. The letter has been signed by multiple local neighborhood organizations. There was a motion and second to add our name to the letter. It was approved unanimously.

**Uplander** - There is a new Uplander editor, Steven Marx. CJ changed the deadline for submissions to be the week after the URA meeting (August 17th for the September deadline).

**Snow Removal** - Pete Magsig has volunteered to head up the Snow Removal Fund fundraising again this year.

**New proposed development on Main (at Orange St.)** - Development has been approved by the Zoning Commission, and then by the City Council. Concerns were raised about the impact it will have on the Uplands rentals. Concerns about the condition of neighborhood rentals and possible ways to encourage landlords to upkeep their properties. It was suggested to use the URA meeting on October 11 for a planning session to discuss form-based codes and other potential options for preserving the character and value of the neighborhood. Steve will invite someone from Community Development, and Dan will invite some neighborhood landlords to attend.

Steve submitted and requested \$75 to offset the cost of the signs he ordered for Clean Up Day. It was moved and seconded to reimburse Steve \$75 for the signs. Unanimous approval.

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:25.*

*Submitted by Meredith Messina, Secretary*

### URA Membership Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Send completed form with payment to URA Treasurer Dustin Draggist, P.O. Box 6532, Peoria, IL 61601-6532. Make checks payable to Uplands Residential Association or URA Treasurer.

### Uplands Residential Association Dues

The URA dues 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. 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 Paypal.com, click Send, enter the URA email address (TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com) and the amount, click "Continue," and follow additional prompts. Your dues will be deposited directly into the URA's Checking Account.

*The Uplands Residential Association is on Facebook and Yahoo Groups! You can also email us at TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com. If you have information for The Uplander, please contact Tamara Black-Waite at tblackwaite@gmail.com. If you are new to the Uplands or know someone who is, contact Kirk Sheckler at 369-1372.*

## SNOW REMOVAL FUND!

We will begin accepting contributions to the Uplands Snow Removal Fund starting 9/8 (at the picnic) through 9/29.

We had some hefty snows last season, and we'd like to once again see clear sidewalks this winter.

Cost is \$20 per household, cash or check. Donations will be accepted at the picnic and after, drop-off locations to be announced

Watch for fliers and signs. Let's beat last year's goal!



## NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR POSITION

City Council has decided to eliminate the Neighborhood Services Coordinator position at the Peoria Police Department due to budget constraints. This position will officially be eliminated on Friday August 31st. Any concerns or questions that you might have after that date can be directed to Sgt. Anthony Rumman at arumman@peoriagov.org or to Captain Todd Green at tgreen@peoriagov.org.

It has truly been a pleasure working for and with all of you. I have been absolutely impressed by the commitment, dedication, and passion you all have for your communities and am very proud to have played a role in those efforts. As always, if there is anything I can do to help or if you have some questions or concerns you would like addressed by Friday please feel free to contact me.

Gratefully,

Jennifer

Jennifer Engelbrecht

Neighborhood Services Coordinator

Peoria Police Department

## Uplands Residential Association Officers:

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