



City of Madison

Meeting Minutes - Final

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

*Ald. Santiago Rosas, Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, William Barker, Randall L. Glysch,
Betty Chewning, Emanuel Scarbrough, Betty N. MacDonald*

Wednesday, November 9, 2005

6:30 PM

1625 Northport Dr. (WPCRC)

CALL TO ORDER

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Ald. Santiago Rosas, Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, William Barker, Betty Chewning, Emanuel Scarbrough and Betty N. MacDonald

Excused: Randall L. Glysch

Special Guest: Julian Walters mentored by Mr. Scarbrough

Parks staff present: James Morgan, Si Widstrand, Elinor Riley, Laura Bauer, LaVonne LaFave

President Barker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed. A welcome was extended to Julian Walters when he was introduced to members.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to comment on items not on the Agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scarbrough/Chewning to approve the Minutes of the October 19, 2005 regular meeting of the Park Commission. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2005

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Olbrich Botanical Society Minutes of September 20, 2005 Meeting

A motion was made by Rosas/MacDonald to accept the Minutes of the September 20, 2005 meeting of the Olbrich Botanical Society. MOTION CARRIED unanimously. In response to a question, it was noted that the Garver parcel is a former industrial site that contains non-native plants. Native plants will be planted there as part of the restoration of the site.

V. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARK COMMISSION

President Barker announced that Park Commissioner Randy Glysch advised him that he was stepping down from the Park Commission as of this meeting. He stated he will miss Randy's perspective and that he has done a great job for parks and has worked as hard as anyone to make the swimming pool a reality. Members expressed regret that he is leaving the Board.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS

A. Written Report of Supervisor's Activities

A motion was made by Skidmore/Scarborough to approve the written report. **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. Superintendent Morgan referenced page 3 of the Report that lists the huge number of events coordinated by the Mall Events Coordinator. The events listed are what's already on the books for next year and when spring arrives there will be at least that many more added, together with another 4 to 5 pages of additional student events at the end of the spring term and beginning of the fall term in 2006. In response to a question about trash being dumped in parks, Superintendent Morgan stated that instead of citizens taking their discards to the collection sites in the city or even placing items on the curb, they dump trash, including deer carcasses, in parks throughout the city. Maintenance crews stop daily emptying of trash barrels when shelters are no longer open. A majority of the barrels are removed from the parks and stored for the winter months.

B. Central Park's Potential Impact on Park System's Budget

The Commission had indicated an interest in knowing what costs would be associated with the proposed Central Park. Parks staff has been working on those costs at the request of Urban Open Space Foundation (UOSF). When this park was first proposed, UOSF made a commitment to the Park Commission early in the planning process that the park would be built with private funds and operated with an endowment that would pay for its maintenance. UOSF has now requested maintenance numbers as they determine the amount of an endowment necessary. Superintendent Morgan indicated that there are a lot of "IF's" that will affect the final costs, including - IF the plan gets built as it appears on paper; and IF the level of programming is as it appears on paper. Then, with all of those usages and amenities, it will cost just under \$400,000 per year to operate. The first year maintenance estimate is higher due to the cost of equipment that would need to be purchased in the sum of \$169,000. Wages for fulltime and part time staff is \$180,000. Maintenance, forestry and facility costs for items such as repairing fountains, winterizing amenities, painting, tree care, repairing vandalism, etc. is estimated at \$40,000. As construction begins and operations are phased in, those numbers can be refined.

C. Parks Foundation Update

The Parks Foundation continues to work on several significant capital projects. Additional major gifts for the swimming pool will be announced in the coming weeks. A Fundraising event was held last week for scholarships to provide low-income families access to the pool and to swimming lessons. The receipts from that event total in the 6-figure range. The goal is to have an endowment fund of \$ 500,000 at the Madison Community Foundation for scholarships. It is also the clearinghouse for gifts to move and restore the Brittingham Boathouse.

D. [00424](#)

SUBSTITUTE - To establish and execute a fair and participatory process for deciding whether or not and/or how to restrict the flow of motorized vehicular traffic on Edgewood Drive, a remnant of the Park and Pleasure Drive system. The process includes public information, citizen participation, attorney analysis, traffic engineering analysis, consultation with the Edgewood schools and the

other abutting property owner and, finally, consideration by the Common Council of any restrictions recommended by the Board of Park Commissioners.

Sponsors: Kenneth Golden

A motion was made by Ald. Skidmore, seconded by Ald. Rosas, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO PLACE ON FILE - REPORT OF OFFICER A motion to place the Resolution on file was made after receiving notification from Superintendent Morgan of the vote of the Board of Public Works to unanimously endorse the creation of a cul de sac on Woodrow Street to resolve the traffic problems on Edgewood Drive. MOTION CARRIED Unanimously. Entrance onto and exit from Edgewood Drive at that intersection will be cut off by the creation of the cul de sac. This remedy also has the support of Edgewood, Inc. and many of the neighbors as well as the endorsement of Traffic Engineering, Engineering, and the Park Commission as noted in the Minutes of the September 14, 2005 meeting and recited in the verbose action of the Legislative File.

It was noted that the neighborhood had been working on a resolution to this traffic problem for more than 15 years.

What will be most apparent to our park users, bikers, walkers and joggers is that we will be able to complete some of the repaving that is needed along the Drive with the elimination of the motor vehicle traffic. Money has been allocated in the 2006 Parks budget to begin the restoration work on the bridges. Parks will also undertake the repair of the damaged fences in accordance with its responsibility in keeping with the Easement.

The motion passed by acclamation.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES

- A. Correspondence from Sue Alioto requesting modification of the parking lot and extending parking limits at the Brittingham Beach House and Petition of Residents attached to letter.

Superintendent Morgan reported this is a recurring issue within the neighborhood. Two years ago the ice fisherman appealed to the Park Commission for restrictions in some of the parking lots at Brittingham especially by the picnic shelter, because the lots were filled with construction worker and student vehicles to avoid paying for parking. The 3-hour restriction has worked well. Violators have been ticketed but the parking lot is open to patrons to use the picnic shelter and also have access to the ice for fishing. The neighborhood is now asking to have the other two lots added to the ordinance to restrict parking. The problem if we comply with the neighborhood's request is that all parking in the park along Monona Bay would be restricted to the 3-hour limit. Many anglers fish for more than 3 hours and they would no longer have a place to park. He also noted that the neighborhood has taken a stewardship role in the park in the last three years or so and it has made a huge difference in that park.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Scarbrough/Chewning that one small lot would have a 3-hour parking restriction and the second small lot would have a 5-hour parking restriction, only the 5-hour parking lot restrictions would be in effect November through April. The large lot would have a 3-hour parking restriction. All three would have restricted parking between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- B. Request of American Society of Civil Engineers to use Brittingham Park on April 27 (for set-up) and 28, 2006 for a Concrete Canoe Competition. ASCE also request that the normal three-hour time limit in the parking lot be waived on April 28, 2006.

A motion was made by Skidmore/Scarborough to approve the request of the American Society of Civil Engineers to use Brittingham Park on April 27 (for set-up) and 28, 2006 for a Concrete Canoe Competition based upon sponsor's compliance with all conditions. ASCE also request that the normal three-hour time limit in the parking lot be waived on April 28, 2006. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Registered Speaker: Linda Vanevenhoven In Support

- C. Request of E. Aggo Akyea, President of African Association of Madison, Inc. to use Warner Park on Saturday, August 26, 2006 to host AFRICA FEST 2006.

A motion was made by Rosas/MacDonald to approve the request of E. Aggo Akyea, President of African Association of Madison, Inc. to use Warner Park on Saturday, August 26, 2006 to host AFRICA FEST 2006 based upon sponsor's compliance with all conditions. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- D. Request of National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Dane County to use Olin Park on Sunday, October 8, 2006 for the NAMI Walks for the Mind on America.

A motion was made by Scarborough/Skidmore to approve the request of National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Dane County to use Olin Park on Sunday, October 8, 2006 for the NAMI Walks for the Mind on America based upon sponsor's compliance with all conditions. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Registered Speaker: Tom Timmeson in support

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A, [02207](#) Adopting and confirming the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan.

Sponsors: David J. Cieslewicz

A motion was made by Ald. Skidmore, seconded by Scarborough, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the PLAN COMMISSION. The motion passed by acclamation.

Widstrand stated drafts of the plan have been presented to the Park Commission at previous meetings. Changes have been incorporated into the Park and Open Space Plan and Park Sections of the Comprehensive Plan based upon the comments he received. A Resolution has now been introduced to approve the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Park Commission can make additional recommendations that will go back to the Plan Commission before it goes back to the Common Council for final adoption.

He reported that at the Long Range Planning meeting held November 8 suggestions were made to the Comprehensive Plan and the Park and Open Space Plan. In the Comprehensive Plan, on the last three pages of Chapter 7, Volume 2, comments included changing the second to the last sentence of the opening paragraph to read: "The table on the following page includes a summary of the major recommendations from the POSP." In Table 1 insert the words "Summary

of Major” before Park and Open Space Implementation Actions. There was discussion to remove the Priority column from the table or provide an explanation of how actions are prioritized. Some items are part of ongoing programs and others that are responded to on the basis of opportunity or pressure. A suggestion was made that language be added about not following a rigid set of priorities. In the section addressing the Comprehensive Trail Network, the second sentence would read: "Complete a city-wide trail network using bike paths and routes, paved walkways for accessible routes, and unpaved hiking trails in parks and greenways." In the section entitled Beach and Swimming Needs add a sentence at the end "Improve maintenance of beaches and public shorelines. Dane County and the State of Wisconsin will be the coordinating agencies." The Agriculture and Natural Resources portion contains considerable language about water quality and cooperation between governmental agencies dealing with water quality issues.

On the last page he recommended adding sections on Staffing Needs and Intergovernmental Cooperation, as follows: Staffing Needs - The recommendations of this plan for a growing city - new land, new facilities and better management of the park system, will all require more work, more staff and more funding in the operational budget. Intergovernmental Cooperation - Local park systems have mutually benefited from the cooperative government efforts at city, village, town, county, state and federal levels. Such cooperation will need to continue and be strengthened.

The Park and Open Space Plan (POSP) is not yet in final form. His concern was to make certain that the recommendations going into the Comprehensive Plan would be consistent with the policies and statements in the POSP. He is comfortable that the two documents are in sync and that the Comprehensive Plan is ready to be adopted.

The following comments were then made regarding the Park and Open Space Plan update. Page 29 referenced a mooring field design for Marshall Park that is not a good recommendation because a star dock pier is more problematic for storing boats in windy situations. He recommended removing that sentence and replace it with: To improve public access to the lakes, consider adding mooring fields and non-motorized storage racks at several locations, if the aesthetic impact is acceptable and we are able to recover costs. On page 32, a wording change in the Olbrich Gardens portion to make it clear that it is the Master Plan for the entire garden that is discussed in the second paragraph and not just the expansion to the north. Also on that page, in the third line from the bottom, the reference to the Center for Urban Forestry Education should be deleted. There is no continued funding identified for that program.

On page 41, a section will be written to go at the end of the maintenance needs and before the section on Park Dedication and Fees, to explain the trend of increasing parkland acreage and facilities and decreasing staffing and what that means to our operating budget and include pertinent information in the appendix about these things in comparison to other park systems. Some of that data is found in our Strategic Plan and will be included.

Distributed this evening was an Appendix on the reduction of park deficiencies. A significant amount of revision was required because of a change in park standards and it resolves some of the deficiencies. There are three kinds of park

deficiencies identified. There is also a general recommendation that all school playground properties are important and if a school is declared surplus the Parks Division should consider acquiring it. There are deficiencies in the Isthmus area and there are also deficiencies in facilities. A park deficiency analysis is included as well as a map identifying the six areas. A review of areas that have some recreational usability and diversity of activities, not just open space, needs to be conducted. A dearth of available areas for sports activities was reported. Conclusions and recommendations were noted. The other strategy used is to provide better access to the lands. They also look for trail corridor opportunities a little more creatively, even within existing right-of-ways. The terms “no-mow,” “low-mow” and “reduced mowing” are being reviewed throughout the document for consistency.

A motion was made by Skidmore/Scarborough to adopt Resolution ID#02207 confirming the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan with the modifications to the Comp Plan as noted this evening. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Widstrand mentioned how some developments are providing usable courtyard open space that is not necessarily available to play sports, including rooftop open space. President Barker then thanked both Parks staff for their hard work and the members of the Long Range Planning Committee for their diligence.

- B. Appeal of Tacklebox Productions, LLP to Decision by Park Commission Concerning Music Festival at Olin Park on Saturday/Sunday August 26-27, 2006.

Registered Speakers:

NAME	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Kelly Stinson	XX	
Scott Reeder	XX	
Ron Shutvet		XX

The sponsors indicated they contacted the Alders but the Alders had not responded to their e-mails. They are working on a parking plan. They will be meeting with the South District police to review security issues and will also hire a private security company to ensure public safety and security. Alcohol will only be allowed inside the beer gardens and patrons will not be allowed to wander between beer gardens carrying alcoholic beverages.

Riley reported the promoters understand that collaboration is needed with city agencies and will attend meetings with all affected city departments. Superintendent Morgan stated that all new events as well as events of this scale go through a special event planning process that includes a series of meetings with all city departments that are affected, working out all the items at the same time with all stakeholders. He noted that following the meetings with the promoter, the agreements are reduced to a Contract that is sent to the Common Council for final approval.

The turf repairs to the worn areas have been hampered by the lack of rain this past summer and fall. The turf damage was not caused solely by special events in the park, but by everyone using the park, whether at a special event or going to the beach. Patrons tend to walk the shortest distance instead of going around on designated pathways.

A motion was made by Rosas/Skidmore to approve the Appeal of Tacklebox Productions, LLP to Decision Concerning Music Festival at Olin Park on Saturday /Sunday August 26-27, 2006 based upon sponsor's compliance with all conditions . MOTION CARRIED unanimously. The Park Commission Alders stressed contacting the area Alders.

C. [02122](#)

Amending Sec. 8.215(1) of the Madison General Ordinances to require users to obtain a permit prior to launching a boat or parking a vehicle or trailer in designated lake access parking lot areas.

Sponsors: Paul E. Skidmore

A motion was made by Ald. Rosas, seconded by Ald. Skidmore, to Refer For Attorney Review The Ordinance was referred back to the City Attorney's office to clarify the language in the ordinance. The motion passed by acclamation.

Registered Speaker: Ron Shutvet - requested changes opposed current wording

Superintendent Morgan stated that the language in the Ordinance Amendment came from the City Attorney's office and resulted from the change in language from boat launch fees to lake access fees. If you park in a lake access area you need the sticker. The double parking spaces are designated for boaters (vehicles with trailers), and the single parking spaces are available for anyone. Canoes and kayak users are part of the system and are required to have the permit in order to help support the maintenance of those facilities. Garbage is still picked up, restrooms are available for their use and they park in the paved lots. The Ordinance Amendment can be referred back to the City Attorney's office for better clarification.

A motion was made by Rosas/Skidmore to refer the Ordinance back to the City Attorney for clarification of who is required to obtain and pay the fee for a lake access permit to cover vehicles parked in the designated lake access parking lot areas. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Present: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, William Barker, Betty Chewning, Emanuel Scarbrough and Betty N. MacDonald

Excused: Ald. Santiago Rosas and Randall L. Glysch

A. Goodman Park Maintenance Facility

Widstrand introduced the Architects that have been working on the project.

Registered Speakers: All in Support
Rich Lundeen of Bray Architects
Richard Slayton of Rettler Associates
Bill Danuser from Bray Architects

The architects have met with Alder Knox regarding the proposal for the renovation of the Goodman Park (f/k/a Franklin Field) Maintenance Facility. They are also meeting with the Neighborhood Association and are scheduled to appear before the Urban Design Commission and then with the Plan Commission.

The Irwin and Robert Goodman Swimming Pool is providing the concept for the proposal, blending the two facilities in a unified design that is ecologically sound. The expansion and renovation of the existing block building and outbuildings will bring the facility up to code and make it safe for Parks staff and visitors. An explanation of the various rooms was presented via drawings. The athletic fields were also indicated. Green arbors will be utilized to screen the building and parking areas that will be extremely low maintenance. A rain garden is also proposed. An overall series of wayfinding signs is also proposed. The facility itself will house changing rooms for staff with clean and dirty lockers for the storage of gear. There will be a staging area and offices for supervisors and administrative staff. There will also be a lobby and reception area to accommodate citizens.

Widstrand interjected that the facility will not cover all anticipated expansion and that a facility needs to be built farther west for those future needs. The current renovation will bring the Maintenance Facility up to code and make it safe for employees who base their operations at that location.

B. Brittingham Boathouse Project Request for Trust Funds

Superintendent Morgan referred to the Park Commission approval two years ago authorizing a \$100,000 challenge bid for the moving and renovation of the historic Brittingham Boathouse. Construction costs have escalated since the original estimate for this project and it is unknown what the final bids will be. The trust account that provided the original challenge money has earned an additional \$63,000 in interest and has a very limited scope for the use of its funds. The Parks Division is asking for Park Commission approval to use the additional interest of \$63,000 or any portion thereof in case the bids come in higher than originally estimated, to eliminate the need for a budget amendment to cover those higher costs. This request will not dip into the corpus.

A motion was made by Skidmore/MacDonald to authorize the use of up to \$63,000 in earned interest from the Hollister Trust Account for the moving and renovation of the historic Brittingham Boathouse if bids for the project come in higher than originally estimated. **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

X. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Scarbrough/Skidmore the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.