



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

6:30 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held via Virtual Meeting at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, August 12, 2020. President Gnam called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; Al Martin; and Ald. Paul Skidmore.

Members Excused: Venus Washington.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; Terrence Thompson; Roberta Sladky; Theran Steindl; Ann Shea; Corey Stelljes; and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Henak, seconded by Harrington, to Approve the Minutes of the July 8, 2020 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Registered speaker Nicholas Christianson spoke about the Dog Wash.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORTS

President of the Park Commission

President Gnam continues to work on understanding subcommittees under the new Board of Park Commissioners policies and procedures. The September agenda may have proposed subcommittee changes. Gnam thanked the members of the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks for their hard work and thoughtful discussion.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Knepp reported that Parks is in discussion with many partner organizations that have been adversely affected by COVID-19. There are plans to support subcommittees which have been interrupted, including the Integrated Pest Management Policy Review Task Force. Many restrooms remain closed due to resource constraints, but priority restrooms are being opened and cleaned daily. Golf is doing very well from a year-to-year perspective, but is unlikely to have a surplus. The Goodman Pool has been a successful example of safely allowing community recreation. The pool season will end on 8/23 due to an anticipated lack of staffing. The recent violence at Garner Park is incredibly concerning. The final report of the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks will be presented at this meeting and will likely be on the September agenda for approval. There will be a budget update in September or October that includes an analysis of impacts on park services.

Parks has taken a reactive approach to cancelling public events in parks, as the mass gathering limit has made it impractical to hold reservations. Staff plans to create an intentional policy for 2021 that can safely accommodate athletic and shelter reservations under COVID-19. More information will likely be shared on the September or October meeting.

Park Rangers are informing and educating groups who violate Public Health orders. They are managing gatherings as best they can and are not in a position to enforce orders. The majority of people using parks are distancing and many are also wearing masks.

61685

August 2020 Superintendent's Report

Parks Public Information Officer Ann Shea presented the report.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

61647

Report of the June 16, 2020 Olbrich Botanical Society.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Accept the Minutes. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

NEW BUSINESS

It was decided that item 14, Legislative File 61677, will follow item 10, Legislative File 61601.

61601

To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an Operating Agreement between the City of Madison and Brittingham Boats, Inc. covering boat rental and concession operations utilizing certain lands and buildings at Brittingham Park for up to a fifteen year period. (ADs 4 & 13)

Superintendent Eric Knepp presented an overview of the past partnership with Brittingham Boats and introduced the proposed agreement.

Registered Speaker Tyler Leeper of Brittingham Boats, LLC spoke in support

and answered questions.

Registered Speaker Stephan Reinke of Brittingham Boats, LLC spoke in support and answered questions.

Registered Speaker Peter Taglia spoke in support.

Registrant Thomas Wilson registered in support.

A motion was made by Martin, seconded by Henak, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

[61597](#)

Request from the Blue Elite for the use of Penn Park for the Blue Elite 1st Annual Basketball Tournament on July 24, 2021, 7 am - 6 pm.

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger presented the request.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Henak, to Approve the request subject to Public Health Orders. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[61695](#)

Parks Equity Team presentation on the Racial Equity Action Plan

Warner Park Facility Manager Terrence Thompson presented.

[61681](#)

Single Track Bicycle Trail Network Update

Parks Engineer Corey Stelljes presented.

[61677](#)

Request from Olbrich Botanical Gardens to stay open until midnight on Saturday, August 29, 2020 for the GLEAM: Art in a New Light Opening

Olbrich Botanical Gardens Director Roberta Sladky presented the request.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Henak, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[61200](#)

Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks Update

Bill Barker, the Chair of the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks, provided an overview of the Task Force and answered questions.

Superintendent Eric Knepp provided an overview of the recommendations and answered questions.

The members discussed the report and raised the following questions:

- What should happen to the Golf Subcommittee?
- Is the recommended Request for Proposals for Monona likely to be successful right now?
- What action should be taken if the RFP is unsuccessful?
- Why do people of color feel uncomfortable at certain courses?

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Henak, seconded by Martin, to Adjourn at 10:05 PM. Motion

passed by voice vote/other.