



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft 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, July 8, 2020

6:30 PM

VIRTUAL

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held via Virtual Meeting at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. President Gnam called the meeting to order at 6:34 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; Kay Rutledge; Ann Freiwald; Ann Shea; Roberta Sladky; Kate Kane; and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office and Amy Scanlon, City Planning.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Venus Washington arrived at 6:44 PM.

Members Present: 7 - Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; Al Martin; Ald. Paul Skidmore; and Venus Washington.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Skidmore, to Approve the Minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Registrant Nicholas Christianson registered.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORTS

President of the Park Commission

President Gnam thanked Madelyn Leopold and Kay Rutledge for their work on the updated policies and procedures for the Board of Park Commissioners. She will continue to work with members and staff to review subcommittee assignments.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Knepp explained the impact of new Public Health orders on Parks operations. Staff and users will be required to wear masks in indoor facilities. July shelter reservations have been cancelled due to capacity limits. The Goodman Pool had a safe and successful 'soft' opening, thanks to the hard work of many staff members.

The Parks Equity Team action plan will be presented to the Board at an upcoming meeting. Other upcoming items include the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks report of recommendations and possible modifications of several user agreements.

There have been recent behavioral violations at Peace Park, which are being handled by the Parks Mall Concourse Crew and the Madison Police Department. The approved temporary permissible encampment on parkland has not experienced serious issues. Knepp reported that there has not been a significant uptick of encampments in parks.

61198 July 2020 Superintendent's Report

Olbrich Botanical Gardens Director Roberta Sladky presented the Olbrich Botanical Gardens report and answered questions.

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

61161 Report of the January 29, 2020 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee and May 19, 2020 Olbrich Botanical Society.

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

OLD BUSINESS**60401** Vilas Park Master Plan Update

Kate Kane presented an update of the Vilas Park Master Plan, including the timeline, public engagement process, and park concepts.

NEW BUSINESS**61202** Commending and Recognizing Kay Hellenbrand Rutledge, PE, Assistant Parks Superintendent with the City of Madison Parks Division, upon her retirement after 11 years of dedicated service.

Members of the Board and city staff thanked Kay Rutledge for her years of dedicated service.

[59192](#) Creating Sec. 8.24(1)(ff) of the Madison General Ordinances to ban alcohol from Reynolds Park and the Well 24 Property.

Superintendent Eric Knepp presented the ordinance change.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Skidmore, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[60340](#) Rules of Procedure and Basic Policies of the City of Madison Board of Park Commissioners

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

[61200](#) Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks Update

Superintendent Eric Knepp provided an overview of the work done by the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks, including possible recommendations.

[61199](#) Olin Park Expansion - Former Wisconsin Medical Society Building

Superintendent Eric Knepp provided an overview of the Olin Park expansion and an update on the possible future use of the former Medical Society building.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Washington, to Adjourn at 9:14 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.