



# 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?*

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Wednesday, November 4, 2020

6:30 PM

Virtual

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. President Gnam called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

**Members Present:** Emily Gnam; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; Al Martin; Ald. Paul Skidmore; and Venus Washington.

**Members Excused:** Moira Harrington.

**Parks Staff Present:** Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; Ann Shea; Ann Freiwald; and Joanne Austin.

**City Staff Present:** Mike Haas, City Attorney; Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office; Jim O'Keefe and Linette Rhodes, Community Development.

**Alders Present:** Tag Evers.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Washington, to Approve the Minutes of the October 14, 2020 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[62799](#)

Public Comment

Registered Speaker Catherine Jagoe spoke in support of Vilas Park Drive remaining closed to motor vehicles.

Registered Speaker Jim Lorman spoke in support of Vilas Park Drive remaining closed to motor vehicles.

Registered Speaker Sally Lehner spoke in support of Vilas Park Drive remaining closed to motor vehicles

Registered Speaker David Gevers spoke in support of Vilas Park Drive remaining closed to motor vehicles.

Registered Speaker Shawn Schey spoke in support of Vilas Park Drive remaining closed to motor vehicles.

Registered Speaker Alder Tag Evers spoke to advise a decision that reflects the masterplan.

Registrant Randall Baldwin registered in opposition.

Registrant Brendan O'Donnell registered in opposition.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

## REPORTS

### President of the Park Commission

President Emily Gnam had no new information to share.

### Superintendent of Parks

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger reported that parks continue to see heavy use. Staff are preparing for winter operations, including snow routes. Winter plans will focus on providing additional opportunities for outdoor recreation. There will be snow making at Elver through the continued partnership with Madison Nordic Ski Club and Central Cross Country Skiing. Staff plan to open previously existing ice rinks with the commitment of each Adopt Ice volunteer group.

A draft of the Park Event Ordinance will be shared with the commissioners at a future meeting, as well as be reviewed by the Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee. The Vilas Park Master Plan has already received significant input and engagement.

Parks is ending the year at the budgeted levy amount due to reduced spending and open staff positions. The golf program had a very good year.

The Integrated Pest Management Taskforce has not met, but Parks has continued various initiatives. We are in the prescribed burn window and making good headway. Parks and other City agencies have collaborated to implement an art project that promotes physical distancing. Teen Night is being run once a week at the Warner Park shelter, with plans to expand to three nights a week and partner with the Mallards to use the Duck Blind in late November. The Olbrich Conservatory opening was well attended and received. The Parks Division provided support to the Clerk's Office for the November election.

Superintendent Eric Knepp spoke about the reality of a drop in services caused by budget challenges and staffing shortages.

#### 62866

November 2020 Superintendent's Report

Public Information Officer Ann Shea presented the Public Information Office quarterly report.

Parks Planning and Development Manager Ann Freiwald presented the Planning and Development quarterly report.

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

#### 62750

Report of the Minutes of the August 26, 2020 Parks Long Range Subcommittee and September 15, 2020 Olbrich Botanical Society.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**[62393](#)

SUBSTITUTE. Directing City Staff to Address Encampments in the City Parks and to Investigate Other Temporary Housing Options for the Unsheltered Homeless Population.

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to refer to the next meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners with the understanding that the members are supportive of a substitute resolution and want to consider it in full.**

**Motion failed by the following vote.**

**Approve 2 – Martin, Leopold.**

**Oppose 3 – Henak, Skidmore, Washington.**

**City Attorney Michael Haas joined the meeting and provided counsel to the Board of Park Commissioners on the matter. Some of the Board of Park Commissioners did not have the substitute resolution so Ald. Henak read the text of the substitute resolution into the record.**

**Motion made by Henak, seconded by Skidmore, to return to lead with the Recommendation for Approval of the Substitute to the Common Council Executive Committee. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 11, Legislative File 62608 and Agenda No. 12, Legislative File 62624. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[62608](#)

Authorizing the execution of an Electric Transmission Line Easement by the City of Madison in favor of American Transmission Company, LLC, and its manager ATC Management Inc, granting easement rights for an existing transmission line in Highland Manor Park, located at 10 Manor Drive. (14th AD)

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the PLAN COMMISSION. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[62624](#)

Authorizing the execution of a Permanent Limited Easement for Sanitary Sewer Purposes, together with a Temporary Limited Easement for Sanitary Sewer Construction by the City of Madison to Madison Municipal Sewerage District, granting easement rights over portions of Indian Hills Park, located at 5001 Flambeau Road and 801 Merrill Springs Road. (19th AD)

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER.**

[60200](#)

Proposed Dog Free Locations in the Madison Park System and Dogs in Parks Update

**Parks Planning and Development Manager Ann Freiwald presented the proposed update. A request for dog park status change form will be publically available and requests will be reviewed at each November BPC meeting.**

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

**61885**

Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute the Second Amendment to the Use Agreement with the Northwoods League Inc. and the Madison Mallards LLC for nonexclusive use of Warner Park Stadium. (AD#12)

**Knepp explained the existing agreement and the extension of agreement.**

**Registered speaker Alex Saloutos spoke in opposition.**

**Registered speaker Vern Stenman of Madison Mallards spoke in support.**

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

**62798**

2021 Board of Park Commissioners Proposed Meeting Schedule

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Washington, to Adjourn at 9:37 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**