



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

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Wednesday, May 14, 2008

6:30 PM 625 Northport Dr. (Warner Park Community Recreation  
Center)

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### I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Madison Board of Park Commissioners was held on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive.

**Present:** 6 -

Joseph R. Clausius; Michael Schumacher; William W. Barker; David L. Wallner; Emanuel Scarbrough and Betty N. MacDonald

**Excused:** 1 -

Betty Chewning

**Parks staff present:** Interim Superintendent Richard Grasmick, Si Widstrand, Brad Weisinger, Russ Hefty, LaVonne LaFave, Laura Whitmore

**City Staff Present:** Rebecca Cnare, Planning Dept., Larry Nelson, Engineering/Water Utility, James Voss, City Attorney's office, Ald. Judy Compton

President Barker called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by MacDonald/Clausius to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 9, 2008 of the Park Commission. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

A motion was made by Clausius/MacDonald to take item VII. Old Business, B. Resolution #09550 out of order. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A motion was made by Clausius/MacDonald to take item VII. Old Business, B. Resolution #09550 out of order. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

09550

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE - Adopting the Stoughton Road Revitalization Project Plan and the goals, recommendations, and implementation steps contained therein as a supplement to the City's Comprehensive Plan.

**Resolution #09550 Adopting the Stoughton Road Revitalization Project (SRRP) Plan and the goals, recommendations, and implementation steps contained therein as a supplement to the City's Comprehensive Plan.**

**Registered Speakers:**

NAME	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
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Rebecca Cnare	XX	
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James Polewski		XX
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Ald. Judy Compton		XX
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F. M. Arnold	XX	
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It was noted there are three areas of interest for the Park Commission in this plan. It is not a transportation plan but is a neighborhood land use and guidelines plan. Another item that affects this plan is a study by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) on the proposed reconstruction of the Highway 51 (Stoughton Road) corridor. This plan covers the area between Highway 30 and Highways 12/18 and is broken into segments covering different portions of the road. There is the area between Highway 30 and Buckeye Road that is a "greening" area, such as landscaping along the side of the road and connections to the parks that exist in the area; the area between Buckeye and Pflaum Roads that is more urban with the Glendale neighborhood just west of the corridor and then the area from Pflaum to Highway 12/18 that includes wetlands and Edna Taylor Conservation Park.

One of the proposals being considered by WisDOT is called a flyover ramp that moves traffic from the Beltline and then touches back down. The WisDOT process is a separate process. They are currently working on the environmental impact statement.

The group involved with the SRRP took the comments they heard from the various committees into consideration in the final draft of the Plan. In the Acewood Park area, the park is not being brought closer to the highway but they suggest that mixed-use development be considered in connection with uses for the park. They have not proposed any new open space but have discussed how new development could take advantage of the existing open space and recreation. They do not want the existing businesses to go away but want to make sure that new development takes advantage of the open spaces and might possibly create additional open spaces that are privately owned and could tie into the wetlands. The SRRP Plan also encourages WisDOT to consider additional landscaping between Milwaukee Street and Buckeye Road.

The Plan identifies the development areas as The Garden Concept, the Gateway Concept and the Grid Concept. The Garden portion is located south of Highway 30 and has large landscape features such as wetlands, corporate

lawns and buildings. The area between Buckeye and Pflaum is called the Grid because it provides an opportunity to link both sides of Stoughton Road with bridges at Hob, Helgesen, and Allis to provide better connection across Stoughton Road for those neighborhoods. The third area is called the Gateway because it is one of the front doors to the city when you come in off I-90 to Highway 12/18. Now there is a hodge podge of uses but if the Park and Ridge were expanded and became part of a larger development that could tie in to the wetlands east of that parcel. There is a question as to what additional development would do to that ecosystem, especially in light of the bridge over the Beltline into the wetlands. An option is to look at parking ramps instead of surface parking. Private open space can also help with run off issues and help filter that water.

The Plan does not call for any additional bike paths because they are waiting to see what WisDOT is going to propose. They have looked at where bike connections could be made at a future date and have discussed a balance for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and mass transit that could be addressed as levels of service with various options.

Ald. Compton noted this Plan is a collaboration of grass roots efforts by members from eight neighborhoods encompassing more than 25,000 residents. Part of the impetus for this Plan came from the knowledge that WisDOT was studying the road for reconstruction in some fashion. Another factor was the major economic development on the Southeast side. The area has not yet been declared as an urban design area. Once this plan is adopted it will be part of the city's Comprehensive Plan. Finally, Ald. Compton announced that this Plan was submitted for a national award and a group of five individuals will be presenting the Plan before National Neighborhoods, USA.

A motion was made by Schumacher/Clausius to approve Resolution #09550 adopting the Stoughton Road Revitalization Project Plan and the goals, recommendations, and implementation steps contained therein as a supplement to the City's Comprehensive Plan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **IV. REPORTS**

##### **A. Alcohol and Related Behaviors in City Parks Ad Hoc Committee**

A motion was made by MacDonald/Schumacher to accept the Minutes of the June 25, 2007 meeting of the Alcohol and Related Behaviors in City Parks Ad Hoc Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. A motion was made by Clausius/MacDonald to accept the Minutes of the November 8, 2007 meeting of the Alcohol and Related Behaviors in City Parks Ad Hoc Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Scarborough reported the Ad Hoc Committee met on May 5, 2008. Discussion included information gathering in order to begin writing the final report. It was observed that one impact on behavior is alcohol use. The Alcohol Policy Coordinator and Police Crime Analyst provided lists on the number of arrests

in parks throughout the city. The Committee found that many of the parks where problems occurred already have an alcohol ban. A suggestion was made that if a misdemeanor arrest was made a penalty could be added if it was alcohol related. The Committee reviewed the information from the four listening sessions, listed the key points and discussed how the information would be folded into the report. The group felt at least two more meetings would be needed to complete the report.

MacDonald added that the group was not unanimous in the belief that one policy would fit all parks but that different policies might be based on the types of parks and their locations. Another factor to be considered was the layout of a shelter within a park; those that are set back away from the street or where they provide concealment are more problematic. Problem behaviors in parks are a serious issue that are far beyond the scope of the Parks Division and will require a multiple prong solution. Alcohol is part of the problem, homelessness is part of the problem and may or may not be part of the alcohol issue, but no matter what regulations are put in place without enforcement nothing will make a difference. Kristin Petroschius of Welcome Home spoke at that meeting about various programs that have worked in other communities, some of which are being implemented in Madison. There was also an article in the Capital Times regarding the homeless issue.

Scarborough stated that when there is a relationship formed between people using the parks and police, the problems tend to go away, but when there is no relationship problems occur. The Parks Rangers may help curb this unwanted behavior.

## **B. Golf Committee Minutes of October 2, 2007**

A motion was made by Scarborough/Wallner to accept the Minutes of the October 2, 2007 meeting of the Golf Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **C. Habitat Stewardship Committee**

A motion was made by Wallner/Clausius to accept the Minutes of the April 8, 2008 meeting of the Habitat Stewardship Committee. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Report from Russ Hefty, Conservation Resource Supervisor, on Cherokee Marsh.

Hefty referred to the Map based on 1834 land survey records showing the width of the Upper Yahara River in dark blue that was originally called the Catfish River. Surveyors on the original survey records measured river widths and just west stream of present day Lake Cherokee it was less than 50 feet wide. The lighter blue area was taken from a 1937 air photo and shows many islands and peninsulas caused by a series of dams located at present day Tenney Park. He explained that Lake Mendota is the most manipulated of the lakes and the level is probably five (possibly seven) feet higher in elevation

than would be present without the dams. The yellow areas on the map indicate wetlands that have disappeared since 1937. Lake Cherokee was dredged out in the early 1960s. The losses of the past 150 years are more than one square mile of peat wetlands. As the water backed up from the dam into the wetlands, the peat was delaminated from the shores and eventually broke free and floated away. The vegetation would not naturally be floating and is not sustainable. This is created by human intervention in water levels and has caused a constant loss of the peat wetlands.

If there was no dam, there would be no effect on Lakes Monona and Waubesa water levels. They would be more free flowing and there would be more storage capacity available. Lake Mendota is used as a retention pond and water would continually pass through it without the dam. Before the dam there was one foot difference in elevation between Lakes Mendota and Monona and flowed through a large marsh, not the current straight channel. If the water levels were lowered the wetland emergent plants would grow easier. Because the area has been disturbed there is an abundance of reed canary grass and cattails so there is no guarantee it would return to quality wetlands. You would however increase the size of the wetlands.

Hefty stated the 1980 air photo was distributed to show the lake level in 1979, the last year the DNR issued lake level orders. Dane County must maintain those lake levels pursuant to those orders. The DNR stated there was no environmental hazard or damage that would be caused by the levels in that order. No subsequent order has been deemed necessary. The 2007 air photo shows the additional losses that have occurred. This past winter he measured the width at four known points and determined that the river had widened 200 feet in that time frame, amounting to approximately 7 feet a year. There has been an ongoing steady loss of wetlands and in wet springs larger chunks are lost. For example, in 1993 a 5 acre piece broke free at the mouth of the Yarara River on Lake Mendota.

At Cherokee Marsh park vegetation is being planted to buffer the shoreline to catch sediment to produce a more normal shoreline instead of the drop-off. If nothing is done the river will be ever widening, shallow and of poor quality, full of sediment and not much plant life. It will not stop until it erodes all the peat soils and it reaches the uplands. He is currently working to save more than 200 acres of wetlands in one area.

Hefty indicated that City Engineer Larry Nelson sent a letter to the DNR last August asking if the summer maximum level could be changed by one foot since the DNR is the only entity that can order a change in lake levels. The County administers the levels set by the DNR. The DNR responded that his letter didn't have legal standing. The Mayor or Common Council will need to make an official request.

He reported that when drought occurred last spring, the lake level dropped about 6 inches and the aquatic plants spread at a much greater rate because emergent plants are extremely sensitive to water levels. If the lake levels were lowered as suggested in Nelson's letter, it would allow greater growth and spreading of emergent plants. In higher water levels the plant survive but do not spread. Nelson interjected that the DNR is waiting for an official communication from the Mayor. President Barker relayed that the Habitat Stewardship Committee is very concerned about this lakeshore loss as the river widens approximately seven feet per year, especially in light of the

current purchase of high quality lands in Cherokee Marsh costing millions of dollars. The Park Commission urges that the request be made official so the DNR will respond to the lake level question before more lakeshore loss happens.

It was noted that the Mayor is very interested in this issue and Ald. Schumacher indicated he would be in favor of a resolution to be presented to the Common Council on this issue. The Park Commission could request that the County keep the lake levels at the minimum level because of their concern over continued flooding .

Nelson noted the DNR is concerned about competing interests for lake elevations. They have many roles, including caretakers of the lakes for navigation, recreation, and fishing. The riparian owners are in conflict both over damage to their shorelines and the navigation of large boats needing deeper pier depth. .

Engineering has noticed a number of trends that are occurring. The federal government has increased the 100 year regional flood on Lake Mendota by one foot based on the last 100-year regional flood was in excess of one-foot or the previously stated flood level. This will continue to go up. If the concept of climate change is accepted, there will be more intense storms with greater frequency of flooding. The ordinary high water level on Lake Monona at Olbrich Park is eroding the shoreline already. Engineering had asked that the DNR start the public process of actually looking at the issue and suggested that the elevation for Lake Mendota be set inversely proportional to the amount of future development that will occur in that watershed. However, the DNR will not look at this issue until they receive an official request from the municipality.

Registered Speakers: support maintaining lake levels at summer minimum  
Jon Becker – Friends of Cherokee Marsh -not speaking  
Peter Cannon, Madison Audubon Society  
Jim Hughes

A motion was made by MacDonald/Schumacher to endorse the motion from the Habitat Stewardship Committee as follows: A statement of support for the concept of maintaining Lake Mendota at the minimum summer level as an initial step in protecting the wetlands at Cherokee Marsh together with a longer term review of the entire lake level issue to be forwarded to the County with a request for a response that would include a plan to stop the current loss of shoreline. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Schumacher added that he is receiving phone calls as an alder regarding Cherokee Park and he believes that because of environmental interest there is momentum growing for this issue. People living in the area have also spoken about flooding issues. There are also groups such as Friends of Cherokee Marsh who can join with other people to take a stronger case for lowering lake levels. He also noted that he is willing to sponsor a resolution asking the DNR to review its current lake level orders for Lake Mendota.

President Barker noted that a goal of the Habitat Stewardship Committee is to move this issue forward. It appears people in the Madison area are aware of the lake level issue.

**D. President of the Park Commission**

President Barker has not been successful thus far in attracting new members to the Habitat Stewardship Committee. He reported Steve Webster is being appointed to the Long Range Planning Committee and he is reappointing Joann Walker to the Warner Park Community Recreation Center Advisory Committee.

He provided a brief update on Central Park. The group working on this project has completed the work they were charged with but realize another plan is needed in case the railroad tracks cannot be moved. MG&E has agreed to fund an alternate park design to determine if a workable solution to the tracks doesn't materialize. The land acquisition and costs to move the tracks are approximately \$10 million. The option will address how to move the project forward if the tracks can't be moved. The interim report has been forwarded to the Common Council and the fact that MG&E has stepped forward to fund an alternate plan is proof that the political problems have been worked out.

**E. Superintendent of Parks**

**Written Report of Supervisors' Activities**

A motion was made by Clausius/Schumacher to approve the written report.  
**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Commissioners reiterated the comments made last month in thanking Dick for his hard work as Interim Superintendent of Parks. He was also thanked for pushing the UV filter through the Common Council to maintain safe water quality at the pool. President Barker also expressed the Park Commission's gratitude for the fine work Dick carried out as the Interim Superintendent.

**Informational Items**

**Superintendent of Parks Update.**

Interim Superintendent Grasmick reported the Board of Estimates has recommended Kevin Briski as the new Superintendent of Parks for approval and the Common Council is set to approve his contract on May 20. Following confirmation, he anticipates starting on June 2. There will be a Meet and Greet on May 19 at Olbrich Gardens that the Mayor is hosting.

**Park Ranger Update**

A sheet was distributed with the proposed schedule that includes a park ranger based in the Brittingham Park area. Hiring should be completed this week. Rangers only have the ability to write tickets for park type offenses and are the eyes and ears of the Division on their afternoon/evening rounds. They will report any undesirable behaviors. All Rangers will have formal training and work with the police department on how to hold respectful dialogue with different ethnicities as well as how to identify undesirable behavior, gang behavior, and drug behavior.

**Sculpture in Hudson Park**

A review of historic Park Commission records determined there were no special conditions related to the original placement of the sculpture in Hudson

Park. Therefore the sculpture can be replaced when it has been cast in bronze.

**Administrative Process**

Because many parks cover multiple aldermanic districts, a request was made to extend notification to all alders affected by park changes or requests, including special events. Parks staff will watch for multi-aldermanic district parks and let event organizers know of this new procedure.

**Park Commission Retreat**

A suggestion was made that a retreat would give this body the opportunity to discuss some of the challenging and complex issues before the Commission. It would be helpful to talk about priorities and values since many of the members are fairly new. There are issues coming up involving some of our major parks such as James Madison, Warner and the proposed Central Park. No format has been determined and might also include committee members. The retreat would have to be noticed as an open meeting because there would be a quorum of the Commissioners present but it would be noticed for information purposes only, there would be no agenda. A motion was made by Schumacher/MacDonald to request staff to organize a Park Commission Retreat to occur in the near future, with date and location to be determined.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. [10382](#) Correspondence from Barbara Gilligan and David Sample regarding destruction at Quann Park during Alliant Energy Center's use of dog park for overflow parking during the Midwest Horse Fair on April 18-20, 2008

**Registered Speakers: all opposing alliant use of Quann Dog Park for Parking**

Barbara Gilligan  
Marguerite Payne  
Judy Cline  
David Sample  
Marry Preston – not speaking

Following a summary review of the written agreement between the City and County relative to this issue Assistant City Attorney Jim Voss stated that there is not much content in the agreement relative to a requirement to repair damage caused by overflow parking on the site. Weisinger added that it is a twenty-year agreement with three options to renew it. Any change to the base agreement must be made at least one year (in 2112) prior to the renewal. Alliant is working with the West Parks supervisor to try to fill in the areas and has seeded and covered some of the areas. It has been extremely wet and more damage would be done now if they brought in equipment to try to roll out the ruts. It's a problem that occurs every spring but this year seems worse.

City Engineer Larry Nelson added that he has spoken with people at Alliant and Quann is important to them for their large events. The ground was very wet this year for the horse fair. Originally the area had much more parking on gravel areas but when the landfill was remediated the last time, the gravel areas were not put back in. Engineering was trying to keep the gravel parking



areas to a minimum for the other park users. He has spoken with the Alliant Center manager and there will be some additional remediation in the dog park. He did check and there was no damage to the landfill instrumentation although much of the area was extremely rutted. The chipped path going to the pedestrian bridge was largely destroyed and needs to be fixed. Nelson felt there should be a discussion between Parks, Engineering and Alliant Center staff prior to events so each is aware of the expectations of what condition the park will look like following the event. Commissioners felt that the really large trailers used for hauling animals should be parked on the Alliant grounds and cars should be parked in the dog park.

A motion was made by Schumacher/Scarborough to have Engineering and Parks engage in a dialogue to look at voluntary options with the County regarding Alliant Energy Center's use of Quann Dog Park for overflow parking. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**B. Letter from Water Utility regarding Well Siting Issues**

A motion was made by Wallner/Schumacher to refer the issue from the Water Utility regarding Well Siting to the June meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**C. Proposed New Shelter at Tenney Park**

Widstrand stated that in August of 2007 the Friends group presented the preliminary design for the new shelter to the Park Commission. The group is willing to fundraise for this project. Since that time, the design has been presented to the Urban Design Committee and they received feedback on it and came back with revisions that Urban Design liked.

**Registered Speakers:**

Patrick McDonnell in support  
Peg Smeiser – not speaking in support  
Chuck Litweiler opposed

The new design addresses minimizing the attraction of unwanted behaviors and have been a signification part of discussions about the shelter. The interior of the building will be locked and not open to the public without a reservation. There is a large covered open area on the north and west sides. There is the possibility of installing remote cameras around the building to deter undesired behavior. President Barker noted that big open porches appear to a be magnets for attracting groups to hang out. Widstrand interjected there have been times in the past when this was a problem but not recently. One advantage would be that there would be more rental use of the shelter on weekdays. He noted that the interior area would otherwise be locked. Schumacher added that design of shelters has just become identified in the past year as a potential problem in some parks. Widstrand acknowledged this and said one of the potential solutions for Brittingham is to fully enclose the shelter and to only unlock it when the shelter is reserved. There had been problems years ago and Tenney was one of the first parks

were alcohol was banned.

The new shelter design for Tenney does have a large area under an overhang that Parks users generally want so there is some shelter available even if the interior portion is locked. With a park as active as Tenney, Parks staff don't feel it is as likely to have problems. The electrical outlets would only be activated when there is a reservation. The design would provide visibility from the parking lot but completely blocked from East Johnson Street, whether or not the overhang remains. Enforcement will still be required.

The estimated cost at the project is \$1.2 million. Parks has \$500,000 in its budget for 2009 with the balance would come from the fundraising by the Friends group. The Friends group came forward with is proposal due to potential donors stepping forward to pay for half of the replacement of the structure. The Parks Division would gain a new facility for half (or slightly less than half) of the total cost. A private donor funded the design work and the donor will fund the remainder of the design work. Widstrand did note the current shelter is still functional and would not be due for replacement for approximately ten years but the current shelter really isn't fitting with the landmark nature of the park. Tenney is a showcase park where a larger, nicer shelter would be appropriate. If the decision to wait until the shelter had deteriorated to the point of requirement replacement costs would be substantially higher than current replacement costs. It was also noted the neighbors are in favor of this proposal. President Barker added that he believed this was an excellent example of a public-private partnership for the betterment of a park.

A motion was made by Wallner/Schumacher to approve the concept plan for the proposed new shelter at Tenney Park to enable the Friends Group obtain detailed plans and specs for presentation to city boards and to begin fundraising. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- D.     [10383](#)     Request of Emily Reynolds dated April 30, 2008 requesting use of Olin Park on September 27, 2008 to host the National Lung Cancer Partnership *Free to Breathe* Lung Cancer 5K run/walk.

Registered Speaker:

Emily Reynolds in support

A motion was made by Wallner/Clausius to approve the request from Emily Reynolds dated April 30, 2008 requesting use of Olin Park on September 27, 2008 to host the National Lung Cancer Partnership *Free to Breathe* Lung Cancer 5K run/walk based upon sponsor's compliance with staff recommendations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- E.     [10384](#)     Request of The Dane County Hawks, a new Adult Professional Minor League Football Team, to use the Warner Park dual use field (#2) for practices and games beginning in August through November 2009. The Dane County Hawks are requesting to use the field, to provide concessions but not beer or alcohol sales, to do colored field markings, requesting naming rights, to charge admission, and to put up temporary signs and banners of their sponsors that would hang over and on the chain-link fence

and be taken down after each game.

**Registered Speaker:**

Todd Dillinder    support

Alder Michael Schumacher    oppose

He indicated the possibility of naming rights would come into play if the team gets past its initial year and they would receive a large donation for physical improvements, such as a new press box that could also be used by other sports groups. Weisinger reported he met with the sponsor earlier to discuss the park system as a whole and his specific requests. Naming rights are not on the table at this time. Parks does not support the request to use the field for their practices, only to allow use of that field for their games. This is a conceptual plan for 2009 and it will be brought before the Commission again as the discussions move forward. It is on the Agenda tonight to make the Commission aware of the proposal for next year. Warner Park has many uses, it is a bigger park with lots of events happening in it. He supports the use of the field for one year for home games and if it is successful for future years then Parks will have an internal discussion on where those games should be held in its park system. Football does appear to be a growing sport for our parks.

Alder Schumacher stepped out of his role as a Park Commissioner and addressed the Commission as a Northside Alder. He expressed concern about the impact to his constituents and asked for time to discuss this issue with the neighborhood association to review the proposal and obtain feedback. Warner Park is rapidly moving into Warner World. There are parking issues and the park is no longer available to use for relaxing. He asked for referral also because the alders had not been notified of this proposal prior to the meeting. He is concerned about the increasing heavy use of the park that begins in spring and would go to winter. These uses impact not only parking in the park but also at the Community Recreation Center and other functions. Weisinger added that the sponsor believes they would have in the neighborhood pf 500 spectators per game that first year. The number is small but he agrees it would be one more use.

Breese Stevens is currently being renovated with a larger vision of bringing back WIAA soccer tournaments. Conceptually as part of long range planning for Breese could add football there but parking would be an issue.

President Barker expressed his concern about placing another major activity in Warner Park that would be an irritant for the surrounding neighborhoods.

A motion was made by MacDonald/Wallner to refer the request of The Dane County Hawks, a new Adult Professional Minor League Football Team, to use the Warner Park dual use field (#2) for practices and games beginning in August through November 2009 for two months to allow alders to present this concept to the surrounding neighborhoods. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

F.        [09785](#)

Accepting the proposal of Common Wealth Development for the redevelopment of the Garver Feed Mill and directing City staff to negotiate a

development agreement with Common Wealth Development.

**This Resolution was Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the PLAN COMMISSION**

**Registered Speaker:**

**Marianne Morton in support  
Sarah Hole in support  
Dan Rolfs, Planning Dept.in support**

**President Barker again noted there were two very good proposals for the Garver Feed Mill and he is delighted with Common Wealth Developments proposal.**

- G.      [10075](#)**      Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a lease with Camp Randall Rowing Club, Inc. for the Brittingham Boathouse located at 617 North Shore Drive.

**A motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Wallner, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- H.      [10011](#)**      Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute a First Amendment to Deed of Easement from Edgewood, Inc. to the City of Madison Amending the Original Agreement Regarding Edgewood Drive.

**This Resolution was RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER**

**Widstrand stated this Resolution says that the city and Edgewood have agreed to change access points along Edgewood Drive/the Park and Pleasure Drive without it triggering the reversionary clause. The Resolution does not specifically approve the path along the lake or the opening but gives the city the right to do that without having to prepare an amendment to the agreement every time something like that is done. A question was asked whether this affected the Woodland Management Agreement.**

- I.      [10207](#)**      Authorizing the execution of an easement to the County of Dane for public pedestrian/bicycle path purposes across lands within Glacier Crossing Park, located at 3702 Ice Age Drive.

**A motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Scarbrough, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**VI.      NEW BUSINESS**

**A. 2008 Preliminary Capital Budget-to be distributed at meeting**

Widstrand reported this is the first draft of the 2009 capital budget. He highlighted that the Division normally needs about \$2 million for maintenance and reconstruction such as paving parking lots and around shelter areas, major shelter repairs, new or replacement equipment, landscaping for new parks and upgrades in existing parks. The items in the preliminary 2009 capital budget total \$4.8 million and include: adding 2 new tower trucks, a brush truck with a clam and a pick-up truck for forestry to deal with the pruning backlog; (there will be more coming out from the Forestry study team report and the EAB Task Force report on dealing with a potential EAB outbreak); paving the Goodman Maintenance facility parking lot; another forestry impact is the street tree inventory that is a key item needed to know where ash trees are located and their size to help in the planning for EAB; and Breese Stevens Phase II is the completion of the repair items and construction of new facilities (locker rooms and press box) that will be needed if WIAA state soccer tournaments return. Last on the list is the new shelter at Tenney Park earmarked at \$1.2 million with \$700,000 of that being donations. Those extra items total about \$2.5 million and approximately \$1.7 million would be GO debt. He anticipates Parks is about \$1 million over what was targeted in our budget for GO borrowing for 2009.

Parks staff will share the Mayor's instructions for the 2009 Capital Budget when they are released.

The Odana Clubhouse has been discussed at the Golf Committee regarding the role of Yahara Hills vs. Odana Hills for a multi purpose clubhouse. Yahara is a larger course and could hold many outings if the clubhouse was capable of serving food vs. Odana where the course has to be closed for special events. Widstrand noted the study and projected \$1 million replacement cost is because of the poor condition of the building and the lack of accessibility even though it is used as a polling place. The discussion was to study the building, to find out if it is more useful to remodel it or to reconstruct it and then come up with a funding formula that would recognize its use as a public facility in addition to golf.

The parking lot at Wingra Park drains into the lake and the repaving would add special catch basins and traps to alleviate that problem.

**B. [10385](#)**

Removal of Illegal Pier on City Property across the street from 814 West Shore Drive

Assistant City Attorney Jim Voss reported that the twelve-foot alley was deeded to the city when it was a village and the city still owns that property. Two property owners contested that in court and before the DNR, but have lost every battle. They are still appealing those decisions. A decision has been received from Judge Niess that he was not going to stop the project. The project is a storm sewer project managed by the city's Engineering Division. This storm sewer is to deal with flooding on Park Street that overflows down Erin Street and creates traffic and pedestrian hazards. At one time in the past there was a small storm sewer capable of handling a one hundred year flood.

The current system can only handle a one-year event. This pier needs to be moved because it is on city property and sits right over the storm sewer line and the city cannot complete the project. a

A motion was made by Schumacher/Scarborough to order the removal of the illegal Nicholson pier on City property across the street from 814 West Shore Drive. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. [10386](#) History of Warner Park Community Recreation Center Contract with MSCR

Weisinger put together the historical review on how and why the Center was created and why the two external groups are in the Center. There have been questions regarding the purpose of the center. Commissioners noted a very good balance has been maintained at the center under the present city staff and wondered whether that might become an issue in the future. Trends in recreation are changing and city staff, the WPCRC Advisory Committee and the Park Commission need to be mindful of baby boomers becoming the new senior population and a good portion of those individuals are more active than seniors of years ago. There is an interest in more evening/prime time activities and services than activities for seniors during the day. The Center needs to grow because there isn't enough room to provide all of those activities and services, including more enrichment services, community education programs and even computer classes for the general public. There is no available space for added programs. Weisinger noted that youth are also on the rise on the northside and the aging senior population has greater means. The biggest issues faced by WPCRC are any opportunity to provide enriching services and more space to provide programs for the aging population. The middle population seems to be doing fine.

Schumacher reported he has heard great comments about the Center and how it always strives to maintain a balance between youth services, senior services and making it accessible to the community and he thanked Weisinger for his work to meet these competing needs. He knows that the person who runs the Center will always be under pressure to balancing these needs. It is important for the Advisory Committee to encourage that the Center continue to maintain that balance and to also understand that others come in and ask questions regarding that balance.

A motion was made by Schumacher/Waller that the Park Commission accept the report and refer it for informational purposes to the Warner Park community Recreation Center Advisory Committee.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT