



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

6:30 PM

Warner Park Community Recreation Center
1625 Northport Dr.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Madison Board of Park Commissioners was held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center. President Wallner called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Joseph Clausius; Emily Gnam; Madelyn Leopold; Nancy Ragland; Emanuel Scarbrough; and David Wallner.

Members excused: Ald. Mark Clear

Parks Staff Present: Kevin Briski; Eric Knepp and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made Clausius, seconded by Scarbrough to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

II PUBLIC COMMENT

Sarah White of East Side History Club spoke regarding December 7th community vision meeting on Garver Feedmill/North Plat.

III DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals by members of the Commission for any item on the Agenda.

IV REPORTS

A President of the Park Commission

President Wallner discussed his attendance at the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) presentation and indicated it was very informative. He also reported that the WPCRC Art Fair had a good turn-out.

1 Appointment from the President of the Board of Park Commissioners to the Warner Park Community Recreation Advisory Subcommittee.

A motion was made by Ragland, seconded by Clausius to Recommend to Council to Confirm Appointment of Jan Somerfeld to the WPCRC Advisory Subcommittee. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

B Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Briski reported that Madison Parks is prepared for another successful winter recreation season. He reported that Parks will be offering ice skating lessons again this year, after the success of last year's lesson program. The system will have multiple ice skating, sledding, cross country skiing venues for the season as well as Parks taking part in the general snow removal operations from streets, sidewalks and bikepaths. Superintendent Briski also notified the Commission that the Goodman Foundation had committed \$250,000 towards the Central Park Skatepark project.

Superintendent Briski provided information on the discovery of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and the implications for the Parks Division's operations and budget going forward. He communicated that the EAB Task Force has been working on a plan for a number of years and the City is as prepared as it can be for the pest.

Superintendent Briski provided information on the planning processes for the spring/summer season, including the positions that Parks will be recruiting for over the next six months. Commissioner Scarbrough indicated that he felt it important to work towards creating a more diversified workforce through evaluating the recruitment strategy of the City.

1 December 2013 Supervisors' Report

A motion was made by Leopold, seconded by Scarbrough to accept the written report of Supervisor's Activities. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

V NEW BUSINESS

A Reminder that all members of City of Madison committees, commissions, or boards must file a Statement of Interests form with the City Clerk's Office by January 7, 2014.

This item was on the agenda pursuant to the City's Ethics Code, MGO 3.35(9)(h)1.

B Request from Wingra Boats for the use of Vilas Park on Saturday, June 14, 2014 for Duck Dash 2014.

A motion was made by Leopold, seconded by Gnam to Approve. Motion passed by voice/vote other.

C Authorizing the execution of an Underground Electric Easement to Madison Gas and Electric Company across a portion of Bowman Field, located at 1801 Fish Hatchery Road.

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

D Authorizing the acceptance of ownership from Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association of a “Little Free Library” located within Arbor Hills Park at 3101 Pelham Road.

Commissioner Leopold inquired as to the necessity of having the Little Library type agreements come to the Board of Parks Commissioners as that could slow the process down for the public. Assistant Superintendent Knepp informed the Commission that staff does work with the public to expedite the actual placement and approval of such installations, but a formal agreement must still make its way through the Council, and if in a park, the Board of Park Commissioners.

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

E Authorizing the acceptance of ownership from Heritage Heights Neighborhood Association of two “Little Free Libraries” located within Heritage Heights Park at 701 Meadowlark Drive and Kennedy Park at 5202 Retana Drive.

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

F 2013 Heritage Tree Recommendations from Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee

A motion was made by Leopold, seconded by Ragland, to approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

G Proposed Forest Hill Cemetery Fees for 2013

A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Scarbrough to TO ADOPT the proposed fees. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

H 2014 Proposed Green Fees

Superintendent Briski indicated that the pricing structure was being held constant for 2014, and that the Golf Subcommittee had recommended the adoption of the fees at their last meeting in November.

A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Scarbrough to TO ADOPT the Proposed Fees. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

I Proposed Park Event, Pool, Olbrich and Speical Park Fees for 2013

Assistant Superintendent Knepp introduced the proposed fees and discussed some of the small changes made to the fee structure for 2014. He indicated that staff had made modest changes within the existing legal framework that were in response to the Commission's input over the past twelve months related to events specifically. Knepp also indicated that staff will continue to work on a more comprhensive event standard and fee schedule through the Long Range Planning Subcommittee process over the coming months. Commissioner Gnam asked about how the fees were assessed to MMSD events. Superintendent Briski informed the Commission that MMSD atheltic events recieve significant benefits from City facilities, such as free use of practice and game facilities. He did indicate that the City does charge the full rate for games played at the premium (e.g. Breese Stevens) facilities. Commissioner Gnam indicated a desire to have MMSD events in mind if changing the fee structure in these areas.

A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Leopold, TO ADOPT the proposed fees. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

J Amending Sections 8.24(1)(ee) and (ff) of the Madison General Ordinances to permanently ban alcohol from Olbrich Park and Reindahl Park.

Superintendent Briski informed the Commission that staff no longer felt a permanent ban was required in these locations, as the 90 day alcohol ban along with the behavior policy were working to lower the number of incidents in these parks. The Madison Police Department and the Park Rangers have worked together to implement an educational approach to alcohol in parks and this has also lowered the number of alcohol related incidents and complaints.

A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Leopold, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO PLACE ON FILE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

VI ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Leopold to Adjourn at 7:36 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.