



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, December 10, 2025

6:30 PM

VIRTUAL

1 Call to Order/Roll Call

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 10, 2025. President Miller Fienen called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Derek Field; Ald. Carmella Glenn; Moira Harrington; Catie McDonald; Chandra Miller Fienen; Michelle Probst; and Ben Williams.
Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; CJ Ryan; Adam Kaniewski; Emma Krug; Izzy Wilde; Mike Sturm; Zach Watson; Terrence Thompson; and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office; Andrew Zweg and Mario Galindez, City Engineering; and Angela Puerta, Urvashi Martin, and Jeff Greger, City Planning.

2 [91008](#)

Approval of the Minutes of the November 5, 2025 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Motion made by Field, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Minutes of the November 5, 2025 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3 [91013](#)

Public Comment

There were no registrants for Public Comment.

4 Disclosures and Recusals

None.

Reports

5 President of the Park Commission

President Miller Fienen welcomed back Superintendent Eric Knepp and thanked him for his work for the City of Madison and Madison Metro during his interim role. Thanked Assistant Superintendents Lisa Laschinger and CJ Ryan for their leadership during this time and for guiding the Parks Division through the budget process. Thanked Alder Field and Alder Glenn for their support of the Parks Division during the budget process. Excited about continued work on the Board, especially for strong metrics, management, and some upcoming projects. Encouraged the Commission to visit the Madison Parks Foundation website. Looking for residents to serve on the Parks Subcommittees. Reminded Commissioners of need to complete the Statement of Interest forms.

6 Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp provided the Superintendent's Report. He expressed appreciation for the entire Parks Division team during his interim assignment with Madison Metro. He is open to suggestions for improvements and to hear about lessons learned during the last six months. Discussed the budget season and outcome of the process. Winter operations are up and running and it's shaping up to be a strong winter. Excited to be back in Parks and looks forward to the challenges and projects ahead.

7 [91025](#) December 2025 Superintendent's Report

Planning and Development Manager Adam Kaniewski presented the Planning and Development Report and answered questions.

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

8 [91030](#) Report of the Minutes of the November 18, 2025 Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee and November 19, 2025 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee.

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

9 New Business

10 [90960](#) Authorizing the City to execute an agreement with Madison Nordic Ski Club, Inc. to use the City's and its own snow equipment to groom the City's cross-country skiing trails, to store its equipment at Elver Park, and to hold practices, lessons and competitions at Elver Park through 2032. (District 20)

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

- 11 [90966](#) Authorizing the Community Development Division to enter into an agreement with the Traffic Engineering Division, and to use up to \$125,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, to implement a neighborhood improvement project identified in the Northeast Area Plan (District 3, District 12, District 17, District 18).
- Motion made by Field, seconded by Harrington, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 12 [91092](#) Approving the construction of a bike path in Zook Park to connect Pontiac Trail to the Southwest Commuter Path
- Registrant Nicholas Davies was in support.
Registrant Mark Shahan was in support.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Williams, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 13 [90970](#) Authorizing the execution of a Second Amendment to Lease for the property at 354 E. Lakeside Street. (District 13)
- Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger provided an overview of the lease amendment and was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Probst, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 14 [91093](#) Adopting the Midtown Commons Park Master Plan
- Planning and Development Project Manager Mike Sturm provided an overview of updates that have been made since the informational presentation of the Master Plan was given at the November Board of Park Commissioners meeting and was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Probst, seconded by McDonald, to Adopt the Master Plan. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 15 [91024](#) Informational Presentation of the 2025 Summary Report on the Biergarten at Olbrich Park
- Eric Kesting of the BKM Group provided the annual update and was available to answer questions.**
- Laschinger answered questions regarding the budget for the beach house replacement project.**
- 16 [91001](#) Informational Presentation of the Woods Farm Park and Canter Park Development Plans.
- Registrant Nicholas Davies was in support.**
- Parks Landscape Architect Izzy Wilde provided an overview of the park development plan process and answered questions.**

- 17 [91000](#) Informational Presentation on Newville (Kenneth) Park Development Plan
- Parks Landscape Architect Emma Krug provided an overview of the park development plan process, engagement efforts, presented concepts for draft plans, and was available to answer questions.**
- 18 [90925](#) Planning Division Staff Update on the Southeast Area Plan (Legistar 88389)
- Jeff Greger of City Planning provided an overview of the Southeast Area Plan process, public engagement, recommendations impacting Parks, and answered questions.**
- 19 [90828](#) Planning Division Staff Update on the Southwest Area Plan (Legistar 88388)
- Angela Puerta of City Planning provided an overview of the Southwest Area Plan process, public engagement, and recommendations impacting Parks.**
- Ald. Carmella Glenn left at 8:13 PM.**
- Members Present: 6 – Ald. Derek Field; Moira Harrington; Catie McDonald; Chandra Miller Fienen; Michelle Probst; and Ben Williams.**
- Members Excused: 1 - Ald. Carmella Glenn.**
- Puerta and Urvashi Martin from City Planning answered questions.**
- 20 [90931](#) Informational Update on the Warner Park Community Recreation Center Expansion Program Planning
- Warner Park Community Recreation Center Facility Manager Zach Watson provided an overview of the proposed programming and answered questions.**
- 21 [90930](#) Informational Update on the Parks Equity Action Plan
- Community Services Manager Terrence Thompson provided overview of the plan updates, current initiatives, and was available to answer questions.**
- 22 [91067](#) Reminder for Park Commissioners to file their 2026 Statement of Interest forms by January 6, 2026.
- 23 **Adjournment**
- Motion made by Field, seconded by Probst, to Adjourn at 8:53 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**