



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

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Thursday, November 21, 2013

6:00 PM

Warner Park Community Recreation Center  
1625 Northport Dr.

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### I CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Chair David Carpenter and there was a quorum present. Carpenter introduced new member, Jan Somerfeld, Chair of the NESCO Board of Directors. Somerfeld replaces Paul Van Rooy who had served many years on both the NESCO Board and WPCRC Advisory Subcommittee. The Advisory Subcommittee greatly appreciated Van Rooy's service and contributions on the subcommittee.

**Present:** 5 - Anita Weier; David L. Wallner; Nikki J. Sanders; David E. Carpenter and Terrence D. Tiedt

**Absent:** 4 - Larry Palm; Sharon Rounds; Paul J. Van Rooy and Soncerethia Clair-Thomas

### II APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Nikki Sanders, second by Alder Weier, to approve the minutes of September 26, 2013: <http://madison.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> with an editorial correction in the spelling of Alder Palm's name.

Motion passed by voice vote.

### III PUBLIC COMMENT

No registrations for public comment.

#### IV REPORT OF CHAIR

Chair Carpenter reported that the Center staff will work on a formal exit plan for the building in case of an emergency. The plan will be posted when completed.

A survey of Center users was noted at a previous meeting but a formal survey had not yet been taken. The purpose of the survey would be to find out what the current users think the Center needs now and in the future.

Volunteers are still needed for the upcoming Arts and Craft Show on Saturday, December 7. Nikki Sanders and Jan Somerfield volunteered to help with the food orders and cash box for the concession area and Carpenter offered his help with kitchen activities.

**V REPORT OF FACILITY MANAGER**

**A. Administrative Reports – September, October**

David Wallner asked about the after school open gym times. The open times take place on Mondays when middle schools have early release and Wednesdays because there are no MSCR late afternoon classes in the WPCRC gym. These times are free and WPCRC ID cards are not required. Numbers have been steadily increasing and boys represent the majority of participants. The main activity is basketball.

Alder Weier inquired about a sidewalk through the grass from community room 3 to the paved walkway to make it easier for wheelchair access. Dabbert stated that City Parks has this planned as part of their Spring work plans.

Sanders inquired about selling Northside t-shirts in the WPCRC lobby. Knepp expressed concern because the proceeds would not go to the Center but another entity (NPC). In addition, City Parks has many different products to sell but they do not do the sales at WPCRC. A t-shirt table at the upcoming Craft Show was also not approved because the Craft Show only allows homemade articles and all available spaces have been filled.

**B. Hiring Update for WPCRC Director Position**

Eric Knepp, Assistant Superintendent of Parks, gave credit to Diane Dabbert for her leadership at WPCRC. The hiring process for a new director is ongoing and Knepp said that Parks downtown recognizes Dabbert's contributions to "step up."

Knepp reported that 113 applications were received for the Director position, with 47 applicants passing minimum qualifications. One of the qualifications is working for a non-profit entity but not necessarily a community center. One of the main requirements is experience managing relationships in a community setting.

Some preliminary phone screening will be done for those applicants who live out of town. A panel format will be used for the main interviews and 4-8 people will be formally interviewed in person. Many people expressed interest to serve on an interview panel and Wallner stated that a large panel could be intimidating. It may be necessary to have two panels and the candidates would interview with both panels separately. The panels could then meet and discuss the candidates. Interviews will most likely be scheduled for early January 2014.

Weier thought a "meet and greet" atmosphere might also work for an initial candidate forum.

Some core users of the Center will be asked to sit on one of the panels. In general, the WPCRC Advisory Subcommittee members thought that the candidate should have experience with committees, diverse groups and multigenerational populations.

The following names were suggested as possible interview panel members: David Meyer from the Brentwood neighborhood, other core users of the Center, Directors of other community centers such as Kennedy Heights, Northport Packers and possibly someone from the Woodlands Apartments.

Knepp explained that the Parks Community Services position needed to be filled before the Director position. Hiring a new director is a lengthy process and Dabbert thought this was understandable and appropriate in order to get a well-qualified person for the community.

## VI REPORTS OF AFFILIATES

### A MSCR – September, October

Janet Dyer reported on the Youth Empowerment Summit at WPCRC on November 7. This was a joint venture organized by MSCR and NPC (Northside Planning Council). Approximately 80 middle school students attended. Dyer stated that the students listened well and gave good feed-back to the organizers. Dyer hopes to have another summit in 2014.

### B. NESCO – September, October

Jan Somerfeld stated that NESCO is on track with their annual goals. She noted that the State Accreditation panel was impressed with the physical building and the partnerships inside the building.

Other Discussion: On November 30, East High School will partner with Northeastside Youth Basketball (NESYB) for a tournament. Terry Tiedt stated that he wanted to keep the relationship with East High School ongoing.

Agenda Topics for meeting of January 23, 2014:  
July 5th event to replace Rhythm & Booms on the Northside

## VII ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Wallner, second by Tiedt, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.