



# 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?*

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Wednesday, May 13, 2026

6:30 PM

330 E. Lakeside St.

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1 **Call to Order/Roll Call**

- 2 [92983](#) Approving the Minutes of the April 15, 2026 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

**Motion made by Williams, seconded by Glenn, to Approve the Minutes of the April 15, 2026 Board of Park Commissioners meeting after correcting the typo in Agenda No. 5. Motion passed by voice vote/other with Miller Fienen and Lieberman abstaining.**

- 3 [92849](#) Public Comment

There were no registrants for Public Comment.

4 **Disclosures and Recusals**

None.

**Reports**

5 **President of the Park Commission**

President Miller Fienen recognized former Park Commissioner Moira Harrington for her service and mentorship. Harrington played an important part during COVID in making meetings available for public engagement and implemented an onboarding and shadowing program. Miller Fienen thanked Alder Derek Field for service during this past year. Miller Fienen also welcomed Alder Noah Lieberman to the Commission and welcomed Alder Carmella Glenn back for another year.

- 6 [92793](#) Approving Park Commission Resident Appointment to the Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee of the Board of Park Commissioners

**Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO CONFIRM UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULE 2.055. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**7 Superintendent of Parks**

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger presented the report on behalf of Superintendent Eric Knepp. Noted that the 2025 Parks Annual Report is now online and there is a link to it in the Superintendent's Report.

**8 [92975](#)**

Accepting the May 2026 Superintendent's Report

Golf Director Dave Vetrovec presented the Golf section report. He and Laschinger answered questions.

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

**9 [92974](#)**

Accepting the Report of the April 22, 2026 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee Minutes

Motion made by Hasburgh, seconded by Lieberman, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

**10 New Business**

Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Williams, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 16, Legislative File No. 92792 and No. 17, Legislative File No. 92845. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

**11 [92808](#)**

Informational Presentation of Olbrich Botanical Garden's Comprehensive Master Plan Final Plan

Olbrich Gardens Director Tanya Zastrow and Olbrich Gardens Director of Horticulture Samantha Peckham presented the Master Plan and answered questions.

Registered speaker Bette McCaulley was neither in support nor opposition and available to answer questions.

**12 [93093](#)**

Informational Presentation Regarding Draft Master Plan for Odana Hills Golf Course and Park (District 11).

Knepp, Laschinger, and Blake Theisen of Parkitecture presented the Odana Hills Golf Course and Park Draft Master Plan and answered questions.

This is expected to come back to the Commission in June for approval.

- 13      [93065](#)      Informational Presentation on the Geophysical Study at Hartmeyer Roth Park (District 12)
- Registered speaker Beth Sluys gave a presentation.**
- Registered speaker Steve Solberg spoke in support.**  
**Registered speaker Ritchie Brown spoke in support.**  
**Registered speaker David Bierman was in support and available to answer questions.**  
**Registered speaker Aaron Bird Bear spoke in support.**  
**Registered speaker Casey Brown spoke both in support and opposition.**  
**Registered speaker Kevin Akemann spoke neither in support nor opposition.**  
**Registered speaker Charlene Wilke was in support and available to answer questions.**
- Recessed at 8:55 PM**
- Members Present: 6 – Bethany Alwa; Ald. Carmella Glenn; Patrick Hasburgh; Ald. Noah Lieberman; Chandra Miller Fienen; and Ben Williams.**
- Reconvened at 9:02 PM**
- Members Present: 6 – Bethany Alwa; Ald. Carmella Glenn; Patrick Hasburgh; Ald. Noah Lieberman; Chandra Miller Fienen; and Ben Williams.**
- 14      [93081](#)      Informational Presentation Regarding the Properties Known as Thorstrand Estate Located within Marshall Park
- Knepp gave a summary and answered questions.**
- Registered speaker Robert Proctor, representing O'Hare Trust, was in support and answered questions.**
- 15      [92254](#)      Approving Updated Board of Park Commissioners Rules of Procedure and Basic Policies (Citywide)
- Laschinger gave an overview and answered questions.**
- Motion made by Williams, seconded by Glenn, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to take Agenda Items 23, 24, and 25 out of order at this time. Motion passed by voice vote/other**
- 16\*      [92792](#)      Board of Park Commissioners proclaiming May 16, 2026 as Kids to Parks Day in the city of Madison
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Proclamation. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- 17\*     [92845](#)     Board of Park Commissioners proclaiming June 6, 2026 as Nature Everywhere Day in the City of Madison (Citywide)
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Proclamation. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 18     [93089](#)     Approving Request from Alder Tishler to Recognize Oak Park Heights Park Little League Diamond as Michael Pressman Diamond and Allowing Temporary Installation of Banner for 2026 on Diamond Backstop
- Knepp presented the request.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Lieberman, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 19     [92839](#)     Authorizing the City to execute an agreement with Mad City Ski Team, Inc. to use portions of Law Park and the adjacent Lake Monona lake bed for water ski shows, practices, lessons and other special events for the years of 2026-2028. (District 4)
- Motion made by Lieberman, seconded by Glenn, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 20     [92971](#)     Authorizing the City to execute a field use agreement with the Madison Ultimate Frisbee League use of certain athletic fields in City parks as set forth in the Agreement, and continue contributions to established segregated non-reverting fund and a fee structure that supports the shared goals of supporting the use of the City's park space and providing quality maintenance of the City's athletic fields for the years of 2026-2030.
- Motion made by Hasburgh, seconded by Alwa, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 21     [92980](#)     Approving a request by Madison Opera to extend Madison Park hours for Opera in the Park activities, including amplification, until 11:00 PM, Saturday, July 18, 2026 at Garner Park.
- Motion made by Williams, seconded by Lieberman, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 22     [92901](#)     Authorizing the City's execution of a three-year lease agreement, with one subsequent three-year renewal term, between the City of Madison and NewBridge Madison, Inc., allowing for the use of a portion of the Warner Park Community Recreation Center for not-for-profit community services and related administrative use. (District 12)
- Motion made by Hasburgh, seconded by Lieberman, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 23     [92878](#)     Adopting the Southeast Area Plan and the related Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. (District 3, District 15, District 16)
- This Agenda Item was taken out of order after Item 15.**

Jeff Greger of Planning and Economic Development presented the plan and answered questions.

Motion made by Lieberman, seconded by Hasburgh, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE PLAN COMMISSION. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

24      [92879](#)

Adopting the Southwest Area Plan and the related Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. (District 1, District 7, District 10, District 19, District 20)

This Agenda Item was taken out of order after Item 23.

Economic Development Urban Planner Angela Puerta presented the plan and answered questions.

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Hasburgh, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE PLAN COMMISSION. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

25      [93029](#)

Informational Presentation from City Engineering Regarding Potential Impacts of a Nine Springs Watershed Study Conceptual Solutions on Park Owned Land

This Agenda Item was taken out of order after Item 24.

Stormwater Engineer Ryan Stenjem gave a presentation and answered questions.

26      **Adjournment**

Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to Ajourn at 10:16 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.