



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, April 15, 2026

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, April 15, 2026. Vice President Ben Williams called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Bethany Alwa; Ald. Carmella Glenn; Moira Harrington; Patrick Hasburgh; and Ben Williams.

Members Excused: Ald. Derek Field and Chandra Miller Fienen.

Alders Present: Julia Matthews.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; CJ Ryan; Chad Hughes; Morgan Matthews; Hannah Brown; and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office; Lance Vest and JoJo O'Brien, City Engineering.

2 [92632](#)

Approving the Minutes of the March 11, 2026 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Motion made by Hasburgh, seconded by Glenn, to Approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2026 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3 [92635](#)

Public Comment

Registered speaker Charles Karch wished to speak on behalf of Friends of Olbrich Park, but was unable to stay to speak. He will email his comments.

4 Disclosures and Recusals

None.

Reports

5 President of the Park Commission

Vice President Ben Williams spoke regarding the importance of partnerships in the work with Madison Parks, including Madison Parks Foundation, Madison LakeWay, Neighborhood Associations, Friends Groups, and the Nature Everywhere Coalition. Williams expressed gratitude to these groups and talked about the importance of these groups now and in the future.

6 Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp spoke briefly, reporting on staff changes and recognizing Joanne Austin on her retirement. He thanked her for her service to Madison Parks and work with the Park Commission.

7 [92652](#) Accepting the April 2026 Superintendent's Report

Operations Manager Chad Hughes presented the Operations section report and was available to answer questions.

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

8 [92639](#) Accepting the Report of the March 9, 2026 Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee and the February 18, 2026 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee Minutes.

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

9 New Business

10 [92689](#) Commending, honoring, and expressing appreciation to Joanne Austin upon her retirement after 25 years of exemplary service with the City of Madison, including 21 years with Madison Parks.

Williams read the proclamation.

Harrington thanked Joanne for her work.

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Glenn, to Approve the Commendation. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

11 [92425](#) Authorizing the City's execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Madison and OM Land, LLC or their successors and assigns, for the purchase of the property located at 1010 North Street in the City of Madison, and authorizing the City's execution of an assignment and assumption agreement for an existing lease of the property by East Madison Little League, Inc. (District 12)

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger provided an overview and was available to answer questions.

Registered speaker Daniela Rumpf of East Madison Little League was in support and available to answer questions.

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

- 12 [92610](#) Approving Mallards Request for Capital Improvements at Warner Park ballpark. (District 12)
- Assistant Superintendent CJ Ryan provided an introduction to the request, highlighting that the Mallards have agreed to take on the installation and maintenance of the proposed improvement. Ryan was available to answer questions.**
- Registered speaker Samantha Rubin was in support and available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 13 [92653](#) Accepting the Final Report and Recommended Solutions of the East Isthmus and Yahara Watershed Study
- Jojo O'Brien of City Engineering provided an overview of the East Isthmus and Yahara Watershed Study, including the proposed improvements that would impact parks within the watershed area. O'Brien was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Hasburgh, seconded by Alwa, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 14 [92654](#) Accepting the Final Report and Recommended Solutions of the Warner Park and Cherokee Marsh Watershed Study
- O'Brien provided an overview of the Warner Park and Cherokee Watershed Study, including the proposed improvements that would impact parks within the watershed area. O'Brien was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 15 [92661](#) Approving Request from City of Madison Engineering to Construct Castle Creek Channel Flood Mitigation and Restoration Project
- O'Brien provided an overview of the project and was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- 16 [92349](#) Authorizing the execution of a First Amendment to License with CCATT LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, for the installation of telecommunications equipment at Breese Stevens Field located at 917 E. Mifflin Street. (District 6)
- Laschinger provided an introduction.
- Real Estate Specialist Lance Vest was available to answer questions.
- Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Glenn, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 17 [92365](#) Authorizing the City's grant and execution of a Temporary Construction Easement Agreement between the City of Madison and Engen Construction Solutions, LLC for the temporary use and occupation of air space over portions of Breese Stevens Field, located at 902 E. Washington Ave. (District 6)
- Registered speaker Seth Williams of Ideal Builders was available to answer questions.
- Laschinger provided an overview of the proposed temporary land use easement and informed the Board of Park Commissioners that the resolution would be amended based on a newly negotiated fee that is consistent with fees charged by other City Agencies issuing similar permits.
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 18 [92346](#) Accepting Report on Parking Assets in the Parks Division (Citywide)
- Registrant Nicholas Davies was in support.
- Parks Data Analyst Morgan Matthews and Parks GIS Specialist Hannah Brown provided a presentation of the report and were available to answer questions.
- Knepp and Ryan answered questions.
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ACCEPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 19 [92688](#) Informational Presentation on Draft Recreational Services RFP
- CJ Ryan provided an overview of the proposed Request For Proposals for recreational services.
- 20 **Adjournment**
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Hasburgh, to Adjourn at 8:49 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**