



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved 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, March 10, 2021

6:30 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, March 10, 2021. President Gnam called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; and Chandra Miller Fienen.

Members Excused: Ald. Paul Skidmore.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; Greg Genin; Ann Freiwald; Ann Shea; Theran Steindl; Ryan Brinza; Mike Sturm; Kelly Lamberty; Kate Kane; and Joanne Austin.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office.

[64441](#)

Approval of the Minutes of the February 10, 2021 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Motion made by Leopold, seconded by Miller Fienen, to Approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2021 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[64379](#)

Public Comment

Registered Speaker Alex Saloutos spoke in support of obtaining revenue information from Big Top Sports and BKM Group.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORTS

President of the Park Commission

President Emily Gnam welcomed Chandra Miller Fienen, the newest member of the Board of Park Commissioners. Gnam has been involved in the interview process to hire a new Parks Assistant Superintendent and looks forward to seeing the results.

Ald. Zach Henak thanked Venus Washington for her service on the Park Commission and for the many insights she brought to the table.

Madelyn Leopold reported on her role as liaison to the Madison Parks Foundation. The Foundation is currently fundraising to build three accessible playgrounds at Warner, Reindahl and Rennebohm Parks.

Superintendent of Parks

Parks Superintendent Eric Knepp reported that Operations is preparing for the spring. Several small dog parks have been temporarily closed to protect the turf as it thaws. Staff hopes to reopen them as soon as possible.

A workgroup involving neighbors and residents has been working on solutions regarding Vilas Park Drive. Knepp anticipates bringing an intermediate solution before the Park Commission in the coming months.

The winter season was a phenomenal success, with cross-country skiing being particularly popular. There has been heightened and diverse use of parks during COVID-19.

[64440](#)

March 2021 Superintendent's Report

Parks Operations Manager Greg Genin presented the Operations quarterly report.

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

Ald. Paul Skidmore arrived at 7:04 PM.

Members Present: 6 – Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; Chandra Miller Fienen; and Ald. Paul Skidmore.

[64382](#)

Report of the Minutes of the February 15, 2021 Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee; January 28 and February 22, 2021 Golf Subcommittee; and January 19, 2021 Olbrich Botanical Society.

Motion made by Miller Fienen, seconded by Skidmore, to Accept the Minutes.
Motion passed by voice vote/other.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Leopold, seconded by Skidmore, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 12, Legislative File No. 64396; No. 13, Legislative File No. 64431; No. 17, Legislative File No. 64446; and No. 18, Legislative File No. 64449. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

It was decided that item 19, Legislative File No. 64453, will be taken before item 10, Legislative File 64455.

64396

Authorizing the Parks Division to issue a Request for Proposals for the Aldo Leopold Park Bicycle Facilities Improvement project.

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

64431

The Biergarten at Olbrich Park Annual Update

Registrant Mike Bare, of BKM Group LLC, was in support and available to answer questions.

64446

Breese Stevens Field informational reports regarding the 2021 Fan Access Plan and Neighborhood Impact Plan.

Registrant Vern Stenman, of Madison Mallards, was in support and available to answer questions.

Motion made by Leopold, seconded by Skidmore, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

64449

Madison Mallards informational reports regarding the 2021 Fan Access Plan, Neighborhood Impact Plan, and Responsible Alcohol Consumption Action Plan, at Warner Park

Motion made by Leopold, seconded by Skidmore, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[64455](#)

Vilas Park Master Plan

Dan Williams of MSA presented the Master Plan.

Registered speaker Ann Rivlin spoke neither in support nor opposition.

Registered speaker Bonnie Gruber spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Jim Lorman of the Greenbush Neighborhood Association spoke in support.

Registered speaker Shawn Schey spoke neither in support nor opposition.

Registered speaker Wendy Fearnside of the Vilas Neighborhood Association spoke neither in support nor opposition.

Registered speaker Alexander Harding spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker David Gevers spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Catherine Jagoe of Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association spoke in support.

Registered speaker Sally Lehner spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Eileen Thompson spoke neither in support nor opposition.

Registered speaker David Gevers spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Bonnie Gruber spoke in opposition.

Registrant Dan Anderson was in opposition.

Registrant Joan Nugent was in opposition.

Registrant Cindy Schlichte was neither in support nor opposition.

Registrant Barbara Sanford was in opposition.

Registrant Margaret Rosin was in opposition.

Registrant Anne M Forbes was neither in support nor opposition.

Registrant Margo Reeder was in opposition.

Registrant Justin Chasco was in opposition.

Registrant Janice Busse Borski was in opposition.

Registrant Eileen Thompson was in opposition.

Registrant J. Craig Thompson was in opposition.

Motion made by Skidmore, seconded by Henak, to Approve the Master Plan.

Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[64144](#)

Park Event Ordinance Update

Community Events Coordinator Kelli Lamberty presented the update.

[64149](#)

Request from All Community Events for the use of Quann Park and Olin Park on July 16, 2021 from 11:00 am - 1:00 am (July 17) for the setup, event, and take down for the Christmas in July 5k, a run/walk event.

Registered Speaker Barbara Gilligan spoke in opposition.

Registered Speaker Marguerite Payne spoke in opposition.

Registered Speaker Matt Horgan, of All Community Events, spoke in support and answered questions.

Registrant Colin Pekovitch was in support.

Motion made by Henak, seconded by Skidmore, to Approve with the exception that amplified sound must end at 10 PM. Motion passed by the following vote:

Approve (3) – Henak, Miller Fienen, Skidmore.

Oppose (1) – Harrington and Leopold.

[64495](#)

Glenway Golf Park Master Plan

Golf Operations Supervisor Theran Steindl presented the Master Plan. Michael Keiser and Knepp answered questions from the Commission. Ald. Tag Evers spoke in support of the ecological impact of the plan.

Motion made by Miller Fienen, seconded by Henak, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[64472](#)

Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a Donation Agreement and a Developer's Agreement with the Madison Parks Foundation and Michael and Jocelyn Keiser for the Privately Funded Improvement of Glenway Golf Course.

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

[64453](#)

Request by Vern Stenman, Madison Mallards, for fireworks and other promotions for the 2021 Mallards Baseball season, at Warner Park

Registered speaker Marian Celesnik of Wild Warner spoke of concerns of eagles nesting in Warner Park, but thought that by July 3rd they would be okay.

Vern Stenman of Madison Mallards was available to answer questions.

Motion made by Skidmore, seconded by Harrington, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Henak, seconded by Harrington, to Adjourn at 10:21 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.