



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, July 8, 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, July 8, 2026. President Miller Fienen called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Carmella Glenn; Patrick Hasburgh; Ald. Noah Lieberman; Chandra Miller Fienen; and Ben Williams.

Members Excused: Bethany Alwa.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; CJ Ryan; Tanya Zastrow; Adam Kaniewski; Kelly Post; and Nicole Miller.

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

2 [93744](#)

Approval of the Minutes of the June 10, 2026 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Motion made by Lieberman, seconded by Hasburg, to Approve the Minutes.
Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3 [93743](#)

Public Comment

Registered speaker Kathleen Kelly spoke neither in support nor opposition regarding Hartmeyer-Roth Park.

Registered speaker Beth Sluys spoke in support regarding Hartmeyer-Roth Park.

Registered speaker David Bierman spoke neither in support nor opposition regarding Hartmeyer-Roth Park.

Registered speaker Marsha Cannon spoke neither in support nor opposition regarding Hartmeyer-Roth Park.

4 Disclosures and Recusals

None.

Reports

5 President of the Park Commission

President Chandra Miller Fienen provided a brief history of key dates and years in Madison and nationally that have impacted the Madison Parks system.

6 Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp reported that Ride the Drive is roughly one month away and we are still looking for volunteers and encouraging folks to participate in the event. Parks Alive is in full swing and Knepp encouraged Park Commission members to get out and experience these events. The Golf program is having a good year in terms of rounds and revenue. The Madison LakeWay project is continuing to move forward towards the final design and bid documents. The John Nolen Drive project is on time and on budget so far, which is great news. We are nearing the time when the John Nolen Drive bike path will need to be rerouted for construction for the next year or so. Assistant Superintendent CJ Ryan and Knepp answered questions regarding the incident of fighting at the Goodman Pool on its opening day.

7 [93747](#) July 2026 Superintendent's Report

Planning and Development Manager Adam Kaniewski provided the Planning and Development section report and answered questions.

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

8 [93750](#) Accepting the Report of the Minutes of the May 12, 2026 Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee and June 6, 2026 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee meetings.

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

9 New Business

10 [93685](#) Adopting the Comprehensive Master Plan for Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Olbrich Botanical Gardens Executive Director Tanya Zastrow provided an overview of the final master plan for adoption and answered questions.

Registrant Moira Harrington of Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors was in support.

Registrant John Manzer of Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors was in support.

Registrant Jeffrey Wenzel of Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors was in support.

Registrant Janet Piraino of Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors was in support.

Registrant William Patek of Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors was in support.

Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Lieberman, to Adopt the Master Plan. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

- 11 [93748](#) Adopting Conceptual Master Plan for Odana Hills East Park (District 11)
- Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger presented the master plan. Laschinger and Knepp answered questions.
- Motion made by Lieberman, seconded by Williams, to Adopt the Master Plan. Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 12 [93764](#) Amending the reporting structure for the resolution granting Authority of the Park Superintendent and the Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee to Approve Certain Park Event Permits, from a quarterly report to an annual report.
- Park and Street Use Supervisor Kelly Post explained the request and answered questions.
- Motion made by Williams, seconded by Hasburgh, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 13 [93751](#) Declaring July 2026 as "Park and Recreation Month" in the City of Madison and recognizing the benefits that Madison parks provide for recreational opportunities and preservation of public lands.
- Ryan presented the declaration and was available for questions.
- Motion passed by Hasburgh, seconded by Glenn, to Approve the Declaration. Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 14 [93729](#) Approving Request by Run Madtown for an amplification permit to extend to 10:30 PM and to extend park hours for Let's Glow 5k event activities, to 11:00 PM, Saturday, August 15, 2026, at Warner Park.
- Post presented the request and answered questions.
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Lieberman, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 15 Adjourn
- Motion made by Glenn, seconded by Williams, to Adjourn at 8:10 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.