



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 19, 2023

6:30 PM

VIRTUAL

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30PM on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. President Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:31PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Yanette Figueroa Cole; Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Catie McDonald; Chandra Miller Fienen; and Charles Myadze.

Members Excused: Ben Williams.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; CJ Ryan; Joanne Austin; Terrence Thompson; Ann Freiwald; Sarah Grimalkin; and Adam Kaniewski.

City Staff Present: Matt Allie, Engineering.

[77235](#)

Approval of the Minutes of the March 8, 2023 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting

Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Miller Fienen, to Approve the Minutes of the March 8, 2023 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[70698](#)

Public Comment

There were no registrants for Public Comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORTS

President of the Park Commission

President Moira Harrington stated she did not have a report this month.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp provided an update regarding the Capital Budget Submission and concerns regarding staffing levels and related operational impacts, along with various efforts taken by staff to engage with potential employees through job fairs, recruitment events, and high schools.

77051

April 2023 Superintendent's Report

Community Service Manager Terrence Thompson presented the Community Services quarterly report.

Assistant Superintendent CJ Ryan and Miller Fienen provided an update regarding status of Lake Monona Waterfront Ad Hoc Committee, stating the committee is nearing a final decision, but carefully considering public comment through their deliberations.

Ben Williams arrived at 7:01PM

Members Present: 7 – Ald. Yanette Figueroa Cole; Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Catie McDonald; Chandra Miller Fienen; Charles Myadze; and Ben Williams.

Motion made by Miller Fienen, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

77054

Report of the Minutes of the March 20, 2023 Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee; February 14, 2023 Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee; March 16, 2023 Golf Subcommittee; and February 28, 2023 Olbrich Botanical Society.

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by McDonald, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 11, Legislative File No. 77370; No. 13, Legislative File No. 77098; and No. 17, Legislative File No. 77156. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

77370

Board of Park Commissioners Proclaiming Commitment to Supporting Pollinator Health

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

- [77098](#) Review of Events Administratively Approved by Staff
- Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- [77156](#) Request by Madison Opera to extend Madison Park hours for Opera in the Park event activities, including amplification, to 11:00 PM, Saturday, July 22, 2023 at Garner Park.
- Registrant Kathryn Smith was in support.
Registrant Jill Krynicky was in support.**
- Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Approve the Request. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- [76855](#) Commending and Recognizing Margaret Kraege, Equipment Operator III with the City of Madison Parks Division, upon her retirement after over 42 years of dedicated service to the City of Madison.
- Knepp introduced Kraege and recognized her for her passion for the work and her role in making great public park spaces. Kraege expressed her gratitude.**
- [77180](#) Proposal to Allow Felix Berkelman to Install a Gaga Ball Pit at Edward Kleif Park as Part of his Eagle Scout Requirements
- Planning and Development Manager Ann Freiwald introduced Felix Berkelman and his Eagle Scout project.**
- Berkelman gave a presentation and answered questions regarding his project.**
- Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Myadze, to Approve the Proposal. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- [76772](#) Request from staff to approve 2023 Qualifying Discounts Program pilot
- Thompson provided an overview of the Qualifying Discounts Program and answered questions.**
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Miller Fienen to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- [77233](#) Authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to enter into contracts with local youth soccer associations for athletic field use through December 31, 2025, with the possibility of one additional one-year period.
- Ryan provided an overview of relationship with MAYSA and the development/negotiation of the agreements and was available to answer questions.**
- Motion made by Figueroa Cole, seconded by Williams, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

77097

Request by Sessions at McPike Park Board to extend Madison Park hours for the Sessions at McPike Park, event activities, including amplification and beer sales, to 11 PM, on Friday, August 11 & Saturday, August 12, 2023 at McPike Park.

Thompson provided an overview of the requests and steps taken to mitigate impacts of the amplification, including that there are no school nights within the request.

Registered speaker Kilcoy-Flores spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Jack Kear was not available to speak.

Registered speaker Jason Joyce spoke neither in opposition or support regarding neighborhood impacts.

Registered speaker Bob Queen of Sessions at McPike Park spoke in support and provided an overview of the program and events and was available to answer questions.

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by Gnam, to refer the item to the next meeting, asking the organizers to hold a meeting with the neighborhood and report back to the Board of Park Commissioners within the next 30 days regarding recommendations and requests from the neighborhood. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

76698

Authorizing the City's execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Madison and Opitz Investment Corporation and Halleen Properties, LLC or their successors and assigns, for the purchase of the property located at 4710 Lien Road in the City of Madison to provide the City with park land. (17th AD)

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger presented an overview of the acquisition within the Greater East Towne Area Plan areas and was available to answer questions.

Knepp provided an overview of the long-term importance of this piece of property for purposes of future intended park use.

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by McDonald, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[76854](#) **SUBSTITUTE - Authorizing the Purchase of the Property Located at 305 S. Bedford from Dane County for Future Assemblage with Brittingham Park. (4th A.D.).**

Laschinger presented an overview of the proposed acquisition, foreclosure status and discussion around future of existing building and was available to answer questions.

Knepp provided overview of the long-term importance of this piece of property for purposes of park use, and that the property will be acquired using land acquisition funding from development fees.

Registered speaker Henry Doane spoke about the acquisition.

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by McDonald, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[76659](#) **Accepting the Final Report and Recommended Solutions of the East Badger Mill Creek Watershed Study**

Matt Allie of City Engineering provided an overview of the study, highlighting impact to park land and was available to answer questions.

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by Gnam, to Approve the study. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[77047](#) **Accepting the Final Report and Recommended Solutions of the Greentree/McKenna Watershed Study**

Matt Allie of Engineering provided an overview of the Study, highlighting impacts to park land and was available to answer questions.

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by Williams, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[76275](#) **Informational Presentation of the Master Plan for Country Grove Park**

Landscape Architect Adam Kaniewski provided presentation of Master Plan process and proposed draft plan and was available to answer questions and take feedback from commissioners.

[77055](#) **Informational Presentation of the Master Plan for Sycamore Park**

Kaniewski provided a presentation of the Master plan process and proposed draft plan and was available to answer questions and take feedback from commissioners.

[77056](#) **Informational Presentation of Fraust Park Development Plan**

Landscape Architect Sarah Grimalkin provided a presentation of Park Development process and proposed draft plan and was available to answer questions.

[77057](#)

Informational Presentation of Harvey Schmidt Park Development Plan

Grimalkin provided a presentation of Park Development process and proposed draft plan and was available to answer questions.

[77339](#)

Informational Presentation Regarding Golf Enterprise Program Overview

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger provided an overview of the Golf Enterprise Program and answered questions. Knepp provided additional information.

[77362](#)

Discussion of park and non-park responsibilities of the Parks Division

Knepp provided overview of memo that was provided and answered questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Myadze, seconded by McDonald, to Adjourn at 10:24PM.

Motion passed by voice vote/other.