



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

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, September 11, 2024

6:30 PM

VIRTUAL

1 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30PM on Wednesday, September 11, 2024. President Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:33PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed. Members Present: Ald. Yanette Figueroa Cole; Moira Harrington; Catie McDonald; Chandra Miller Fienen; Ald. Charles Myadze; Michelle Probst; and Ben Williams.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; CJ Ryan; Joanne Austin; Chad Hughes; Ann Freiwald; Tanya Zastrow; and Adam Kaniewski.

City Staff Present: Karen Kapusta-Pofahl, Common Council.

2 [85050](#)

Approval of the Minutes of the August 14, 2024 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Motion made by Figueroa Cole, seconded by Miller Fienen to Approve the Minutes. Motion made by voice vote/other.

3 [85046](#)

Public Comment

Registered speaker Linda Lehnertz spoke neither in support nor opposition in regards to City Owned land.

4 DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORTS

5 President of the Park Commission

The election for President and Vice President of the Commission will be held in January.

President Harrington expressed appreciation and gratitude towards staff who did job shadowing with the Commissioners (John Weichelt- Volunteers, John Ringwood- Rangers, Zach Watson- WPCRC, Paul Quinlan-Conservation, and Chad Hughes- Operations). It was a good learning opportunity for commissioners and showed the dedication and talent of staff in Parks.

President Harrington offered to set up additional tours for others who are interested.

6 Superintendent of Parks

Knepp provided update regarding lake front property near Yahara River Parkway and explained how priorities around land acquisitions are determined.

Trucks and Treasures will be coming up, the pool season ended, athletic reservations are up, and many events took place this summer, some with disruptions, and discussed encroachment issues and how parks addresses them.

7 [85047](#) September 2024 Superintendent's Report

Operations Manager Chad Hughes presented the quarterly Operations report.

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

8 [85051](#) Report of the August 20, 2024 Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee and the August 21, 2024 Parks Long Range Subcommittee.

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

9 NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 13, Legislative File No. 85061; No. 14, Legislative File No. 85062; No. 15, Legislative File No. 85064; No. 16, Legislative File No. 85066; No. 17, Legislative File No. 85067; No. 18, Legislative File No. 85068; No. 20, Legislative File No. 85070; No. 21, Legislative File No. 85071. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

10 [84906](#) Request from Parks Division staff for approval of report establishing archaeological review and investigation process for park development projects at Vilas Park.

Knepp provided an introduction and explained that staff is not asking the Park Commission to take action, as staff have further engagement to do and suggested bringing it back to the November meeting. Parks Landscape Architect Adam Kaniewski provided an overview of the report and proposed approach.

Registered speaker Sally Lehner spoke in opposition.
Registered speaker Christopher D Veit spoke in opposition.
Registered speaker Bonnie Gruber spoke in opposition.
Registered speaker Larry Johns was in opposition and available to answer questions.
Registered speaker David Gevers was in opposition and available to answer questions.
Registered speaker Eileen Thompson was in opposition and available to answer questions.
Registrant Dan R Anderson was in opposition.
Registrant Joan Nugent was in opposition.
Registrant MaryElizabeth Bathum was in opposition.
Registrant K was in opposition.

Registrant Richard Scott was in opposition.
Registrant Nicholas Bulloss was in opposition.
Registrant Quinlan Thompson was in opposition.
Registrant Deanna Letts was in opposition.
Registrant Susan Wolf was in opposition.
Registrant John Boyne was in opposition.
Registrant Thomas Mathew Zinnen was in opposition.
Registrant Gail Anderson was in opposition.

- 11 [84986](#) Amending Resolution 22-00745 Authorizing the First Amendment to Ground Lease for the residential structure located at 704 East Gorham Street, within James Madison Park, and authorizing an access easement over a portion of the City's property at 728 East Gorham Street. (District 6)
- Knepp explained circumstances of lease amendment.**
- Motion made by Miller Fienen, seconded by Myadze, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 12 [84665](#) City of Madison Parks Division Policy on Donations via the Madison Parks Foundation
- Assistant Superintendent CJ Ryan provided an overview of the Donation Policy.**
- Motion made by Miller Fienen, seconded by Williams, to Affirm. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 13* [85061](#) 2025-2026 Proposed Olbrich Botanical Garden Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 14* [85062](#) 2025 Proposed Shelter Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 15* [85064](#) 2025 Proposed Park Division Fees - Mooring; Watercraft Storage; Violation Ranges; Disc Golf, Dog Park, Lake Access, and Cross Country Ski Permits
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 16* [85066](#) 2025 Proposed Aquatics Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- 17* [85067](#) 2025 Proposed Forest Hill Cemetery Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- 18* [85068](#) 2025 Proposed Golf Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees.**
 Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 19 [85069](#) 2025 Proposed WPCRC Fees
- Ryan explained that the fees haven't changed.**
- Motion made by Myadze, seconded by Figueroa Cole, to Approve the Fees.**
- 20* [85070](#) 2025 Proposed Special Event Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees.**
 Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 21* [85071](#) 2025 Proposed Recreation Services Fees
- Motion made by McDonald, seconded by Williams, to Approve the Fees.**
 Motion passed by voice vote/other.
- 22 **ADJOURNMENT**
- Motion made by Figueroa Cole, seconded by Myadze, to Adjourn at 8:15 PM.**
 Motion passed by voice vote/other.