

Date: 9 NOV 2022

CITY OF MADISON Registration Statement for BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Agenda No. <u>13</u>	File No. <u>74390</u>
Do you have handouts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Please provide copy to parks staff</i>	
➤ Title of handout: _____	

Name Jon BECKER

Address P.O. Box 8574
53708

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- Support
- Oppose**
- Neither Support Nor Oppose

- AND
- Wish to speak**
 - Do not wish to speak
 - Available to answer questions

At this meeting, are you representing an organization or a person other than yourself: Yes No

- If you answered "no" **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form.
- If you answered "yes" provide the name, address and phone number of each person or organization you are representing:

Are you being paid for your representation? Yes No

Are you appearing as part of your other paid duties for this person or organization? Yes No

- If you answered "no" **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form.
- If you answered "yes" complete page 2 on back.

Speaking Limits:

- Public Hearing (Common Council)5 minutes
- Information Hearing.....3 minutes
- Other Items.....3 minutes

(SEE BACK)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT - PAGE 2

Are you an elected official or employee who is appearing solely on behalf of your office or for your municipality or other governmental body? Yes No

*(If you answered "yes" to the question, **STOP**. You need not complete the rest of this form, except that you must sign this form. If you answered "no" to the question, go on to the next question.)*

If you are being paid for your representation, or if your appearance is part of other paid duties, please be advised that:

1. Before you engage in lobbying as a lobbyist, you or your principal must file an authorization with the City Clerk.
2. Your principal is not permitted to authorize you to lobby unless you are registered with the City Clerk.
3. If your principal spends or will owe more than \$1,000 for lobbying services in any reporting period (half year), the principal must file expense statements with the City Clerk for the remainder of the calendar year.

(Please go to the City Clerk's website www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/index.html or go to the Clerk's Office at Room 103 of the City-County Building, Madison, for more information.)

Date _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

From: Jon Becker <jonbecker@aol.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:30 AM

To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Potential sources of PFAS, PFOS, PVDP-HFP, fluorine, micro-plastics : artificial turf, playground crumb rubber infill, pesticides, containers

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

At last night's meeting, staff presented a segment on installation of a cricket pitch that was constructed with artificial turf.

Could it be that the Parks department (or its contractors/leasees) and other local municipal departments are creating "forever" chemical pollution that puts city residents and others at risk, especially youth? that will eventually pollute drinking water?

Possible examples, from Reindahl Park and its environs:

* A soccer organization contracts with Parks for use of highly-engineered turfgrass fields on the north end of Reindahl Park. In turn, the soccer organization contracts with a company that applies pesticides and fertilizers four times per year. For days and even weeks after each application, the chemicals (pesticides, fertilizers, carriers, surfactants, etc.) can affect people and other critters via dermal contact or pulmonary, ocular, or nasal/sinus intake.

* To the north of Reindahl Park, the county owns 90 acres (protected from urban development for aviation safety purposes). The county bids/leases most of the land to agricultural users, who in turn apply pesticides and fertilizers to their crops (corn, soccer, etc.).

* Most of Reindahl Park lies within the wellhead protection zone for the city well located proximate to the park.

* The county land north of Reindahl Park drains southwest to a wetland/ stormwater detention area adjacent to the wellhead protection zone.

Pesticides

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-stop-authorized-use-certain-pfas-pesticide-products>

<https://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2022/10/despite-epa-safety-assurances-alarming-levels-of-pfas-found-in-commonly-used-pesticides/>

<https://cen.acs.org/environment/pesticides/EPA-clamps-down-12-PFAS/100/i32>

<https://peer.org/substantial-pfas-contamination-found-in-pesticides/>

Pesticide Containers

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/pfas-packaging>

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-releases-data-leaching-pfas-fluorinated-packaging>

Turf/Crumble

<https://www.eenews.net/articles/our-community-has-been-deceived-turf-wars-mount-over-pfas/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/sep/30/boston-bans-artificial-turf-toxic-forever-chemicals-pfas>

https://www.healthandenvironment.org/assets/images/webinarimages/Artificial%20Turf%20Q&A_FINAL.pdf

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667010022001767>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/363620625_Artificial_Turf_and_Crumb_Rubber_Infill_An_International_Policy_Review_Concerning_the_Current_State_of_Regulations

Date: 11-9-22

CITY OF MADISON Registration Statement for BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

13 74390

Agenda No. 13 File No. 74390

Do you have handouts? Yes No
Please provide copy to parks staff

➤ Title of handout: _____

Name Chuck Litweiler

Address 5 Lukken Ct.
Madison 53704

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support | AND | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wish to speak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose | | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not wish to speak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neither Support Nor Oppose | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Available to answer questions |

At this meeting, are you representing an organization or a person other than yourself: Yes No

- If you answered "no" **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form.
- If you answered "yes" provide the name, address and phone number of each person or organization you are representing:

Are you being paid for your representation? Yes No

Are you appearing as part of your other paid duties for this person or organization? Yes No

- If you answered "no" **STOP**; you need not complete the rest of this form.
- If you answered "yes" complete page 2 on back.

Speaking Limits:

Public Hearing (Common Council)5 minutes

Information Hearing.....3 minutes

Other Items.....3 minutes

(SEE BACK)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT - PAGE 2

Are you an elected official or employee who is appearing solely on behalf of your office or for your municipality or other governmental body? Yes No

*(If you answered "yes" to the question, **STOP**. You need not complete the rest of this form, except that you must sign this form. If you answered "no" to the question, go on to the next question.)*

If you are being paid for your representation, or if your appearance is part of other paid duties, please be advised that:

1. Before you engage in lobbying as a lobbyist, you or your principal must file an authorization with the City Clerk.
2. Your principal is not permitted to authorize you to lobby unless you are registered with the City Clerk.
3. If your principal spends or will owe more than \$1,000 for lobbying services in any reporting period (half year), the principal must file expense statements with the City Clerk for the remainder of the calendar year.

(Please go to the City Clerk's website www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/index.html or go to the Clerk's Office at Room 103 of the City-County Building, Madison, for more information.)

Date _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

From: Charles Litweiler <litweilerc@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 8:10 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Siting the Imagination Center in Reindahl Park-without cutting trees

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

As it now stands the design unveiled by the planners in late January 2022 requires the removal of all the trees around the present Park Shelter. There is a lot of land to build on near the Shelter without cutting trees. IF the planners cannot accommodate their design inside the area set aside in the new Master Plan without removing trees then they need to produce a DIFFERENT design . Otherwise they will need to expand the area to be set aside for the Center so as not to remove trees.

The value of trees in a Park should go without saying, particularly the mature trees in question. Beauty should be valued. Shade is important, particularly to picknickers. The carbon removed from the atmosphere in photosynthesis is more important than ever. The Urban Forestry Commission reported a few years ago on the importance of maintaining trees in Madison. As taxpayers we pay a separate Urban Forestry fee, \$6 to \$7 monthly, hopefully for more than just the removal of diseased ash trees.

Additionally, the Park Shelter-even with its drawbacks-serves public purposes. People do picknick and meet inside, do use the toilets. My son had a high school graduation party there. When I was a Crossing Guard we had one of our end-of-year picnics there. The Shelter should remain available for public use while the Center is being built. When it is time to remove it should be deconstructed in such a way as not to damage the adjacent trees.

Before the time comes to approve the Master Plan it must be amended so that the site chosen by the designers in January 2022 is ruled out. If it is not ruled out, the Master Plan should be rejected.

Chuck Litweiler
District 17

Miller, Nicole

From: Charles Litweiler <litweilerc@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:11 PM
To: Park Commission
Subject: Process of siting the Imagination Center in REindahl Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Preface: I read this analysis at the Commission Meeting on November 9, 2022. Due to time constraints and a full crowd I was not permitted to finish. This is the entirety of the remarks .

I want to give my take on the process through which we arrived at the Imagination Center designers recommending that the Center replace the present Park Shelter thereby requiring the removal of all the trees now there.

Early in Alder Baldeh's first term (2014?) there was the one and only fairly well publicized meeting encouraging building a Library in District 17, held at the former Howard Johnson on East Washington. The Parks Commissioner, Library Commissioner, Alder Baldeh, former Alder Clausius were all there. Attendees broke out into smaller groups to brainstorm a possible site. My first thought ,not alone, was the vacant Steinhafel furniture store close to the Mall. We were told that there were environmental problems with the site...the building still sits empty. There was a lot of enthusiasm for putting it in the Park. Speakers got into adding many functions to the Library. If left early.

I never heard or read anything after that until I learned the Library had changed into the Imagination Center and the City Council had approved the Park as the site. The Library planning procedure apparently required that 2 additional sites in the East Towne area be considered and there was a way to rank which site would best meet the needs under consideration. The other sites were never made public. Reindahl. did not rank highest on some of those scores.

Not having heard any information for months?...a year or more? I began to worry about where it would be sited. Kevin Engelbert was the Park Planner from 2016 to 2018. I pressed him as to where the Library wanted to site the building. Reluctantly he told me that they wanted the building highly visible from East Washington Avenue and near the bus stop. I was told that the exact site would not be chosen until the end of the planning process...a rather odd arrangement. I naively assumed that that the public would be involved at that Point. I also naively assumed that the City Council would have to approve the exact site of the building. I started sending Emails to Council members and groups most likely to oppose tree removal in an attempt to head off any site requiring cutting mature trees.

When the Center designers unveiled their proposal in late January 2022 I was still under the impression that the Council would have to approve the site. I only learned on into February that the Parks Commission has sole authority to choose the exact site.

I know from observation that the citizen proponents never even thought about the existing trees. I know with certainty that the exact site of the Center was chosen even before the building designers started their work. I queried Samba Baldeh in an Email this September to learn what he might know about siting the Center before he left office at the end of 2020. He replied saying: "I remember discussion about tree removal and replacement before I left."

I am convinced that the exact site for the Center was made long before it was revealed. The citizen proponents cared only that the Center be built-did not propose the exact site. I am sure that very few people knew the approval process. One person who probably knew the process was former Alder Clausius. He served on the Park Commission for many years. He was on the Commission when the Tenney park Shelter was replaced. Developer Terence Wall proposed moving up the date for replacing that Shelter with a pledge to pay half the cost of the building. He did it to honor his father.

IF the Library and Parks Departments had encouraged the involvement of area residents in choosing the site and if they had explained the steps to approval of the exact site and if it then the majority of concerned area residents wanted the Center sited where mature trees would have to be cut, I would not be here today. I bear with many decisions by the City Council that I strongly disagree with because they are duly elected and the process for influencing their decisions is open. That is not what happened here.

Chuck Litweiler
District 17