



# 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?*

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Wednesday, December 9, 2020

6:30 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held virtually at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 9, 2020. President Gnam called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; Ald. Zachary Henak; Madelyn Leopold; Al Martin; Ald. Paul Skidmore; and Venus Washington.

Alders Present: Tag Evers.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; Joanne Austin; Ann Freiwald; Ann Shea; Greg Genin; Tracey Hartley; and Mike Sturm.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office; Joanna O'Brien, Engineering; Jennifer Frese, Real Estate; and Renee Callaway, Traffic Engineering.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Henak, to Approve the Minutes with the actions taken on agenda item No. 9, Legislative File No. 62393, amended.  
Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[63268](#)

Public Comment

There were no registrants for public comment.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

### REPORTS

#### President of the Park Commission

President Emily Gnam attended the Vilas Park Master Plan meeting in November and looks forward to seeing the Master Plan on an agenda next year. The Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee is working on policy regarding art in parks, bird and bat houses, and neighborhood plans. The subcommittee welcomed new member Bob Hemauer.

## Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp reported that the Parks Division will soon publish and communicate a winter recreation schedule. The Warner Park Community Recreation Center will be converted back for regular use, with staff safety as a priority. The Common Council approved the extension of the Mallards contract and the Finance Committee approved the recommendations of the Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks. The Common Council returned the Allied Park alcohol ban to the Board of Park Commissioners, with the requirement that a comprehensive Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (RESJI) analysis take place. Staff are beginning the RESJI analysis as well as continuing work on the masterplans for Vilas and Law Park.

[63249](#)

December 2020 Superintendent's Report

Parks Operations Manager Greg Genin presented an overview of the Operations quarterly report.

[63250](#)

Report of the September 30, 2020 Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee and October 20, 2020 Olbrich Botanical Society.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Accept the Minutes. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

## NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 10, Legislative File No. 62734; No. 11, Legislative File No. 62754; No. 12, Legislative File No. 62993; No. 13, Legislative File No. 63238; and No. 14, Legislative File No. 62948. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[62734](#)

Authorizing the City to execute an agreement with Electrical Workers Local 159 Labor Management Cooperative Committee Fund Trust, a/k/a The Electric Group for permission to use portions of Olin Park for its Holiday Fantasy in Lights Event, including installing holiday lighting and permanent infrastructure to support the lighting for the years of 2020-2024.

Registrant Kelly Slack of The Electrical Workers / The Electric Group was in support and available to answer questions.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[62754](#)

Authorizing the City to grant Madison Log Rolling LLC continued permission to use portions of Wingra Park for its log rolling activities. This Agreement will commence after the initial agreement, which runs from 2017-2021, expires on April 30, 2021.

**Registrant Shana Verstegen was in support and was available to answer questions.**

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.  
Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[62993](#)

Authorizing the City to extend the current agreement with Harris Golf Cars, Inc. for the lease of a golf cart fleet for a one (1) year additional term for the City of Madison Golf Courses.

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.  
Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[63238](#)

Request from Madison Nordic Ski Club, Inc. (MadNorSki) to use the Elver Park for cross country skiing classes, practices, lessons and races under terms of a fee modification.

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

[62948](#)

Authorizing the administrative approval and execution of documents granting, accepting, altering or releasing certain easements or recorded property interests by the City.

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.  
Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[63233](#)

Request from University of Wisconsin to allow the Urban Canid Project to continue for a seventh year and the installation of a wildlife camera along the bikepath in Reindahl Park for a sixth year.

**Registered speaker David Drake of the University of Wisconsin spoke in support.**

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Washington, to Approve the Request.  
Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[63237](#)

Stormwater Issues on Monona Golf Course - Related to E. Dean Ave. Reconstruction 2021

Joanna O'Brien of City Engineering presented.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Harrington, to Refer to a future Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[63286](#)

Vilas Park Drive Winter Operational Plan

Registered speaker Barbara Erlenborn spoke in opposition.

Registrant Andy Meessmann was neither in support nor opposition.

Registered speaker Jim Lorman spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Shawn Schey spoke in opposition.

Registrant Sally Lehner was in opposition and was available to answer questions.

Registrant David Gevers was opposed.

Registrant Siri Carpenter was opposed.

Registrant Deborah Spring Laurel was opposed.

Registrant Cindy Schlichte was opposed.

Registrant Alex Wong was opposed.

Registrant Zaccai Lewis was opposed.

Registrant Dana Evans was opposed.

Registrant Cynthia Koschmann was opposed.

Registrant Barbara Irvin was opposed.

Registrant Linda Crubaugh was opposed.

Ald. Tag Evers spoke on the matter.

Motion made by Henak, seconded by Harrington, to reopen Vilas Park Drive to the status it was prior to the emergency order with no time limit on a change until the matter comes back to the Board of Park Commissioners. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

A Friendly Amendment was made by Martin, seconded by Skidmore, instructing Parks to work with Traffic Engineering to reduce the speed limit to 15mph and provide "Parks User Only" signs. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[63227](#)

Olin Park Facility Renovation - Former Wisconsin Medical Society Building Update

Parks Landscape Architect Mike Sturm presented a project overview. Knepp answered questions.

[63265](#)

Proposed 2020-2021 Winter Recreation Services Fees

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger provided an introduction.

Recreation Services Coordinator Tracey Hartley presented the plan.

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Approve the fees. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[63172](#)

Annual Statement of Interest Due

Gnam reminded the commissers of the due date.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Leopold, to Adjourn at 9:48 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.