



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

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Wednesday, July 10, 2013

6:30 PM

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held on Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Joseph Clausius; Ald. Mark Clear; Emily Gnam; Madelyn Leopold; Nancy Ragland; Emanuel Scarbrough; and David Wallner.  
Parks staff present: Kevin Briski, Eric Knepp, Kay Rutledge, Russ Hefty, and Joanne Austin.

### I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ragland, seconded by Clear, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### II PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Carrier representing Wild Warner spoke regarding Rythm & Booms.  
Edwin Rogers spoke in support of having trees planted at Segoe Park.

### III DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals made by members of the Commission.

### IV REPORTS

#### A President of the Park Commission

President Wallner discussed his recent tour of the Hoyt Park neighborhood and its parks. President Wallner welcomed Emily Gnam to the Commission and congratulated Brad Weisinger on his retirement from the City. Nancy Ragland mentioend the home garden tour for Olbrich Gardens was coming up the weekend of July 13th and 14th.

#### B Superintendant of Parks

##### 1 Written Report of Supervisor's July 2013 Activities

Superintendent Briski welcomed Emily Gnam to the Commission and thanked her for the support and service to the Parks system. Superintendent Briski mentioned the partnership with the Madison Parks Foundation for the family movie night series is continuing. Superintendent Briski presented materials on the potential sale of park land at Bill Kettle Field to the County for an

expansion of the landfill.

Superintendent Briski and Kay Rutledge Planning and Development Manager presented information on the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation's proposed USH12 and Millpond Road Intersection project. The planned project will improve safety at the Millpond Road intersection with US 12/18. Rutledge discussed the plan and that it includes a need for a temporary construction easement, potentially moving the sign for the Golf Course and potential right of way dedication for a small amount of land. The Park Commission concurs with the concept of the improvements as long as the entrance to the Yahara Hills Golf Course remains open during construction. This work will not impact the use of the golf course.

Motion was made by Leopold, seconded by Clausius to Accept the Superintendent's Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

**V NEW BUSINESS**

**A** To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a Use Agreement between the City of Madison and Madison Football Club, Inc. at Reindahl Park for a period of 3 years with the possibility of two (2) one-year renewals.

Superintendent Briski discussed the relationship with the Madison Football Club. Commissioner Leopold mentioned her concern about limiting access to public spaces with agreements such as this, but was reassured that there are additional fully accessible fields at the same park. A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Leopold, to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER**. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

**B** To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an Operating Agreement between the City of Madison and Robert Krebs, d/b/a The Madison Sailing Center. at Warner Park for a period of 3 years with the possibility of two (2) one-year renewals.

A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER**. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

**C** Owen Stream Stabilization Project

Faith Fitzpatrick registered as neutral and available to answer questions. Sally Swenson from City Engineering presented the project and discussed the methods used and how they will impact the park. Swenson provided information on why the project is needed, including pictures of the significant erosion along the channel. The Commission discussed the impact of the lost trees on the park. Russ Hefty, Conservation Resources Supervisor discussed the project and that Parks staff is supportive of the project. Hefty indicated that this should open up the canopy to allow for more sunlight to get to the ground and will enhance species diversity.

A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Clear, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

- D** Yahara Gateway and Parkway Summary and Overview Presentation
- Karen Matteoni spoke in support. Jay Wendt representing the City of Madison Planning Division made a presentation to the Commission and answered questions regarding the planning process. Wendt discussed the initial document as a compendium of existing plans and recommendations. Wendt presented some of the primary concepts of the report being how to make the parkway either physically bigger or at least feel bigger. Wendt indicated that there are lots of ideas for this public ground along the river, and it is important to focus on the various concepts to ensure the City makes appropriate plans for future development. No formal action was taken on this item.**
- E** Authorizing the agreement with the University of Wisconsin-Madison to place temperature/humidity sensors on park land.
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- F** Adopting the Arbor Hills - Leopold Neighborhood Plan as a Supplement to the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan.
- Linda Horvath of the City of Madison Planning Division spoke. Jennifer Bendorf representing the Leopold Neighborhood Association and Sheri Carter representing the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association spoke in support. Bendorf, Carter and Horvath discussed the existing park and open spaces within the neighborhood planning area and provided information on the potential improvements included in the plans recommendations. The Commission thanked the citizens and staff for their work on this quality plan.**
- A motion was made by Leopold, seconded by Clear, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the PLAN COMMISSION. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- G** Highway 151- Hoepker Road Bike Path Construction (North-East Park)
- Tim Semmann representing the City of Sun Prairie was available to answer questions.**
- Tony Fernandez from City Engineering presented the project plan for the bike path construction project to the Commission. Fernandez indicated that this project will be a part of the connection from Sun Prairie all the way to the Capitol Square.**
- The easement agreement itself will come back to the Commission in the future. No formal action was taken on this item at this meeting.**
- H** Approving the request from Edwin Price of the UW Madison's Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology for the use of specific parks for a UW Madison research project.
- Edwin Price was in support and available to answer questions. A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- I Authorizing the execution of a lease between the City of Madison and Charles Romines providing for occupancy and maintenance of a City owned house and park maintenance in Owen Conservation Park. 6021 Old Sauk Rd.
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- J Authorizing the execution of a lease between the City of Madison and Kevin Boehm providing for occupancy and maintenance of a City owned house and park maintenance in Cherokee Conservation Park, 6098 N. Sherman Dr.
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- K Proclaiming September 29, 2013 as International Migratory Bird Day in the City of Madison.
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- L Proclamation to declare the month of July as Parks and Recreation Month and to recognize the benefits that Madison Parks provide for active and passive recreational opportunities.
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- M Slacklining in Parks and on Public Property
- A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Refer to the LONG RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE and the HABITAT STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
- N Authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with Pontoon Porch LLC regarding the use of a City pier in Law Park for the operation of a pontoon rental business.
- Buck Sweeney representing Pontoon Porch, LLC spoke in support of the agreement.**
- A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Clear, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

- O Approving a request from Starting Line Events, LLC for the use of Warner Park on June 28, or July 5, 2014 for The Bacon, Beer, & BBQ Fest.

**Jerry Kempfer representing Starting Line Events, LLC was in support and available to answer questions.**

**Superintendent Briski presented staff's concern about the location of the event and the potential for adverse and irreversible impacts on other scheduled and master planned user groups. In this case the potential impact on the softball and soccer fields could be problematic. Superintendent Briski indicated that staff can work with the event organizer to minimize the impact on the park, but staff does not recommend approval due to the conflict of use.**

**Commissioner Ragland asked about the charge for entry and the number of people at the event. Superintendent Briski indicated that Parks manages the capacity along with other City agencies; however, Parks does not currently monitor the amount charged for tickets at such events. Commissioner Scarbrough raised concerns about the unlimited alcohol tasting as a part of the event. Alder Clear indicated that he felt the decisions related to events should be based on a policy and not on an individual event.**

**A motion was made by Clausius, seconded by Clear to Approve with the additional condition of securing written Aldermanic support. Motion failed 3-4; Aye (Clausius, Clear, Wallner), No (Gnam, Leopold, Ragland, Scarbrough).**

- P Tornado Warning Siren Installations in rustic Parkway and Vilas Park.

**A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

## VI ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Scarbrough, seconded by Clausius, to Adjourn at 9:35 PM. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**