



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 15, 2013

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 103A (City-County Building)
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 5 -

Anita Weier; Steven M. Fix; Timothy D. Baker; James P. Bennett and
Reginald N. Weide

Excused: 4 -

Patricia A. Lasky; Mike DePue; Jennifer L. Giegerich and Patricia J.
Gadow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

1. **29760** Road Salt Discussion (Reports, Updates, Collaborations)

Postponed until May meeting

2. **[29474](#)** Authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Madison Fireworks Fund, Inc. and/or Madison Festivals, Inc. to provide for the 2013 Rhythm & Booms Independence Day firework celebration at Warner Park.

Attachments: [2013 Final Agreement](#)
[Rhodes-Conway Comments to BPC.pdf](#)

Public Comments:

1. Rita Kelliher, registered to speak in support. She is the president of Madison Fireworks Fund, Inc. Rita indicated that no and low-perchlorate fireworks are generally intended for indoor use; Disney World uses them to minimize smoke, as they use them every day. They are difficult to find. Perchlorate is also found in individual fireworks (not intended for large events), and there are a lot more of them sold each year than for large events. She also noted that there is clean up after the event.

2. Lucy Mathiak, registered to speak in opposition (as sited over wetlands). Lucy passed out a number of bags of fireworks debris she has collected from Warner Park. Some of the pieces were found recently. She also handed out a memo released by the Department of Defense on Best Management Practices for Fireworks to Minimize Perchlorate Releases, which lists perchlorate as having potential environmental and health impacts. She also recalled the mission of the Committee on the Environment to protect habitat, etc. and asked whether the location of this event is in line with that mission.

3. Paul Noeldner, registered to speak on behalf of the wildlife in Warner Park. He indicated the park is a singing ground for Wood Ducks, who eat earthworms, which may or may not be toxic from their environment. He noted that the City is doing a good job at Warner Park and asked that natural area be kept intact, and to move the fireworks to a better location.

4. Jim Carrier, registered to speak on behalf of Wild Warner. Jim questioned the committee's stance on the issue, and recalled the mission of the committee. He noted that the contract, as written, calls for post event cleanup, and a wetland does not lead to easy cleanup. He asked that the event be moved out of the wetland. He agreed that no and low perchlorate fireworks are difficult to find. He challenged the committee members to watch the event and to help clean up after the event.

5. Trish O'Kane, registered to speak in opposition. Trish gave the committee a handout of the lengthy list of birds that can be found in Warner Park (134 avian species), several of which are very unique. She indicated the time of the fireworks event coincides with some birds' molting season (cannot fly), and the area serves as a bird nursery (birds recently hatched) during that time. She asked that the event be relocated this year to the parking lot or the Mallards' ballpark. She also commented that the fireworks manufacturers should have to list all the chemicals that are included in their product.

Discussion among committee members included whether and when the Common Council votes on the contract. Committee members discussed possible modifications to the contract language. Recommendations are indicated below.

A motion was made by Weide, seconded by Baker, to Return to Lead with the Following Recommendation(s) to BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS:

1. The Committee **strongly** recommends moving the event from the island in Warner Park to the Warner Park parking lot in order to protect wildlife and habitat and to allow for easier cleanup.
2. The Committee requests better clean up following the event: clean up should include collection of all visible debris, better dud disposal, and an expansion of the clean up area beyond the limits of Warner Park.
3. The Committee requests a report following the event that includes the following: number and/or pounds of fireworks released, chemical composition of fireworks, and weather conditions (wind speed and direction) on the day of the event.
4. The Committee recommends the use of no or low-perchlorate fireworks.
5. In future years, the Committee requests that a representative from the Committee on the Environment have a seat on the Planning Team for the event

in order to address possible environmental impacts.

The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Three projects on last BPW agenda require permits.

4. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

None

5. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

None

6. [14746](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY:

None

7. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

Officer elections in May; new alder in May; Weide's last month is April, though he can continue attending until his replacement is found.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Weide, seconded by Weier, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.