



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

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Wednesday, February 12, 2020

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 at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, February 10, 2020 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. President Leopold called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

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

Members Excused: Ald. Zachary Henak.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Lisa Laschinger; Kay Rutledge; Joanne Austin; Ann Freiwald; Sarah Close; Kate Kane; and Roberta Sladky.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office and Chris Petykowski, City Engineering.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Martin, seconded by Skidmore, to Approve the Minutes of the January 8, 2020 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Registered speaker Lauri Schwartz of Madison Starlings Volleyball Club spoke about the need for gym space for women's sports.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

### REPORTS

#### President of the Park Commission

President Madelyn Leopold will be rotating out of the presidency beginning in May. An election for the new president will be held at the May meeting. Leopold will stay on the commission for a time period provided by the mayor to provide aid in the transition due to the significant projects currently underway. The State Legislature has set aside the first weekend in March as Aldo Leopold weekend. There will be a reading of Aldo Leopold's "A Sand County Almanac" at the UW Arboretum McKay Center on March 7th at 9:30 AM.

[58962](#) Park Commission President's Board Member Appointment to Subcommittee of the Board of Park Commissioners.

**Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Skidmore, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO CONFIRM UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES 2.04, 2.05, 2.24, & 2.25 - MISC. ITEMS. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

### Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp spoke about the proposed Reindahl Park Imagination Center. A joint meeting with the Madison Public Library Board will be held at the March Park Commission meeting and the report will be released about 10 days before it. The IPM Task Force is meeting regularly. The Task Force on Municipal Golf in Madison Parks has come up with three possible future scenarios for the golf courses: full closure of Yahara Hills; full closure of both Yahara Hills and Glenway; or partial closure of Yahara Hills and a total closure of Monona. Brittingham Boats and Mallards agreements are under discussion; we hope to see extensions of the agreements brought forward in April. The Law Park and Vilas Park master plans and a future Door Creek Park shelter are underway.

[59451](#) February 2020 Superintendent's Report

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

[59291](#) Report of the Minutes of the December 18, 2019 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee.

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

### NEW BUSINESS

**Motion made by Washington, seconded by Martin, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 11, Legislative File No. 59397 and Legislative File No. 12, Legislative File No. 59445. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[59397](#) Request from Olbrich Botanical Society to close Olbrich Botanical Gardens to the public at 2 PM on Saturday, June 20 and Friday, June 26, 2020 for Summer Breeze and at 5 PM on Saturday, August 29, 2020 for a preview of GLEAM, Art in a New Light.

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

[59445](#) The Biergarten at Olbrich Park Annual Update

**Knepp discussed the request to allow dogs at the biergarten. The request will be reviewed by the Park Commission at a later date.**

[59423](#) Request from City Engineering for an extension off the Capital City Path (the Garver Path), from Olbrich Park to OB Sherry Park

**Chris Petykowski of City Engineering presented an overview of the project.**

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

[59475](#) Proposed Plan to Implement the Statement of Policy and Guidelines for On-Leash Dog Access to the Madison Park System

**Parks Planning and Development Manager Ann Freiwald presented the plan.**

**Registered speaker Barb Gilligan spoke in support.**

**Registered speaker Karen Matteoni spoke in opposition and provided a handout.**

[59294](#) Creating Sec. 8.195 and amending Sections 8.19, 23.32 and 1.08 of the Madison General Ordinances to create Dog Recreation Areas and to reorganize and recreate a unified ordinance relating to dogs on City property and dog recreation areas.

**Registered speaker Barb Gilligan spoke in support.**

**Registered speaker Karen Matteoni spoke in opposition.**

**Motion made by Skidmore, seconded by Martin, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[59474](#) Proposed Dog Free Locations in the Madison Park System

**Registered speaker Barb Gilligan spoke in support.**

**Registered speaker Karen Matteoni spoke in opposition.**

**Alder Evers spoke in support of removing Forest Hill Cemetery from the list.**

**Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Washington, to approve the list.**

**Motion made by Skidmore, seconded by Martin, to remove Forest Hill Cemetery from the list. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Gnam, to add Period Gardens Park to the list. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**Motion to approve the list as amended passed by voice vote/other.**

[59454](#) Vilas Park Master Plan Update

**Parks Landscape Architect Kate Kane presented an update on the Vilas Park Master Plan process.**

[59312](#) Portland Park Master Plan

**Parks Landscape Architect Sarah Close presented the Portland Park Master Plan.**

**Motion made by Martin, seconded by Skidmore, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[59147](#)

2019 Annual Report of Approved Fee Modifications

**Assistant Superintendent Lisa Laschinger answered questions regarding the fee modification list.**

[59336](#)

Request from Henry Vilas Zoo to install a camera in Vilas Park from February 2020 through May 2020 for an Earth Day project.

**Registered speaker Jess Thompson of Henry Vilas Zoo spoke in support.**

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

[59399](#)

Request from the Mad City Ski Team for the use of Law Park for the Rough Water Open, on June 12 - June 14, 2020 for the setup, event, and tear down.

**Registrants Kevin Metcalfe and Shannon Wendricks of the Mad-City Ski Team were in support.**

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

[59329](#)

Authorizing the City to execute an agreement with CrossFit, Inc for the temporary closure and private use of the Olin Park Boat Launch for the production of the CrossFit Games for the years of 2020-2023.

**Registered speaker Jamie Patrick of Madison Area Sports Commission was in support and answered questions.**

**Motion made by Washington, seconded by Martin, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**

[59486](#)

Authorizing the Park Superintendent and the Facilities, Programs and Fees Subcommittee to Approve Certain Park Event Permits

**Knepp answered questions about the item.**

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

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Harrington, to Adjourn at 8:56 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.**