



Joleen Stinson, Parks Director  
Laura M. Hicklin, Director  
Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dane County Park Commission  
**FROM:** Joleen Stinson, Parks Director  
**DATE:** May 11, 2022  
**RE:** Approve Endowment Distribution Requests from the Madison Community Foundation

Dane County Parks has a few different endowments held with the Madison Community Foundation. The Foundation for Dane County Parks is the main fundraiser working to grow the Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment Fund.

In the past, the Parks Director requested approval for an endowment distribution from the Park Commission later in the calendar year. This request typically aligned with a report from the Foundation for Dane County Parks on their Friends Grant awards. The Foundation’s Friends Grants are also funded from the endowment distribution. I’d like to separate the endowment distribution request from the Foundation’s report on their grant awards. Therefore, I’m bringing this request to Park Commission earlier this year.

2022 Proposed Distributions:

Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment Fund	\$23,380.76
<i>To the Foundation for Dane County Parks</i>	<i>\$13,000.00</i>
<i>To Dane County Parks</i>	<i>\$10,380.76</i>
 Stephen D. Morton Fund for Morton Forest	 \$15,676.25
<i>To be used exclusively to maintain the Morton Forestry property</i>	

**I respectfully request the authority to distribute the above listed amounts.**

Historically, Dane County Parks has requested a smaller amount than the Foundation each year. Parks is working hard to grow its education and outreach program and to convert the Lussier Family Heritage Center into an outdoor education hub, including a land and water resource center and classroom space. As the education and volunteer programs continue to grow, Parks is seeing a significant larger need to support these program areas and is unable to do this within the operating budget. Therefore, Parks proposed to the Foundation that the Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment Fund distribution be split 50/50 between Dane County Parks and the Foundation’s Friends Grant program. It is Dane County Parks’ intent to continue to work towards an even split of endowment distribution funds.

The amounts listed above were approved by the Foundation for Dane County Park’s Board of Directors at their meeting on Friday, April 29, 2022.