

2019 RES-390

APPROVE AGRICULTURAL LEASE AT SILVERWOOD COUNTY PARK

Silverwood County Park, located in the Town of Albion in southeastern Dane County, was donated by Irene Silverwood in 2002 to be used for recreation, conservation, research, education and agricultural purposes. Approximately 217.9 acres of the nearly 300 acre park is agricultural land offering opportunities for education, research and demonstration.

Using the Park Master Plan as their guide, the Friends of Silverwood Park (FOSP) have worked with Dane County Parks (Parks) to convert the lands to organic agriculture. The FOSP currently have a user base of local farmers and partners such as the Savannah Institute to implement organic farming, alley cropping and agroforestry projects at the park. Parks recommends granting a ten year lease to FOSP to formalize their use of approximately 217.9 acres of agricultural lands at the Park. The lease will allow the FOSP to continue to expand on agricultural initiatives, education and demonstration purposes at no charge. In lieu of rent, the FOSP will be required to submit an annual report detailing accomplishments, educational outreach and interpretive programming, revenues and expenditures, and planning to Parks.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors approve the above described Lease and the Dane County Executive and County Clerk be authorized to execute the Lease contract with FOSP;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Land & Water Resources Director, Dane County Parks Director and Real Estate Coordinator be authorized to act as the County's representative in administering the lease.