



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Park Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

5:30 PM

Springfield Hill Natural Resource Area
8193 Ballweg Rd, Dane

A. Call To Order

Chair Thoresen called the Park Commission Meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Staff Present: Laura Hicklin, Sharene Smith, Joleen Stinson.

Present: 5 - STEFANIE BROUWER, TOM THORESEN, KRISTIE GOFORTH, DON POSTLER
and JASMINE BANKS

Excused: 2 - ANALIESE EICHER and JENNIFER MARQUARDT

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2026
MIN-165](#)

Minutes of the July 8, 2026 Park Commission

Attachments: [2026 MIN-165 Park Commission Minutes 07-08-2026](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by BANKS, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

C. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2026
RES-091](#)

AUTHORIZING SALE OF EASEMENT AT BABCOCK COUNTY PARK TO
VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

Sponsors: MARREN and ENGELBERGER

Attachments: [2027 RES-091](#)

[2026 RES-091 FISCAL NOTE](#)

[2026 RES-091 MAP](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by GOFORTH, that the Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

[2026
RES-092](#)

AUTHORIZING A LAND ACQUISITION FOR ANDERSON FARM COUNTY
PARK

Sponsors: BOLLIG, BLAZEWICZ, ENGELBERGER and RITT

Attachments: [2026 RES-092](#)
[2026 RES-092 FISCAL NOTE](#)
[2026 RES-092 AREA MAP](#)
[2026 RES-092 SUBJECT MAP](#)

A motion was made by GOFORTH, seconded by BROUWER, that the Resolution
be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

D. Items Requiring Committee Action

E. Presentations

1. History of Springfield Hill Natural Resource Area

The 198-acre property was acquired in 2002 for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (IAT) and contains a 1.6-mile IAT loop. Initial restoration efforts on the portion of the property east of Ballweg Road included construction of a wildlife scrape (shallow pond), prairie restoration, and trail/boardwalk construction. In 2024, a dilapidated cabin was removed following concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office. This spring, approximately 6 acres of former agricultural land west of Ballweg Road were planted with approximately 1,000 hardwood tree seedlings and native shrubs per acre as part of a new forest restoration initiative. This is the first project of its kind undertaken by Dane County Parks and is being evaluated as a model for future forest restoration projects. The property is included in the Limited Access Archery Program. Applications will be accepted until August 10, with permits awarded via random drawing.

F. Reports to Committee

1. Foundation for Dane County Parks Event
Celebrating Community in Dane County Parks
With Special Remembrance of Bill Lunney
Tuesday, September 15, 2026 4 - 6 PM
Heritage Center Solar Shelter
3101 Lake Farm Rd, Madison

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

1. Wednesday, August 26, 2026
LaFollette County Park Shelter
2195 Williams Dr, Stoughton

2. Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Indian Lake County Park Shelter
8183 State Highway 19, Cross Plains

H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

J. Adjourn

A motion was made by POSTLER, seconded by BROUWER, that the Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Meeting adjourned 6:10 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joleen Stinson, pending Park Commission approval.