



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, May 24, 2023

5:30 PM

Jenni and Kyle Preserve
925 Post Rd, Madison 53711

A. Call To Order

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

Staff Present: Joleen Stinson, Sharene Smith, Chris James.

Friends of Capital Springs Recreation Area Board Members Present: Bill Lunney, Judie Pfeifer, Bob Honig, Maggie Honig.

Others Present: Aaron Mullins, Foundation for Dane County Parks Executive Director.

Youth Governance Program Member Emily Cai Present.

Present: 6 - STEFANIE BROUWER, ANALIESE EICHER, DAVE RIPP, TOM THORESEN,
GRACE MORAN and KRISTIE GOFORTH

Excused: 1 - NANCY BOGUE

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2023](#)
[MIN-106](#)

Minutes of the Wednesday May 10, 2023 Park Commission

Attachments: [2023 MIN-106 PC Minutes 05-10-2023](#)

A motion was made by **BROUWER**, seconded by **MORAN**, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 6-0, YGP 1-0.

C. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments) - None

D. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

E. Presentations

1. Recognition of Youth Governance Program Member Emily Cai

Supervisor Dave Ripp thanked Youth Governance Program member Emily Cai for her two terms of service on Park Commission and presented her with a certificate of appreciation. Emily Cai expressed gratitude for the experience and mentorship from Park Commissioners.

2. Friends of Capital Springs Recreation Area

Bill Lunney introduced Friends of Capital Springs Recreation Area (FOCSRA) board members in attendance and described the Capital Springs Recreation Area and the history of the Jenni & Kyle Preserve. Judie Pfeifer highlighted Dan Kerkman's years of volunteer efforts at the Jenni & Kyle Preserve. Bob & Maggie Honig detailed their American Robin bird counting experiences last fall and their plans to host inclusive public programs at the Jenni & Kyle Preserve later this summer and fall.

F. Reports to Committee

1. Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan Kickoff Plans

The Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP) is a countywide comprehensive outdoor recreation and natural resource plan that is updated every five years. The Park Commission will have a significant role providing a forum for public presentations to solicit input and to present draft plan recommendations. The 2024-2029 POSP planning process is just kicking off with a goal of final adoption in the summer-fall of 2024.

2. Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) Relief Force Main in the Ice Age Trail Junction Area Project Update

The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is planning phase 2 of their relief force main that will transport wastewater generated by Verona residents and businesses through underground piping. Much of the final route runs through the Ice Age Trail Junction Natural Resource Area, which is a Dane County Park property. Land and Water Resource Department staff have been meeting with MMSD for over a year to discuss possible restoration improvements that could be associated with the project, facilitating the discussion on a Ice Age Trail realignment due to this project, and helping to mitigate impacts on access to the Badger Prairie Community Garden. MMSD is currently working with their consultant to finalize the construction documents.

[2023
RPT-114](#)

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) Sewer Line
Easement Maps in the Ice Age Trail Junction NRA

Attachments: [MMSD Sewer Overview Map & Vegetation Restoration Map](#)

3. Improvement plans for Jenni & Kyle Preserve, thanks to a generous donation from the Jenni & Kyle Foundation

Sally Wilmeth and Terry Guerink, Jenni and Kyle's parents, have generously and consistently supported the development of Jenni and Kyle Preserve since the park was established in 1989. They have also made significant contributions to accessibility improvements across the entire Dane County Park system. In 2021, they established the Jenni & Kyle Foundation. The Jenni and Kyle Foundation recently donated \$100,000 to restore and expand the accessible path at Jenni and Kyle Preserve. Improved access to the stream and to some of the interior areas of the preserve, along with places for viewing wildlife, will increase accessible amenities at to the property. Dane County Parks and the Park Commission are incredibly grateful.

[2023](#)
[RPT-115](#)

Jenni & Kyle Preserve Accessible Trail Improvement Plan Map

Attachments: [Jenni & Kyle Preserve Accessible Trail Map](#)

4. History of Jenni & Kyle Preserve

The vision for the Jenni and Kyle Preserve began in 1989 with a donation from Harvey and Patricia Wilmeth as a memorial for their grandchildren, Jenni and Kyle, who both died at the age of 4 due to a degenerative neurological disorder. The Jenni and Kyle Preserve is a unique park that is intended to serve children and persons with disabilities. It offers accessible fishing and picnic areas, trails, wheelchair swings and a shelter building around two spring-fed ponds containing trout and panfish. The mural on the shelter was unveiled in 2011 and was completed in partnership with the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission.

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

1. Wednesday, June 14 - Hybrid Meeting
Heritage Center lower level
3101 Lake Farm Rd, Madison
only held if pressing business
2. Monday, June 26
Salmo Pond
4809 Scherbel Rd, Cross Plains

H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda - None

I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law - None

J. Closed Session

A motion was made by GOFORTH, seconded by RIPP, that the Meeting enter into closed session. The motion carried by the following vote:

YGP Cai - Aye

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chair BROUWER, Supervisor EICHER, Supervisor RIPP, Chair THORESEN, MORAN and Second Vice Chair GOFORTH

Excused: 1 - BOGUE

K. Return to Open Session

A motion was made by GOFORTH, seconded by BROUWER, that the Meeting exit out of closed session. The motion carried by the following vote:

YGP Cai - Aye

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chair BROUWER, Supervisor EICHER, Supervisor RIPP, Chair THORESEN, MORAN and Second Vice Chair GOFORTH

Excused: 1 - BOGUE

L. Adjourn

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by GOFORTH, that the Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote 6-0, YGP 1-0.

Meeting adjourned 7:12 PM.

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