

CITY OF MADISON PARKS – VILAS PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY PARTNERS - MEETING #2 MINUTES

Project:	Vilas Park Master Plan	Location:	Predolin Rm 302 – Edgewood College	
MSA Project No.:	15885004	Date:	February 11, 2020	
Meeting Purpose:	Community Partner Advisory Group	Time:	3:00 – 4:00 pm	
Meeting Organizer:	Dan Williams			
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Attendees:

	Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone
\boxtimes	Kate Kane	Parks Div., City of Madison	kkane@cityofmadison.com	608-261-9671
	Ann Freiwald	Parks Div., City of Madison	AFreiwald@cityofmadison.com	608-243-2848
\boxtimes	Paul Dearlove	Clean Lakes Alliance	paul@cleanlakesalliance.org	608-255-1000
	Issis Macias		issis@cleanlakesalliance.org	
\boxtimes	Timothy Kuhman	Edgewood College	Kuhman@edgewood.edu	
\boxtimes	Tyler Leeper	Wingra Boats	tyler@madisonboats.com	608-233-5332
	Gregory Hatzinger	St. Mary's Hospital	Gregory.hatzinger@ssmhealth.com	
\boxtimes	Dave Branson	Union Sportsmen's Alliance	executivedirector@btrades.com	608-256-3161
\boxtimes	Tim Yanacheck	Mad City Ultras	tyanacheck@gmail.com	608-335-5452
\boxtimes	Keith Wanta	Access for Independence	keithwanta@gmail.com	920-728-0076
\boxtimes	Dan Williams	MSA	dwilliams@msa-ps.com	608-216-2066
	Dan Schmitt		dschmitt@msa-ps.com	608-216-2059

Note: All attendees parking on campus must sign in at the front desk in Predolin Center.

Action Items:

(Re)Introductions 3:00 – 3:05 pm
 Project Overview 3:05 – 3:20 pm

- A. <u>Updated</u> project scope and schedule
- B. What we have heard so far:
 - a. On-line public survey
 - b. Park observations/intercept interviews
 - c. Focus groups
 - d.Community Partner Advisory Group
 - e. Resident Resource Group/Neighborhoods
 - f. State Agencies
- C. Summary of Site Analysis
- 3. Discussion 3:20 3:55 pm
 - A. Priorities for park features, existing and proposed, and how they fit into the Vilas Park Master Plan?

Ideas and comments to consider in design:

- When selecting site furnishings consider tables that have a bench that can be pulled away to allow two wheelchair users to sit side-by-side, rather than just at the end of the table.
- The Boy's and Girls club ran a swimming program at Vilas Beach, not sure if it is still active.
- First boat rental in the park was approximately 1904.

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- Consider Vilas' dual role as a regional park (Lake, Zoo, etc.) and a neighborhood amenity (trails, open space) how can these two identities coexist?
- Use of Hockey rink for alternate purpose in the summer. Could it be a paved surface such as a basketball court?
- Improve connectivity between park and Zoo.
- Restrict parking on Vilas Park Drive.
- Zoozoo Café around beach house for neighborhood more than Zoo.
- Shelter is underutilized, consider relocating if parking and circulation allow. Consider access/accessibility and views when siting.
- Consolidate uses within the park to minimize the hodge-podge of parking and built features that exists today.
- Restrooms and Showers/Changing areas should be separated. Showers could be outdoor type.
- Swan boats rental in lagoon? Coordinated by zoo?
- Modify skating to be a loop around the island.
- Native vegetation/shoreline naturalization would help to improve water quality, if designed carefully could act as a visual screen for vehicles.
- Work with County/DNR to restrict large boats on Lake Wingra.

Tyler Leeper

- Perception of safety is the limiting factor on use of the existing beach house uncomfortable and lacks privacy.
- Harvest of weeds near dam (downstream) of beach would help water quality at beach.
- No harvest of geese in 2019 water quality down/beach closures up.

General Comments:

- What is the main goal(s) of the lagoons in the future? They are not an original feature of the landscape in the Park, man-made.
- What is the value of the lagoon as fish or amphibian habitat?
- Water quality of lagoons is poor and sediment loads are high. Entrance under the bridge is clogged with sediment. Opening the Lagoons would likely require cleaning up Lake Wingra as well.
- 4. Next Steps

3:55 - 4:00 pm

- A. Community Partner Advisory meetings #3 and #4 will be held jointly with members of the Resident Resource Group.
- B. Verify preferred personal contact information.
- 5. Additional Discussion (if needed) 4:00 4:30 pm