



Milwaukee County

Meeting Minutes

Committee on Parks and Culture

Chairperson: Supervisor Sheldon A. Wasserman

Vice Chairperson: Supervisor Steve F. Taylor

Supervisor Felesia A. Martin

Supervisor Priscilla E. Coggs-Jones

Supervisor Juan Miguel Martinez

Supervisor Jack Eckblad

Supervisor Anne O'Connor

Committee Coordinator: Kelsey A. Nyen (414) 278-4013

Research and Policy Analyst: Sandy Saltzstein (414) 278-4362

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

9:00 AM

Room 203-R and Microsoft Teams
County Legislative Information Center

This meeting was held in Room 203-R, and was live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: <https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Call To Order

Roll Call at 9:08 a.m.

Present 6 - Taylor (17), Martin, Coggs-Jones, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused 1 - Eckblad

Supervisors Priscilla E. Coggs-Jones and Juan Miguel Martinez appeared virtually for today's meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE (DPRC) - 1

- 1 [26-284](#) From the Executive Director of Parks requesting approval of an agreement with the Friends of Veterans Park for their formation and the scope of a design competition to improve Veterans Park.

Attachments: [26-284 REPORT](#)
 [26-284 RESOLUTION](#)
 [26-284 FISCAL NOTE](#)
 [26-284 AGREEMENT](#)

APPEARANCE:

James "Jim" Tarantino, Deputy Director, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

Graham Anderson, President, Friends of Veterans Park, appeared and spoke in favor of this Action Report.

Major General Brian Winski, President, War Memorial Center, appeared virtually and spoke for information only regarding this Action Report.

A motion was made by Supervisor Martin that this Action Report be **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**. The motion **PREVAILED** by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Taylor (17), Martin, Coggs-Jones, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused: 1 - Eckblad

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM - 1

- 2 [26-46](#) From the President and Chief Executive Officer, Milwaukee Public Museum, providing an informational report regarding financial statements. **(Considered by the Committees on Parks and Culture; and Finance) (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-46 MARCH REPORT \(received 02/13/26\)](#)

APPEARANCES:

Dr. Ellen Censky, President and Chief Executive Officer, Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM)

Thomas "Tom" Oechler, Chief Financial Officer, MPM

The March Report for this Reference File was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN**.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO - 1

- 3 [26-280](#) From the Executive Zoo Director, requesting authorization to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Traditions LLC for the installation of event decor for the Zoo's Wild Lights Event. **(Referred to the Committee on Parks and Culture for INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY per Section 59.52(31)(d), Wisconsin State Statutes; Referred to the Committee on Finance)**

Attachments: [26-280 REPORT](#)
 [26-280 RESOLUTION](#)
 [26-280 FISCAL NOTE](#)
 [26-280 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT](#)
 [26-280 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS](#)

APPEARANCES:

Vera Westphal, Deputy Director of Administration, Finance, and Operations, Milwaukee County Zoo (Zoo)
Emily Salentine, Director of Marketing and Communications, Zoo

This Action Report was referred to the Committee on Parks and Culture for INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY, per Section 59.52(31)(d), Wisconsin State Statutes, and was DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (DAS) - 2**

- 4 [26-317](#) From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services providing an informational report from Campbell and Company regarding capital campaigns **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-317 REPORT](#)
 [26-317 POWERPOINT](#)

APPEARANCE:

Celia Benton, Director, Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services

Julia McGuire, Co-President, Campbell and Company, appeared and spoke for information only regarding this Informational Report.

This Informational Report was DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.

- 5 [26-323](#) From the Director, Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services, providing an informational report on Villa Terrace Museum & Gardens, LTD, 2025 Annual Report.
(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Attachments: [26-323 REPORT](#)
 [26-323 POWERPOINT](#)

APPEARANCE:

Celia Benton, Director, Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services

Barbara Velez, At-Large Member, Board of Directors, Villa Terrace Museum and Gardens, appeared and spoke for information only regarding this Informational Report.

This Informational Report was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.**

DPRC - 4

- 6 [26-287](#) From the Executive Director of Parks requesting to amend Milwaukee County General Ordinance Chapter 13, Guidelines for County Departments Establishing Partnerships with Support Groups. **(03/03/26 Meeting: Laid Over to the Call of the Chairperson)**

Attachments: [26-287 REPORT](#)
 [26-287 RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE](#)
 [26-287 REVISED RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE \(received 02/20/26\)](#)
 [26-287 FISCAL NOTE](#)
 [26-287 CHAPTER 13 ENGROSSED ORDINANCE](#)
 [26-287 POWERPOINT \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
 [26-287 P&C AMENDMENT I \(Introduction Pending\)](#)

There were no appearances for Item 6.

A motion was made by Supervisor Martin that this Resolution/Ordinance be **LAID OVER TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**. The motion **PREVAILED** by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Taylor (17), Martin, Coggs-Jones, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused: 1 - Eckblad

- 7 [26-282](#) From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on the Fund for the Arts Community Survey **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-282 REPORT](#)
 [26-282 SURVEY RESULTS](#)

APPEARANCE:

James "Jim" Tarantino, Deputy Director, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

The following people appeared virtually and spoke for information only regarding this Informational Report:

Chairwoman Katharina Hren, Chairwoman, Cultural, Artistic, and Musical Programming Advisory Council (CAMPAC)
LaShawndra Vernon, Council Member, CAMPAC

This Informational Report was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.**

- 8 [26-283](#) From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on entering into a potential easement with American Transmission Company (ATC) on County-owned land. **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-283 REPORT](#)
 [26-283 DRAFT EASEMENT](#)
 [26-283 PLANNED ACCESS ROUTE](#)
 [26-283 POWERPOINT](#)

APPEARANCES:

Robert "Rob" Senglaub, Contracts Manager, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC)
Supervisor Patti Logsdon, District 9
Guy Smith, Director, DPRC

This Informational Report was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.**

- 9 [26-286](#) From the Executive Director of Parks, providing an informational update on the activities of the Safety, Security and Training team from 2025. **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-286 REPORT](#)
 [26-286 POWERPOINT](#)

APPEARANCE:

Todd Pisarski, Safety, Security, and Training Manager, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

This Informational Report was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.**

DAS / DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) - 1

- 10 [26-328](#) An action report providing and update on the status of the McGovern Senior Center and requesting \$100,000 from Org. Unit 194-1945 -Appropriate for Contingencies fund planning, design, and cost estimating expenses by the Department of Administrative Services Facilities Management Division as they work with the Department of Health and Human Services for a long-term senior center solution on the Northwest Side of Milwaukee **(Referred to the Committees on Parks and Culture and Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning for INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY per Section 59.60(8), Wisconsin State Statutes; Referred to the Committee on Finance)**

Attachments: [26-328 REPORT](#)
[26-328 RESOLUTION](#)
[26-328 FISCAL NOTE](#)
[26-328 REMEDIAL ACTION TIMELINE](#)
[26-328 MOISTURE INVESTIGATION](#)
[26-328 POWERPOINT \(11/11/25 COMMUNITY PRESENTATION\)](#)
[26-328 POWERPOINT \(received 02/26/26\)](#)

APPEARANCES:

Kelsey A. Nyen, Committee Coordinator, Legislative Services, Office of the County Clerk

Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services (DAS)

Celia Benton, Director, Economic Development, DAS

Emily Kenney, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Transformation, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Denise Callaway, Commissioner, Commission on Aging, appeared and spoke in favor of this Action Report.

Daniel "Dan" Idzikowski, Director, Aging Services, DHHS, appeared but did not speaking regarding this Action Report.

This Action Report was referred to the Committee on Parks and Culture for **INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY**, per Section 59.60(8), Wisconsin State Statutes, and was **DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN**.

The Committee recessed from 12:21 p.m. to 12:35 p.m. Upon reconvening at 12:35 p.m., the roll was taken, and 5 members were present.

Roll Call at 12:35 p.m.

Present 5 - Taylor (17), Martin, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused 2 - Coggs-Jones and Eckblad

Supervisor Juan Miguel Martinez appeared virtually for today's meeting.

DAS / DPRC / DHHS - 1

- 11 [26-325](#) Informational Report on ongoing lease discussions with Easterseals Southeast Wisconsin for Wil-O-Way Grant and Underwood Facilities **(Considered by the Committees on Parks and Culture; and Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning) (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

Attachments: [26-325 REPORT](#)

APPEARANCE:

Rami Peltz, Leasing Manager, Economic Development, Department of Health and Human Services

This Informational Report was DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.

DPRC - 1

- 12 [26-285](#) From the Executive Director of Parks requesting authorization o retroactively submit and accept Bridge Infrastructure Grants from the DNR (**Referred to the Committees on Parks and Culture; and Finance**)

Attachments: [26-285 REPORT](#)
 [26-285 RESOLUTION](#)
 [26-285 FISCAL NOTE](#)
 [26-285 POWERPOINT](#)

APPEARANCE:

Robert "Rob" Senglaub, Contracts Manager, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

A motion was made by Supervisor O'Connor that this Action Report be **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**. The motion **PREVAILED** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Taylor (17), Martin, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused: 2 - Coggs-Jones and Eckblad

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
DAS - 1**

- 13 [26-316](#) From the Director, Architecture, Engineering & Environmental Services Section, Department of Administrative Services, requesting authorization to apply for, accept and administer 2027 Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection support grants, in the approximate amount of \$75,000, to partially offset the salaries, training, travel, and office expenses of the Land Conservation Department.
(Referred to the Committee on Parks and Culture; and Finance)

Attachments: [26-316 REPORT](#)
 [26-316 RESOLUTION](#)
 [26-316 FISCAL NOTE](#)

APPEARANCE:

Timothy "Tim" Detzer, Principal Environmental Engineer, Environmental Services Section, Facilities Management Division, Department of Administrative Services.

A motion was made by Supervisor O'Connor that this Action Report be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. The motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Taylor (17), Martin, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused: 2 - Coggs-Jones and Eckblad

OSBP - 1

- 14 [26-330](#) From the Interim Director, Department of Office of Strategy, Budget, & Performance, requesting authorization to apply for and accept three Act 12 Innovation Grant Applications and enter into associated service transfer agreements in March of 2026. **(Referred to the Committee on Parks and Culture; and Finance)**

Attachments: [26-330 REPORT](#)
[26-330 REVISED REPORT \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 RESOLUTION](#)
[26-330 REVISED RESOLUTION \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 FISCAL NOTE](#)
[26-330 REVISED FISCAL NOTE \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 POWERPOINT](#)
[26-330 REVISED POWERPOINT \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 TRANSFER AGREEMENT \(TA\) - MARCUS CENTER](#)
[26-330 REVISED TA - MARCUS CENTER \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 TA - CHARLES ALLIS & VILLA TERRACE \(CAVT\)](#)
[26-330 REVISED TA - CAVT \(received 02/26/26\)](#)
[26-330 TA - EASTERSEALS SOUTHEAST WI.](#)

APPEARANCE:

Nichole Todd, Senior Policy Manager, Project Management Office, Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance

A motion was made by Supervisor O'Connor that this Action Report be **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**. The motion **PREVAILED** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Taylor (17), Martin, Martinez, O'Connor and Wasserman

Excused: 2 - Coggs-Jones and Eckblad

E-COMMENTS - 1

- 15 [26-45](#) eComments submitted to the Committee on Parks and Culture via the County Legislative Information Center (CLIC).

*The Office of the County Clerk collects eComments submitted via CLIC, and appends these official public records to Reference File No. 26-45 at the conclusion of each meeting.

Attachments: [26-45 eComments \(03/03/26\)](#)

APPEARANCE:

Kelsey A. Nyen, Committee Coordinator, Legislative Services, Office of the County Clerk

The March 3, 2026, record of eComments is attached to this file as "26-45 eComments (03/03/26)."

The March 3, 2026, record of eComments was DISCUSSED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.

Length of Meeting: 9:08 a.m. to 12:56 p.m.

Adjourned,

**Kelsey A. Nyen
Committee Coordinator
Legislative Services, Office of the County Clerk
Committee on Parks and Culture**

Deadline for the next meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Committee on Parks and Culture will be determined after the Monday, April 20, 2026, Organizational Meeting of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

Approval Tracking System review must be completed in Legistar on or before WEDNESDAY, April 22, 2026, by 5:00 p.m., for the May meeting cycle.