

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 24, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: From the Executive Director of Milwaukee of County Parks, requesting authorization to execute an agreement between Milwaukee County Parks and the Milwaukee Parks Foundation, Inc., and the authority to accept restricted donations from the Foundation

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Milwaukee Parks Foundation, Inc., to outline roles and responsibilities of the two parties as required by Chapter 13 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances.

POLICY

Wis. Stat. § 59.52(19) - Donations, gifts and grants. The board may accept donations, gifts or grants for any public governmental purpose within the powers of the county.

Chapter 13 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances outlines the requirements for agreements with support groups of county departments including allowing support groups to seek funding to support the department.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	Wis. Stat. § 59.52(19)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	Chapter 13
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

The Milwaukee Parks Foundation, Inc., (the “Foundation”) is a non-profit corporation organized under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes with a tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and was formed and has functioned for the purpose of soliciting, holding, managing, investing and expending funds and other gifts, grants and bequests

exclusively for the benefit and support of the Milwaukee County Parks, maintained by the County, as well as educational, scientific, and cultural programming.

The Foundation is dedicated to a safe and vibrant parks system that benefits all. Founded by 13 members of the community in December 2019, the Foundation Board of Directors came together to create an outlet for everyone in Milwaukee County and beyond to support the Milwaukee County Parks system, with the belief that these are our parks, this is our community, and this is our future.

Through conversations with county residents and Parks leadership the Foundation developed three major focus areas for grantmaking and fundraising for 2022-2023 including park safety, youth enrichment, and supporting County capital projects.

Per Chapter 13 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, Milwaukee County Parks has negotiated an agreement with the Foundation for approval by the County Executive and the County Board of Supervisors.

Per Wisconsin State Statute the County Board may accept donations, gifts, and grants for any public purpose. If a donation has no restrictions the Department may accept it, but if the donation is restricted it requires full County Board approval. For efficiency, Parks Executive Director is requesting the ability to also accept restricted donations from the Foundation that align with the mission of the parks. The monies would still need to be approved and/or recognized through budget adoption, fund transfers, and/or as part of capital projects.

Related File No's:	
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity
Investing in the parks, especially with an emphasis on equity will advance health equity in the County.

2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions

Parks has implemented an equity index to inform and impact its decisions for projects and the Foundation will assist in funding these projects.

3A: Invest "upstream" to address root causes of health disparities

Investments in the parks helps address root causes of health disparities such as access to green space and physical environment.

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

Parks faces declining tax levy support. Support groups are essential to the fiscal health and sustainability of Milwaukee County Parks.

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

The Foundation's strategic plan overview is focused on awareness, access, belonging, and equitable amenities and programs.

FISCAL EFFECT

No fiscal effect.

TERMS

- The term of this Agreement is for the calendar year in which it is signed and remains in effect unless and until terminated upon six months written notice by either party
- Includes all requirements under Chapter 13 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances
- Outlines the relationship between the Foundation and the County
- Includes audit clause and insurance requirements
- Authorizes the Parks Executive Director to accept restricted donations that align with the mission of the Parks

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet

Rebecca Stoner, Foundation Executive Director, Rebecca.stoner@mkeparksfoundation.org

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Parks Contracts Manager

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director 

ATTACHMENTS:

Report

Resolution

Fiscal Note

Draft Agreement

CC:

David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Supervisor District 3, PEEC Chair
Steven Shea, Supervisor District 8, PEEC Vice Chair
Felicia Martin, Supervisor District 7, PEEC Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Supervisor District 12, PEEC Member
Steve Taylor, Supervisor District 17, PEEC Member
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Mgr, Office of the County Clerk
Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Joseph Lamers, Fiscal & Budget Director, DAS
Vince Masterson, Fiscal & Strategic Asset Coordinator, DAS
Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, Comptroller's Office
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Finance Analyst, Comptroller's Office
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB