



Patricia Jursik *Update*

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August 2011
E-NEWS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Health & Human Needs

Judiciary, Safety & General Services, Vice Chair

Parks, Energy & Environment

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Lake Parkway Extension Advisory Committee, Chair

Long Range Strategic Plan Steering Committee, Chair

Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Governing Board

Milwaukee Art Museum, Trustee

Milwaukee County Federated Library System, Trustee

Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis Corporation

Transit

Recently, I met with Mayors Bolender, Day, Richards and Zepecki along with leaders from Transit NOW, the Greater Milwaukee Committee and the South Suburban Chamber of Commerce regarding our concern about proposed reductions in transit service. I oppose elimination of Freeway Flyer service. This would be a big mistake, as the Flyers are one of the most popular services provided by the bus system.

Prior to this autumn's budget hearings, I will continue meeting with businesses participating in the Commuter Value Pass and South Shore residents to find ways to save the South Shore Flyer. Citizens should contact the Governor's office directly at (608) 266-1212 or govgeneral@wisconsin.gov to express their opinions about bus service. Governor Walker may be sympathetic to the needs of businesses for Flyer service and regular routes. The State may be able to help save our buses. You may also contact the County Executive (countyexec@milwcnty.com or (414) 278-4211). County Executive Abele is preparing the 2012 Recommended Budget.

I have received comments regarding the Downtown streetcar. This is a City of Milwaukee project. However, I am concerned because the City is looking to have Milwaukee County Transit Service become responsible for operation of the streetcar. This additional expense would exacerbate our transit crisis. The private operator of our buses, Milwaukee Transport Services, is already responsible for health care and pensions of active and retired transit employees. Expanding Milwaukee County's oversight to any streetcar employees could result in additional liability to the private operator and demand for County funding. For these reasons, the County Board took a position against the streetcar project. I will monitor this matter carefully.

Revisions to Vacation and Sick Leave

The County Board made changes to employee vacation and sick leave entitlements to prevent a repeat of a circumstance that occurred earlier this year that permitted a returning employee to be compensated for an unusually high payout despite only working one day in 2009 and for about a month in 2010. Now, any former employee rehired after a three-year break in service will have no sick leave time restored and must earn vacation days.

Waukesha Water Diversion

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is extensively reviewing the City of Waukesha's application for diversion of water from Lake Michigan. The City of Waukesha lists Milwaukee, Racine and Oak Creek as potential suppliers and names Underwood Creek, the Root River and Lake Michigan as possible discharge locations.

The DNR held public hearings on the proposal in late July. My office attended the

meetings in Wauwatosa and Sturtevant. Residents expressed concern about water being returned through Underwood Creek or the Root River and the impact on homes, infrastructure and ecology. They also wondered about the precedent this would set for future diversions and return of water and asked if recourse existed for downstream property owners and communities suffering flood damage.

Written comments may be submitted to DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov until August 13, 2011. After DNR review, more public hearings and finalization of an Environmental Impact Statement, the DNR may decide to forward the City of Waukesha's application to the Great Lakes Compact. It would then require approval by the Compact and subsequently the DNR to take effect. Please visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/WaukeshaDiversionApp.htm> for details.

Music at Grant Park

Enjoy a FREE concert on Friday, August 19, at Grant Park's Brown Pavilion ([Area 5A](#)). The quartet Christopher's Project will regale the audience with jazz and R&B music from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thanks to the Parks Department for sponsoring these concerts!



Bicycle & Pedestrian Access on Hoan Bridge

Here is a vision for the Hoan Bridge:

<http://bayviewcompass.com/archives/8138>

Restoring Grant Park's Seven Bridges

Bridge repair funding was secured in May with a capital fund transfer (providing the matching funds to satisfy the FEMA funding requirements).

The Parks Department hopes to complete repair of the small bridge in August. The larger bridge may undergo a formal bidding process with construction anticipated in September.



Redistricting

I support a reduction in the number of County supervisor positions for which there is wide community support. I voted against the Board plan of 18 positions which also targeted the North Shore supervisor. I voted for a plan to reduce to 15 positions, although this plan failed to gather sufficient votes. I created a compromise plan reducing positions to 17, but this plan failed to gather a majority of votes. District 8, our district, remains largely unchanged except that it adds more Oak Creek residents to our South Shore district.

Domestic Partnership Benefits

I received contacts of about 60% in favor of and 40% against granting health benefits to domestic partners of County employees. Many folks told me about sons, daughters, nephews, etc. and believe this is a civil rights issue. I understand that other constituents do not agree.

Under Wisconsin Act 28, domestic partners have been given a right to register as domestic partners. The State also provides health and other benefits for domestic partners. The County Board considered and approved a resolution on this matter on July 28. I voted in favor of the measure. The option will be available for County employees and their domestic partners in 2012.

I worked with the proposal's authors to prevent abuse in allowing benefits for a beneficiary without a legally declared commitment on the registry. The current registry authorized by the State of Wisconsin and maintained by the County Clerk involves a \$105 fee and other requirements which also include a means for dissolving a relationship through a similar fee and process. This amendment tightened the requirements.

I know many constituents were asking how this new benefit would be funded. This expense will have to be financed from the current funds available in the benefit pool and some existing benefits will need to be scaled back to provide these resources. The County Executive has promised a no tax increase budget and I support this promise. Therefore, the new benefit will be a shared cost throughout our County workforce from existing pools of benefit money.

Appointments

Lisa Jo Marks has served as an exemplary employee of Milwaukee County. She led the Department of Health and Human Services during an interim period of turmoil and most recently returned to her regular duties as Director of the Department of Child Support Enforcement. Ms. Marks advocated for resources to improve collection of child support payments, holding parents accountable and reducing dependence on taxpayers. All the while, Ms. Marks also offered thoughtful input as a member of the Long Range Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

While I have confidence that the County Executive's appointee, Jim Sullivan, will do good work in his new role as Director of the Child Support Enforcement Department, I fear that this appointment was political. We are losing Ms. Mark's irreplaceable experience while the Department struggles with cuts in State aid. For this reason, I voted against the appointment of Jim Sullivan as Director of Child Support Enforcement.

The other appointments that were approved at the last Board meeting included:

Corporation Counsel: Kimberly Walker

Economic Development Director: Brian Taffora

Family Care Director: Maria Ledger

Community Calendar

Tuesday, August 2 – Oak Creek National Night Out, 6-9pm

At Oak Creek Community Center parking lot, 8580 S. Howell Av, Oak Creek.

Thursday, August 4 – Cudahy National Night Out, 4-8pm

In the Cudahy Family Library parking lot, 3500 Library Dr, Cudahy.

Thursday, August 4 – Glenn Asch and Chris Hanson Swingtet featuring Rae Cassidy concert at South Milwaukee Downtown Market, 5:30-7pm

A string quartet inspired by Django Rheinhardt and Stephan Grapelli, gypsy music, jazz, Elvis and rockabilly. Sponsored by the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, South Milwaukee. www.SMDowntownMarket.org

Thursday, August 4 – Groovy Movie Nite debut at South Milwaukee Downtown Market, 8:15pm

Screening of *Megamind* following the 3pm Downtown Market (extended to 7:45pm), with games and music beginning at 7:30pm. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, downtown South Milwaukee. www.SMDowntownMarket.org (Please visit the last page of this newsletter for details)

Thursday, August 4 to Sunday, August 14 – Ride a flyer bus to the Wisconsin State Fair
Buses service the College and Southridge park and ride lots. For details, visit www.ridemcts.com/Routes-Schedules/Event-and-Seasonal-Services/Wisconsin-State-Fair/

Tuesday, August 9 – Friends of Mill Pond meeting, 6:30pm
At Grant Park Clubhouse (100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee). 571-1191
www.southmilwaukee.org/millpond/

Wednesday, August 10 – South Milwaukee Community Night Out, 5-9pm
Behind South Milwaukee City Hall and Police Department, located on 15th Av.

Wednesday, August 10 – St. Francis National Night Out, 6pm
At Milton Vretenar Park, 4230 S. Kirkwood Av, St. Francis. 481-2232

Thursday, August 11 – Grant Park “Park Watch” meeting, 6:30pm
At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-7262 www.fogp.org

Thursday, August 11 – Friends of Grant Park meeting, 7pm (following “Park Watch”)
At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-0612 www.fogp.org

Thursday, August 11 – Groovy Movie Nite at South Milwaukee Downtown Market, 8:15pm
Screening of *Gnomeo & Juliet* following the 3pm Market (extended to 7:45pm), with games and music beginning at 7:30pm. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, downtown South Milwaukee.
www.SMDowntownMarket.org (Please visit the last page of this newsletter for details)

Thursday, August 18 – Mil Town Treblemakers concert, 5:30-7pm
A variety of tunes, including oldies, pop and musical theatre, sung in a cappella. Sponsored by South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center. Outside and behind Franciscan Villa, 3601 S. Chicago Av, South Milwaukee. http://www.southmilwaukeepac.org/summer_series.html or [766-5049](http://www.southmilwaukeepac.org/summer_series.html)

Thursday, August 18 – Groovy Movie Nite at South Milwaukee Downtown Market, 8:15pm
Screening of *Kung Fu Panda* following the 3pm Market (extended to 7:45pm), with games and music beginning at 7:30pm. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, downtown South Milwaukee.
www.SMDowntownMarket.org (Please visit the last page of this newsletter for details)

Thursday-Sunday, August 18-21 – Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Zoo a la Carte
Flutter into the Zoo to boogie with the butterflies! Enjoy music and the chance to purchase a variety of cuisine from 28 area restaurants. www.milwaukeezoo.org 256-5466

Friday, August 19 – Grant Park concert: Christopher’s Project, 6:30-8:30pm
Enjoy jazz, urban, R&B and funk at Grant Park, Area #5 (Brown Pavilion).
Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks.



Saturday, August 20 – Monarch Migration Launch at County Grounds, 5pm start
Guided tour, picnic with nature, kites, music and butterfly release. Refreshments available for purchase include Dick’s famous sandwiches and “create-your-own” trail mix. Meet at the Kiosk, Parks Department Headquarters, 9280 W. Watertownplank Rd., Wauwatosa. Details will be posted to www.themonarchtrail.org/events.html closer to the event date.

Sunday, August 21 – Last day to swim at Milwaukee County outdoor pools, 12:30-4:30pm
(See pool information in “Ongoing Summer Activities” below)

Sunday, August 21, 2011 – TENTATIVE Doggie Dip at some outdoor pools, 5-6:30pm
Your dog swims for a fee before Parks drains the pools for the season! Admission presale is Saturday, August 20, 12:30-4:30pm, at some pools. Contact 257-PARK (7275) or visit <http://county.milwaukee.gov/DoggieDip11404.htm> closer to the date for details. In the event of very hot temperatures, the closing date may be extended and the Doggie Dip may be rescheduled. Sheridan Pool will not hold a Doggie Dip this year.

Tuesday, August 23 – Humboldt Park concert: Milwaukee Mandolin Orchestra featuring Robin Pluer, 6:30-8:30pm

At Humboldt Park, 3000 S. Howell Av. Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks and Bay View Neighborhood Association.



Wednesday, August 24 – Grant Park Watch/Friends of Grant Park Summer Sizzler Picnic, 5-7pm

Attendees are asked to donate \$5 and bring a side dish to share, while Park Watch and Friends of Grant will provide the main meal items. The Garlic Mustard Pickers will play at 6pm. At picnic area #7 (on the north side of Grant Park). Proceeds will benefit security enhancements at Grant Park.

Wednesday, August 31 – Cudahy Neighborhood Watch meeting, 6pm

At Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Dr., Cudahy. 414-324-5531

Ongoing Summer Activities:

Outdoor Pools

Sheridan Pool 4800 S. Lake Dr, Cudahy, 481-4731

Grobschmidt Pool 2600 16th Av, South Milwaukee, 762-4919

Open Daily, 12:30-4:30 p.m., weather permitting

Scheduled Closing Date: Sunday, August 21

*Evening Swim at Sheridan, Monday & Wednesday, 5:30-7:30pm
and at Grobschmidt, Tuesday & Thursday, 5:30-7:30pm*

Daily outdoor pool rate: \$1 (Age 3-11), \$2 (Age 12+)

FREE Wading Pools *Open 1-5pm daily, weather and attendance permitting*

Pulaski-Cudahy Wader 5400 S. Swift Av, Cudahy

Greene Park Wader 4235 S. Lipton Av, St. Francis



Visit **Grant Golf Course** at 100 E. Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee, 762-4646
Visit **Warnimont Golf Course** at 5400 S. Lake Dr, Cudahy, 481-1400

Check out Golf Specials including senior golf, foursome specials and other deals at www.milwaukeecountygolfcourses.com

Fish Fry at the Course – Fridays thru Labor Day, 4-8pm

Adults eat for \$9.25 while kids 12 and under eat for \$4.25, enjoying baked or fried cod, cole slaw, rye bread, french fries or parsley buttered potatoes, and a cookie. At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 E. Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee.

South Milwaukee Downtown Market, Thursdays, 3-7pm

Including local farmers, restaurants, and artisans. Enjoy music and picnic tables. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, downtown South Milwaukee. Visit www.SMDowntownMarket.org for details and a concert schedule.

South Milwaukee Groovy Movie Nites at the South Milwaukee Downtown Market
11th & Milwaukee Avenues, South Milwaukee

3-7:45pm: South Milwaukee Downtown Market

7:30pm: Games & music

8:15pm (dusk): Movies begin

August 4: Megamind

August 11: Gnomeo & Juliet

August 18: Kung Fu Panda

Family-friendly movies! All ages welcome! Bring lawn chairs or blanket. Popcorn and non-alcoholic beverages available for purchase to benefit South Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce. www.SMDowntownMarket.org