

Clerk File No. 311272

# The City of Seattle – Legislative Department

Clerk File sponsored by: SqBaphaw

Reappointment of Jourdan Keith as member, Seattle Board of Park Commissioners, for a term of confirmation to December 31, 2013.

## Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote
2/3/11	CONFIRM	3-0 SB, BH, TR

Related Legislation File: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Introduced and Referred: 1-18-11	To: (committee): Parks + Seattle Center
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: 2/7/11	Disposition: Confirmed

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. SqB

## Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote
2/7/11	Confirmed	9-0

1.11.11  
**Date Filed with City Clerk**  
[Signature]  
**By**

# CF No. 311272

TITLE: Reappointment of Jourdan Keith as member, Seattle Board of Park Commissioners, for a term of confirmation to December 31, 2013.

Date File with City Clerk: 20100325

# City of Seattle

## Notice of Appointment

<b>Name:</b>  <i>Jourdan Keith</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Council <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Constituency
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b>  <i>South Seattle</i>	<b>Zip Code:</b>  <i>98118</i>	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b>  <i>(206) 579-5848</i>
<b>Appointed to:</b>  <i>Seattle Board of Park Commissioners</i>		<b>Date of Appointment:</b>  <i>January 7, 2011</i>
<b>Authority (Ord., Res.):</b>  <i>96453</i>		<b>Term of Office:</b> <b>From:</b> <i>Confirmation</i> <b>To:</b> <i>December 31, 2013</i>
<b>Comments:</b>  <i>Reappointment</i>		
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  		<b>Name and Title of Officer Making Appointments:</b>  Mayor Mike McGinn

**Confirmed by the Following Vote at City Council**

<b>In Favor:</b> <i>9</i>	<b>Against:</b> <i>0</i>	<b>Date:</b> <i>Feb. 7, 2011</i>
<b>Attested by:</b> <i>Emilia M. Sanchez</i>		<b>Title:</b> <i>Council Clerk</i>





City of Seattle  
Office of the Mayor

FILED  
CITY OF SEATTLE

2011 JAN 11 AM 11: 56

CITY CLERK

**MEMORANDUM**

**Date** January 7, 2011

**To** The Honorable Richard Conlin  
President, Seattle City Council

**From** Mayor Michael McGinn *MM*

**Subject** **Mayoral Reappointment to Seattle Board of Park Commissioners**

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The Seattle Board of Park Commissioners is charged with acting in an advisory capacity to the Mayor, City Council, Department of Parks and Recreation, and other City Departments in respect to park and recreation matters. Originally created in 1887 by City Council Ordinance 874, the current structure of the Board was established in 1968 by Ordinance 96453. The Board is currently composed of seven members consisting of three mayoral appointees, three City Council appointees, and a seventh member appointed by the other six commissioners. This reappointment will end on December 31, 2013, and is eligible for renewal.

I am happy to forward to the City Council the following reappointment to the Seattle Board of Park Commissioners. The reappointment is to Position #5, a mayoral position.

Name	Term Ends	Position	Succeeding
Jourdan Keith	12-31-13	5	Reappointment

The appointment bio follows:

**Jourdan Keith**

Ms. Keith is a mayoral appointee to the Park Board, having joined in May 2009. She is the Founder and Director of Urban Wilderness Project and has a strong interest in and background of creating, planning, and organizing activities and wilderness trips for youth. She was previously the Environmental Restoration Project lead for the University of Washington's Restoration Ecology network which built trails for Seattle Parks Department, North Cascades National Park, and the United States Forest Service. Ms. Keith is a Washington Native Plant Steward, a naturalist, educator, environmental specialist, as well as a poet and published writer.

**Attachments**

**Copy:** Sandy Brooks, Staff Liaison, Seattle Parks Department  
Wayne Barnett, Executive Director, Ethics and Elections Commission  
Tania Maria Rosario, Boards and Commissions

## **Jourdan Keith, Founder and Director**

Recently voted Seattle Poet Populist, Jourdan has been featured in the Seattle Times [http://www.seattlepoetpopulist.org/docs/Jourdan\\_Keith\\_SeaTimes\\_feature\\_2007.06.pdf](http://www.seattlepoetpopulist.org/docs/Jourdan_Keith_SeaTimes_feature_2007.06.pdf), Seattle Magazine, Seattle Woman and ColorsNW.



Jourdan Keith is the Founder and Director of Urban Wilderness Project because she believes that connecting to the natural world is critical to restoring communities, reducing domestic violence, building relationships, and acknowledging and healing historical injustices.

### **Poet, Storyteller, and Teaching Artist**

Jourdan Keith is 2006-2007 Seattle Poet Populist and a 2006 Jack Straw Writer. A student of Sonia Sanchez, she is a poet, naturalist, educator, and storyteller. Her poetry and stories blend the textures of political, personal and natural landscapes to offer voices from the margins of American lives. She was awarded an individual artists grant from the City of Seattle Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs in 2004 for the writing and performance of her choreopoem, *The Uterine Files: Episode I, Voices Spitting Out Rainbows*. She is 2005-2007 Writer-in-Residence with Seattle Arts and Lectures. She was a 2001 Writer-in-Residence at the Cottages at Hedgebrook, and a teaching artist for Book-It Repertory Theater, Powerful Schools and the Nature Consortium. Her poems, essays and articles have appeared in magazines, and newspapers, as well as, on the radio, television and in video, including, when it rains from the ground up, the anthology, *Ma-Ka, Diasporic Juks*. (Sister Vision Press).

"Umbilical Topography", a collection of new works is forthcoming in 2007.

### **Outdoor Leadership**

Jourdan Keith is the founder and director of Urban Wilderness Project and a co-founder of Urban Wilderness Foundation. A 2001 NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) graduate, she is committed to increasing access to the outdoors youth and adults. She is certified as a Wilderness First Responder by WMA. She has led 7 backcountry wilderness trips for high school students and numerous day hikes for middle school and adult participants. A former Recreation Supervisor in Yellowstone National Park, she is comfortable creating safe, enjoyable outdoor experiences for all ages.

### **Naturalist and Environmental Educator**

Jourdan Keith served as the Lead Outdoor Environmental Educator for YMCA Camp Orkila on Orcas Island where developed curriculum, taught classes, created activities, and planned lessons, in map and compass, wilderness preparedness, sustainable living, forest, marine and fresh water ecology. It was here that she began to incorporate storytelling as a teaching tool.

She facilitated the climbing wall, low and high ropes courses for 3rd-8th graders and drug rehabilitation and at-risk urban youth.

She developed materials and curriculum for outdoor living skills and sustainable living programs and adapted the environmental science program to suit Home School students in K-6th grades.

Her work as an Environmental Specialist for the 7 Teepees Program in California gave her an opportunity to develop a program for Oakland youth traveling to the forest for the first time. Again, she incorporated storytelling and exploration as a way for reluctant campers to discover the natural world.

### **Restoration and Trailwork Experience**

Jourdan's passion for building and healing human communities and ecological communities go hand in hand. She has worked to restore the West Duwamish Greenbelt as a naturalist and lead through the University of Washington's Restoration Ecology Network, Urban Wilderness Project and the Nature Consortium. She brings her knowledge of ecosystems and certification as a Washington Native Plant Steward to the project planning and maintenance of restoration sites.

She combines her work skills training from both the US Forest Service and Student Conservation Association to assess usability and construction needs.

## Board of Parks Commissioners

*January 2011*

Seven Board members who serve a term of **three-years** (except for the Board-appointed position), staggered, with set beginning and ending dates

- Position 1 appointed by the Board for one term of **four-years**
- Positions 2, 4, and 6 appointed by City Council for a term of **three-year** terms (renewable)
- Positions 3, 5, and 7 appointed by Mayor for a term of **three-year** terms; confirmed by City Council (renewable)

The Chair and Vice-chair are appointed at beginning of each year by the Board. If a member vacates a position before a term expires, the replacement fulfills the unexpired term and, except for Position 1, may apply for subsequent terms.

D	G	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Position	Appointed By
(0)	?	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	-	4	City Council
(6)	M	Terry Holme	05/03	12/31/11	3 <sup>rd</sup>	6	City Council
(6)	M	John Barber	05/07	12/31/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2	City Council
(6)	F	Jackie Ramels	04/06	12/31/11	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7	Mayor
(6)	F	Diana Kincaid	05/09	12/31/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3	Mayor
(2)	F	Jourdan Keith	05/09	12/31/13	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	Mayor
(6)	F	Donna Kostka	01/08	12/31/11	only	1	Park Board

*(sorted by appt auth, term end date and name)*

### *Diversity*

	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	(1) Asian- American	(2) African- American	(3) Hispanic Latin@	(4) Native- American	(5) Middle East	(6) Caucasian
Mayor	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Council	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Parks Board	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>