

SUPERINTENDENT'S MAY 2015 REPORT EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR

April proved to be a busy month for our staff. It's the time of year when weather changes and people get out into the parks again. We've completed installing garbage cans, picnic tables, and benches into all of our parks. We have 13 soccer fields installed and have 3 more to do in a couple of weeks. The shelters and bathrooms have been thoroughly cleaned and are now open 7 days a week. We hosted many Earth Day Projects and had over 100 people help pick up trash, mulch beds, pull invasives, and help make our parks look great. High school softball started and MSCR's season will begin on May 1st. Breese Stevens has been open about a month now and has had more use this spring than it has had in previous years. Everybody who's played there thus far loves the new turf. We've been aerating and overseeding as many fields as we have time to work in. We have been and continue to work on the medians on Northport/Packers to improve aesthetics and the quality of turf. We have been grubbing stumps from ash removals that took place earlier this year.

We've already begun calling seasonal employees back to get ready for the busy mowing season that is approaching very quickly. We've started our weekend operations to make sure facilities are clean and ready for reservations. It's a busy time of year, but we've all been looking forward to it.

CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE– LISA LASCHINGER, SUPERVISOR

Central Parks:

April was a great month for us to get out in the parks. Crews began prepping routes for mowing and finished delivering tables and chairs. We cut back perennials and continued with leaf clean-up at Goodman pool and James Madison Park. We began gradually bringing on seasonal staff. Athletic field work was steady with the start of High School baseball and softball as well as MSCR practice permits, very few games were cancelled due to weather compared to the last couple of years. We are thankful for the volunteers that came out to help with our Earth Day Challenge, but unfortunately, cold and windy weather prevented fewer than usual from attending. Parks staff lead projects at Vilas and James Madison Parks, while volunteers lead numerous projects throughout the City.

We have started bringing on seasonal staff to help us with our work. We held our first round of spring orientation on April 29 for those who are with us now. By early June, we will be at full staffing levels. We will be conducting a second orientation for the students who will be joining us later. The training process continues as we begin our mowing operations, and familiarize all of our staff with our procedures. In addition, to the seasonal staff, we are excited to be welcoming two brand new Landscape Maintenance Workers to our team in Mid-May to assist with EAB response efforts and help beautify the parks.

As we head into May, the weather has been incredible and very inviting for park users. As always, May will be a very busy month with graduation parties and Memorial Day activities, and we plan to adjust weekend staffing levels accordingly. We will continue to preparing the pool for the upcoming season by weeding, mulching and pruning as needed. We will In addition, we will be starting up our recycling program in time for Memorial Day weekend. Mowing operations are now in full swing. Summer is upon us!

Mall Maintenance:

The April showers did not keep us from switching into complete regular maintenance mode. Crews have begun regular sidewalk cleaning duties and are excited to be using our brand new Tennant Green Machine sweeper. Sidewalk washing has begun on the Square and adjacent side streets, and seems to be going well. All planters have been changed over to the spring plantings of pansies and kale and are looking beautiful. The Library Mall contractors completed the landscape plantings and will complete the sod project in the first part of May. Our regular mowing routine is well under way. All of our planting beds have a fresh layer of mulch as well.

As we move into May, the crew continues to make turf repairs by aerating, overseeding and topdressing as necessary. We will be programming the irrigation system to aid our efforts as well. In addition, to the sidewalk and turf work that we've begun, we will be resuming a regular weeding routine of our entire area as well as watering program of the planters as needed. We will be re-installing the decorative lighting on the trees in Philosophers Grove and 30 on the Square by mid month to dress up the areas a bit. Special events continue to pick up as we head into the summer season, and we will adjust staffing as necessary to accommodate some of the larger events.

WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR

Forest Hill Cemetery:

Each spring as the weather warms, Forest Hill sees a rush of cremains burials. There's an additional fee to thaw the ground during the winter, so many people opt for cremation and schedule burial after the ground thaws. In April, there were six such burials, with an additional nine full-size burials and one mausoleum enurnment.

Cemetery staff have completed their annual spring cleanup. Wreaths and other grave decorations placed since last fall were removed and placed behind the mausoleum for pickup by family, if desired. Any decorations not claimed will be disposed of. We have also completed removal of leaves from last year, so we're ready to begin the mowing season.

Four pallets of sod have been purchased and will be laid as quickly as possible. The sod is for graves that were closed over the winter – during the summer we try to cut and re-lay sod from graves, but of course this is not possible in the winter when we need to heat the graves before digging. Staff prepared these sites ahead of time so that the sod-laying process would go as quickly and smoothly as possible.

We have also begun general mowing and trimming operations. As of this writing, cemetery staff has been able to keep up with the grass, but with some rain and warm weather, we'll surely need extra staff to prepare for Memorial Day, just as we do every year. Staff will be diverted from West Parks, and possibly other sections as well, to make sure that the cemetery looks its best for the holiday.

Summit Maintenance:

The General Parks section uses the time between our "ice season" and our "grass season" to deliver tables and trash barrels to parks. This has been completed, with the exception of some picnic tables that need extra sanding and painting.

Summit mowing crews have begun work as well. The first round of mowing concentrated on medians and playing fields, but as of the first full week in May we will be again be doing general parks mowing. As usual in the springtime, we are not yet fully staffed with seasonal help, so the mowing rotation is a little longer than we prefer.

Parks restrooms have been opened for the season, so we now have someone cleaning them each day, weekends included. The reservation season has also begun, so there is normal pre- and post-reservation cleaning as well. Our garbage truck also goes out most days – lots of people want to get out in the (finally) nice weather to enjoy our parks, and of course they usually have some trash to leave behind.

The Friends of Hoyt Park contracted with a landscape management company this spring to conduct two prescribed burns in the park. The Ready Prairie was burned, as was the small prairie area below the overlook. After a couple of false starts on the appointed day, the grass finally dried enough to catch fire and the burn was able to be completed. Volunteers told me that it had been at least a few years since a burn, and everyone hopes that this will make the management of the prairies easier and better.

Earth Day, on April 25th, was again a popular event. We had volunteers at Nakoma, Elver, Tillotson, Hoyt, Quarry, Haen Family, Marshall, Garner, and Westmorland Parks. These neighbors, service groups, and organizations helped out by picking up trash, pulling garlic mustard, mulching, and raking beaches. It's a great thing to have so much help all on one day, and, as always, we appreciate everything the volunteers did.

As the month of May goes on, we will see the addition of more seasonal staff and constant mowing. Let's Eat Out (formerly Meet & Eat) also begins, with a Westside location at Meadowood Park this year instead of the vacant lot on Raymond Road. We hope that this location will be safer, more pleasant, and will cut down on table and trash can delivery costs. It's a positive event that should bring lots of people to the park.

CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY

Dry weather conditions during the month created challenging conditions to conduct prescribed burns. There were several days of high fire danger (red flag conditions) that precluded burning. We did accomplish burns at Kettle Pond, and several units at the North / South Units of Cherokee Marsh. Three oak savanna restoration units at Edna Taylor were burned.

At Heritage and Evehjem Sanctuaries the crew sprayed invasive weeds before native plants emerged. Species targeted included garlic mustard, dame's rocket, squill, and lamium. These invasives are a serious threat to the diverse wildflower populations at Heritage Sanctuary which has our highest quality oak woodland flora.

Operation Fresh Start began their summer term working with us at Cherokee Marsh. They prepared 5-gallon buckets to be used as planters for aquatic plants, and began mulching around shrubs that were planted last spring.

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

Olbrich is in its busiest season for staff. While it's clear that the outdoor gardens staff and event staff are really busy, you may not realize that other staff sections are extremely busy during this time of year also:

- Membership renewals are larger during this season.
- Education is busy –although the number of classes goes down May – Aug, the catalog must be prepared, outdoor interpreters and Tram drivers must be trained, the Greater Madison Writing Project begins, and school field trips – not counting Explorer programs – increase at this time of year.
- Rentals increase during the late spring due to more outdoor weddings so the rental and maintenance staff are also much busier and the hourly part-time building attendants work more hours.
- The number of visitors also goes up May through September. Staff who normally work Monday through Friday pitch in and work 2 weekend days each during this time to help manage any anomalies and/or emergencies that occur and to support the weekend front line volunteers.

Visitor comment:

4/25/2015 "I went to a wild birds unlimited seminar on hummingbirds today. I want to come to the Plant Sale w/ the Pros to pot one or more pots of plants that will attract hummingbirds and will buy plants for a bigger pot. Would appreciate a call about availability of varieties." Elizabeth G. Note: Schumacher Library librarian spoke with her about the plant sale and how to get assistance to meet her goals to attract hummingbirds.

March 2015 Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2015	2014	Previous 5 yrs average
March 1 - 31	17,616	19,702	17,997
YTD March 31	42,254	43,901	
Total Member Households (individuals*) March 31	6,670 (10,004)	6,339 (10,146)	

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 3/31/2015	YTD 3/31/2014
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$12,254	\$14,702
Room Rentals YTD*	\$37,951	\$34,667
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$4,046	\$4,627
TOTAL YTD	\$54,251	\$54,006

**accrued at time of booking – up to 21 months before the rental date, ** accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental*

May 2015 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens call 608-246-4550 for more information

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit: Light Gaps, daily through July 12

Leaf Mulch Sale Ongoing: Loading Assistance on Fri & Sat during May from 10 am – 3 pm

Olbrich Gardens Book Club- Merry Hall by Beverly Nichols, Sun, May 3, 1:30 – 3 pm

Dahlia Tuber Sale, by the Badger State Dahlia Society, Sun, May 3, noon – 2 pm

National Public Gardens Day, all day Friday, May 8

Plant Sale With The Pros! May 8 & 9, Fri 11 am - 5 pm & Sat 9 am - 3 pm (Early shopping from 9 - 11 for Patrons, Benefactors, Angel and Circle members)

African Violet Sale – by the Sundowners & Crosstown African Violet Clubs, Sat, May 9, 9 am – 4 pm

Mother's Day Concert: New Horizons Concert Band, Sun, May 10, 2 – 3 pm

Badger Bonsai Annual Show – by the Badger Bonsai Society, Sat, 5/15: 9 am – 4:30 pm & Sun, 5/16: 10 am – 4 pm

Madison Poetry Annual, Sun, 5/17, noon – 4 pm

Education – May 2015 classes and programs 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit www.olbrich.org

Botany Explorer School Programs, 2 sessions daily, Tues, Wed, & Thurs, thru May 28

Wellness at the Gardens

Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, through May 18, 6 – 7 pm

Meditation and Movement in the Garden, 3rd Thursday, Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Floral Pastel Interpretations, Sat, 5/2, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Wild Food & Wild Medicine: Hands-on, Interactive, Fun! Sat, 5/2. 10 am – 4 pm

Contemplative Spring: Photography & Haiku Workshop, Sun, 5/10, 10 am – 4 pm

See, Shoot, Edit: A Fundamental Approach to Photography Workshop, Sat, 5/16, 9 am – 5 pm

Ornamental Container Gardens Workshop, Tues, 5/19, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: Down by the Pond Series (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

Sensational Snails, Fri, May 15, 10 – 11 am

Fantastic Frogs, Fri, May 22, 10 – 11 am

Marvelous Mud, Tues, May 29, 10 – 11 am or Fri, Apr 10, 10 – 11 am

Maintenance needed	7	4	5											16
Misc	0	0	0											0
Not open/ closed	2	3	0											5
Parking issue	9	9	6											24
Sport without reservation	0	1	1											2
Total reports	64	60	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	205

2014 Parks Ranger calls for service

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	5	3	3	8	24	18	22	26	19	3	0	0	131
Behavioral Ban	0	1	0	3	12	14	2	3	6	7	0	0	48
Check Area	32	21	25	41	105	55	61	87	59	29	20	18	553
Damage to property	2	2	0	12	12	14	9	10	4	0	2	1	68
Dog violation	6	4	24	100	62	38	30	18	27	17	5	6	337
Drugs	0	1	0	4	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	12
Graffiti	2	1	1	6	3	5	7	9	14	8	3	3	62
No permanent Address issue	7	5	2	19	28	15	23	12	5	3	2	5	126
Incident	2	5	4	3	9	2	5	6	6	0	0	0	42
Maintenance needed	0	0	0	26	31	23	23	20	11	9	26	2	171
Misc	1	1	0	2	2	37	5	9	9	8	0	4	78
Not open/ closed	8	6	5	17	27	26	27	22	22	7	1	1	169
Parking issue	12	2	6	26	54	24	34	26	22	6	0	10	222
Sport without reservation	0	0	8	18	1	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	32
Total reports	77	52	78	285	373	274	248	250	207	98	59	50	2051

2013 Park Ranger calls for service- for comparison

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	6	3	2	10	18	23	23	8	11	8	0	0	112
Behavioral Ban	0	1	0	2	7	26	17	6	16	6	1	0	82
Check Area	26	13	10	29	55	82	152	104	66	51	41	28	657
Damage to property	4	4	0	5	4	4	6	4	4	5	3	1	44
Dog violation	6	4	18	37	34	21	11	13	4	4	7	1	160
Drugs	0	0	2	1	3	1	7	4	4	1	0	0	23
Graffiti	1	0	3	6	13	7	7	6	4	5	0	0	52
No permanent Address issue	11	19	9	12	10	38	28	21	21	9	2	3	183
Incident	13	11	2	4	3	7	10	3	10	8	0	0	71
Misc	1	0	1	2	6	23	2	10	6	1	4	2	58
Not open/ closed	1	8	8	18	18	21	15	22	23	25	7	12	178
Parking issue	9	20	11	12	69	50	67	41	23	19	5	0	326
Sport without reservation	0	0	1	29	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	33
Total reports	78	83	67	167	241	303	345	243	192	143	70	47	1979

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – KAY RUTLEDGE

Central Park Skate Park

Drax Company has completed construction of the primary cast-in-place concrete walls for the skatepark. They are currently backfilling the walls and preparing the subgrade for the bowl formwork. Hardcore Skateparks, the skatepark specialty contractor, is on-site and fabricating the metal rails for the various skate features. Hardcore anticipates applying the shotcrete to the bowls later in May. Last August the Parks Division applied for a grant under a new Federal program called the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership which is funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. On April 21st it was announced the skatepark project was awarded \$295,308. The additional funds will allow Parks to include additional alternates in the contract and also address construction contingencies. The contract completion date is August 19th.

Highland Manor Park Storm Shelter

The building is 95% complete. The contractor will be back on site the first week of May to grade the site. The concrete work is scheduled for the second week of May with the parking lot asphalt work scheduled to start May 18th. The project is scheduled to be completed in late May.

Fisher Street Park Playground

This playground is being replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract. The playground equipment, retaining wall, border timbers and wood mulch surfacing have been installed. The remaining work includes the completion of the asphalt path and lawn restoration.

Bowman Field Lighting Phase Two

The new lighting system is fully operational at this time. Additional work will occur this fall after the softball season to complete the project.

Forest Hill Cemetery

Cemetery staff and consultants are working to come up with a long range plan that will address infrastructure needs at the cemetery. Improvements would include the irrigation system, addressing stormwater management issues by adding storm sewer where needed and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Staff will work with City Engineering to come up with designs, schedules and estimates for each project. The consultant has been working on the irrigation design during April. An RFP was issued and awarded to for survey services; the contract was awarded to Ramaker and Associates for \$7500.

Brittingham Park at Proudfit

Speedway Sand and Gravel has started construction of the paving and seating area improvements. The Office of the Commissioner of Railroads provided a favorable review of the requested pedestrian crossing on January 27th. Confirmation of this ruling is expected in early May with the railroad work to follow afterward. The contract completion date for this project is July 31st.

Central Park

The Central Park Phase 1B work is scheduled for construction in 2015. Phase 1B includes a new park entry plaza and pedestrian railroad crossing near the E. Wilson Street intersection with Few Street. The crossing is currently open and operational; temporary asphalt has been installed until the full project can be implemented. Construction will be coordinated with the skate park project.

2014 Athletic Field Improvements

The consultant has finalized the plans for the water line improvements at Elver Park and has delivered them to Parks Operations staff. Construction of the water line system will be completed by Park Operations staff this year.

Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit

Staff are putting together the design and working with Planning and Zoning regarding parking lot requirements for this project to construct an entry and parking area for the park off of N. Sherman Ave.

Highland Manor Park Improvements

Plans and specifications were developed for the new playground, basketball court and path improvements and the contract was bid. Madison Commercial Landscapes was the low bidder at \$77,865.76. The contract award is going through the approval process and construction is scheduled to begin in May.

Yahara Hills Clubhouse Improvements

Park staff is working with City Facilities Management on a series of clubhouse improvement projects for Yahara Hills. Roof construction is complete. Window replacement is next on the schedule, followed by HVAC work. Window replacement bids have been received and the low bid was awarded to Joe Daniels Construction at \$162,776; the contract is now routing. HVAC improvement bids have been received and the low bid was awarded to Joe Daniels Construction for \$327,970. This work is anticipated to start on the lower level of the building November 2nd. The attic space above the office and restrooms will need to be insulated to facilitate the HVAC work and will be done on a separate contract estimated at \$7,500. Additional asbestos was found in the ceiling spray texture for the office, restroom and stairway and will be abated under a separate contract. This is estimated at \$12,000. Most of this work is planned to start after the golf season on November 16th, possibly sooner if the season ends earlier, with construction planned to be completed by January 29, 2016.

Lake Edge Park Shelter

Staff is working with Facilities Management on the design/construction of the new Lake Edge Park Shelter. The project is out for bid presently with a bid due date of May 13, 2015. Construction is to start mid-July, 2015, with completion tentatively scheduled for the end of November.

Quann Park Tennis Court Reconstruction Phase 2

Six of the 12 tennis courts at Quann Park were re-built in 2011. The remaining 6 are being re-built in 2015. The asphalt will be pulverized and new asphalt will be put on top of the old surface. The fencing will be repaired and the area around the courts topsoiled, seeded and matted. Low bid was Tri County Paving at \$178,792.70. The construction timetable is June 1 through August 14th.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Work continues on building improvements at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. This phase consists of the replacement of the boilers. The contract was awarded to Bachmann Construction for \$412,000. Work is scheduled to start around May 11th, with the boilers to be taken out of service on May 29th. Construction work should be completed on or before September 1st. These projects are managed by City Facilities Management, in partnership with Parks staff.

Garver Feed Mill

The Baum proposal was selected by the committee and Council approved the selection on April 21st. Staff have held several meetings and continues to work with Baum to keep the project moving forward. A replacement property to transfer the DNR restrictions to has been identified and approval for the purchase will be introduced at Council and reviewed by the Park Commission at their May meeting.

Wingra Creek Parkway

The contractor has completed dredging and the shoreline work; pulverizing and repaving of the asphalt bike path and touch up landscaping on both sides of the path remain. The contractor is waiting for the asphalt plants to open – typically mid-May. This project is managed by City Engineering, in partnership with Parks staff.

Tenney Park Shoreline

Staff presented plans for approval at the Park Commission on March 11th and the Landmarks Commission on March 16th. Staff presented plans and specifications for approval to bid at the Board of Public Works on April 8th. Staff provided an update at the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association Meeting on April 9th, and met with members of the Friends of the Yahara River Parkway on April 29th. The contract is anticipated to be advertised to bid on May 8th. Permitting is underway and work is anticipated to start on July 6, 2015. This project is managed by City Engineering, in partnership with Parks staff.

Dog Park Improvements

Improvements include fencing and paving at Demetral and Warner Parks and paving at Sycamore Park. Bids for paving improvements at Demetral, Sycamore and Warner Park were opened on March 27th and awarded to Badgerland Excavating for the low bid amount of \$59,324.25. Quotations for fencing improvements at Demetral and Warner Park were opened on April 2nd and awarded to American Fence Company for the low bid amount of \$16,965.24. Construction is anticipated to begin in May and be completed by July 1, 2015.

Nakoma Park Improvements

City Facilities Management is working with InSite Architects to develop restoration options for the historic stairs at Nakoma Park. The City Engineering Division also intends to make stream channel improvements in the park this summer. City Facilities Management, City Engineering and the Parks Division held a neighborhood meeting on March 10th to discuss the proposed improvements to the park. The work on the stairs is currently out for bid with bids due on May 8th. Work is anticipated to start on June 22nd with the stairs back in service in time for the school year.

Flad Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Flad Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. This contract includes the replacement of playgrounds at Flad Park, High Point Park, Stevens Street Park and Waltham Park. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th with Madison Commercial Landscapes being the low bidder at \$213,664.37. Work started in late April at Flad Park and should be completed in May. The entire contract is scheduled to be completed by August 7th.

Stevens Street Park Improvements

Replacement of the playgrounds at Stevens Street Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. See Flad Park Playground above for more information.

High Point Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at High Point Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. See Flad Park Playground above for more information.

Waltham Park Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Waltham Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. See Flad Park Playground above for more information. Other improvements to the park include resurfacing the existing path system and re-building the basketball court. The re-construction of the path and basketball court is anticipated to start on May 11th as part of the 2015 Park Paving Contract.

Sunridge Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Sunridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. This contract includes the replacement of playgrounds at Sunridge Park, Demetral Park, Junction Ridge Park, Bernie's Beach Park, Arbor Hills Park, Tenney Beach Park and Badger Park. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th and awarded to Dresen Decks and Patios for the low bid amount of \$221,065.78. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December.

Demetral Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Demetral Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information. Staff is also coordinating improvements to a portion of the existing playground equipment which will remain on site.

Junction Ridge Park Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Junction Ridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information.

Arbor Hills Park Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Arbor Hills Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information.

Tenney Park Beach Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Tenney Park Beach is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information.

Badger Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Badger Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information.

Bernie's Beach Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Bernie's Beach is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. See Sunridge Park Playground above for more information.

Brittingham Park Playgrounds

Staff held a third meeting with the neighborhood on April 20th to review a revised concept for the fully accessible playground at the main area of the park. The attendees were pleased that the revised concept addressed many of the concerns expressed at previous meetings and staff will move forward with design development of the accessible playground in this location. The neighborhood was also supportive of removing the existing playground near the community gardens and replacing it with earthen mounds and boulders. The revised concept will require significant changes to the current parking lot of off West Washington Avenue so design development is underway (this will be a capital budget request for 2016). Construction of the playground replacement at Brittingham Park Beach and the new earthen mounds and boulders is scheduled for fall of 2015/spring 2016 as part of a separate contract.

Owl Creek Park Improvements

Parks staff wrapped up a robust public participation process for the master plan with a final meeting held at the park on April 15th where attendees were able to vote for the preferred master plan layout. This plan will be taken to the Parks Commission for approval on May 13th. The plans and specifications for the construction of the new recreational amenities will be sent for approval to the Board of Public Works on May 20th, with contract bid advertisement anticipated to begin June 19th.

Breese Stevens Field

Phase 2 of the synthetic turf improvements will include the installation of a 10 ft. asphalt maintenance road around the new synthetic turf field. As a part of this contract a concrete pad will also be installed under the press box. This work will be included as a part of our annual paving contract (Park Paving 2015) which is expected to start May 26th. An RFQ (Request for Quotes) was sent out at the end of January for the repair of some of the historic terra cotta roof tiles at Breese Stevens Field that have developed cracks. We received 3 bids with the low bid being B&B Restoration at \$22,770.00. These tiles will be repaired in late May 2015. Purchase orders were also completed for the acquisition of a new scoreboard that will work for multiple sports and new soccer goals.

2015 Tennis and Basketball Court Resurfacing

The 2015 Tennis and Basketball Resurfacing contract has been awarded to Farhner Asphalt Sealers, LLC with the low bid of \$88,868.82. This contract includes resurfacing tennis courts at Elvehjem, Olbrich, Rennebohm, Waunona, and Westhaven Trails Parks and resurfacing basketball courts at Warner, Westhaven Trails and Woodland Hills Parks. This contract also includes installing pickleball court lines at Northland Manor Park and Tenney Park. Construction is anticipated to start early May and be complete by June 11th.

2015 Spring Parks Division & Water Utility Landscaping

Greener Valley Landscaping submitted the lowest bid (at \$34,465.00) of the three bids received for the installation and maintenance of plants and shrubs at 8 park properties including Acewood, Droster, Hudson, Linden Grove, Kenneth Neville, Tenney Park Beach, Westmorland and the Yahara River Parkway and two City of Madison Water Utility well sites. Work is anticipated to begin the week of May 18th and be completed by July 1st. Maintenance of the plantings will continue through December 1, 2016.

2015 Parks Division Tree Planting

Dan Larsen Landscaping submitted the lowest bid (at \$36,207.00) to install trees at 13 park properties including BB Clark Beach, Blackhawk, Burr Jones, Burrows, Central, Hudson, Junction Ridge, Olbrich, Richmond Hill, Sherwood Forest, Sycamore, Warner and Wingra Parks in fall 2015 under this contract. Maintenance of the trees will continue through December 1, 2016.

2015 Managed Meadows

Eco-Resource Consulting submitted the lowest bid of the three received at \$14,393.55, for the installation and maintenance work at the new rain garden areas at Tenney Park Beach parking lot and Walnut Grove Dog Park. Work will begin on May 1st and installation will be completed by June 1st. Maintenance work will continue through December 1, 2016.

Allied Drive Improvements

Staff are working with the Allied Drive NRT (Neighborhood Resource Team) on the siting of park improvements in the neighborhood as approved in the 2015 Capital Budget. At their March meeting the CDA board approved the creation of a park on two of their lots in the Allied Drive neighborhood. Design development is underway.

Demetral Park Path Improvements

Staff is working with City Engineering on park and bike path improvements in the Demetral Park/Packers Avenue area. Staff met with the Alder regarding the project and a public input meeting will be held soon.

Forest Hill Cemetery Buildings

Work continues on building improvements at Forest Hill Cemetery. The projects listed below are managed by City Facilities Management, in partnership with Parks staff. John Catlin Chapel Roof Replacement - Bids were opened April 24th and the contract will be awarded to Millen Roofing for \$95,457. The contract will be completed by November 20th. Cemetery Office Re-pointing – This work was awarded to A&M Masonry at a cost of \$8,800. Work is anticipated to start in the next few weeks. Forest Hill Mausoleum Restoration – Isthmus was selected and has begun field observations to begin the design for this project.

Other Projects

- Parks staffed the Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee; recommendations from the Committee were introduced to Council on March 3rd and referred to the Park Commission among other Committees. Final adoption of the Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee recommendations goes to Council for approval on May 5th.
- Worked with the Lucia Crest neighborhood on the installation of fruit and nut trees on the west end of Lucia Crest Park as part of a City Planning grant. The trees arrived the week of April 13-17 and were planted during a neighborhood-sponsored work day on April 18th.
- Coordinated the installation by Park Operations staff of equipment for the concessions room at the Reindahl Splash Park and wi-fi is being installed by the City IT's contractor.
- Working with Water Utility staff and the local bike polo club on the design and purchase of a pre-fabricated set of dasher boards that will convert one of the tennis courts on the roof of Reynolds Field Water Utility Well into a bike polo rink. The RFQ (request for quotes) came in on April 3rd, with the low bid being Sports Resource Group out of the Twin Cities. Final cost was \$13,850.00. Anticipated delivery is sometime late May.
- Working with a consultant at Tenney Park Shelter to come up with solutions to acoustic concerns inside the shelter. The consultant's options are being reviewed by City Facilities Management.

