

SUPERINTENDENT'S APRIL 2015 REPORT- WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT, ERIC KNEPP

Madison Parks staff have begun reaching out to Alders and Commissioners to determine if there is an interest in pursuing a pilot program related to dogs on leash. This program is designed to provide an opportunity to try a new model in select parks with specific conditions. The program will not be implemented without additional consultation of the Parks Commission. The pilot program is not intended to be a replacement for the important work being completed by the Long Range Planning Subcommittee. Their task is for a long term update and review of dog policies and placement of off leash facilities. I hope that this pilot program will inform their important work as we collect data during the pilot year.

EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR

March's weather was pretty typical this year. We had some nice warm days along with some cold and wet ones. Ground conditions went from frozen to wet and soggy almost overnight. Our rinks are closed, the hockey boards are down, and "most" of our equipment is being converted into summer use. We did have one snow fall in March that required removal efforts.

As usual, we have a lot of things to work on and a small amount of time to get them done before the grass season begins. We began stump grubbing in March, however we were not able to get too far because of ground conditions. We need to aerate and overseed some fields and parks as things start to dry out. We have begun moving soccer goals around, have started finding corners of fields, and have had multiple groups use Breese as a practice facility. We are interviewing and hiring seasonal staff. Finally, we are working on repairing and painting tables, barrels, benches, and cans. We are looking forward to an exciting spring season.

WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR

Forest Hill Cemetery:

March burials at Forest Hill numbered 9, with an additional three cremation burials and one mausoleum entombment.

The early snow melt in March, coupled with the dry weather, enabled staff to blow a tremendous amount of leaves out of sections we were not able to get to last autumn. As the tractor we borrow to pull our baler was at a different site, the Streets Division agreed to bring their yard waste collection equipment to the cemetery on an afternoon, and they were able to collect all the leaves and haul them away. This puts us in a much better position for spring cleanup.

The Forest Hill backhoe has been out of service for a few weeks this spring, and this has been an excellent opportunity for the Construction section to show us what their mini-excavator can do. Construction staff opened and closed 4 graves for us, and we were all able to compare and contrast the features of the backhoe versus the excavator. We've come to the conclusion that each has distinct benefits and drawbacks. We may try to test out a slightly larger version of the excavator, but as of now we're not convinced that it would be beneficial to switch equipment.

Cemetery staff has also been wrapping up the oak pruning for the winter season, picking litter on Midvale Boulevard, trimming any trees on the boulevard that needed attention, and doing the annual spring cleanup of Forest Hill.

Summit Maintenance:

As soon as the ice rinks shut down in mid-March, crews disassembled the hockey boards at Elver, Westmorland, and Rennebohm parks. The boards were then brought into the shelters to dry, and finally stacked for summer storage at the Summit Maintenance Facility.

Crews have also been very busy picking litter in parks and on boulevards. Requests have been coming in for cleanup of specific parks and boulevards almost faster than we can keep up with them. Though this is a time-consuming job, the results are surely very apparent and gratifying.

Walnut Grove Dog Park was opened last fall with fairly sparse grass – we never got much rain after the park was seeded and the grass didn't fill in as we had hoped. We've closed it for a time this spring for aeration, overseeding, and fertilization. It is difficult to disperse the foot traffic in a small park like this and I'm afraid it will always be somewhat of a challenge to keep grass growing, but closing the park during the muddiest weather and for reseeding is a tremendous help. We recognize the inconvenience to dog owners, but we hope that the results will be worth it. As the weather continues to warm, we will be returning picnic tables and trash barrels to the parks and resuming more frequent trash runs. We'll also be working on our athletic fields in preparation for the spring games.

General Parks has also been lending staff to Forest Hill for help collecting their leaves and for the spring cleanup in general. We expect that to continue through April.

CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY

Warming weather conditions in March quickly closed a short cross-country ski season. Crew started the changeover to spring operations putting away ski equipment and signage, and preparing equipment for prescribed fires.

A contractor thinned trees at Cherokee Marsh North Unit on the southeast drumlin as part of the ongoing large scale oak savanna restoration. The 3.2 acre site was an old farmstead pasture area dominated by silver maple and green ash. This northwest slope will be seeded to prairie grasses this spring. A number of trees were cut high (15-20 ft) to create future nest cavities for red-headed woodpeckers and other cavity nesting birds and wildlife.

The conservation staff completed cutting and removing trees along former drainage ditches at North Cherokee. The ditches were plugged in 2014 in cooperation with the USFWS to restore the hydrology in an area that was used as a sod farm by the previous land owner. Staff also assisted the Wisconsin DNR Natural Areas staff prepare and implement a large prescribed burn in the Cherokee Marsh State Natural Area north of the airport.

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

Botany Explorer School Programs begin April 21 and run through May 28. As of March 30, every available session but one is full with 35 elementary school classrooms participating. Botany Explorer introduces students to the basic structure of plants and the role and function of seeds, stems, leaves, and flowers.

The Bolz Conservatory had its annual two-week maintenance shutdown in March – reopening March 22. The pruning allows for light to reach the ‘forest floor’ and rejuvenates both the ground layer and the canopy of the environment. It’s a busy time of year for Conservatory staff because March and April are also peak season for propagation of cuttings and seeds to support the outdoor gardens. In addition, volunteer plant sale potters spent 4 days potting up perennials for the plant sale.

Volunteer outdoor gardening crews will begin tackling spring cleanup – under the supervision of Olbrich’s horticulturists – by mid April. Just a few openings remain out of 110 volunteer gardener slots. In addition, volunteer recruitment for spring and summer events is well underway.

Spring is showing some color in the outdoor gardens. The spring-blooming witchhazels ‘Arnold Promise’ and ‘Christmas Cheer’ are in flower as is *Iris reticulata* and various snowdrops, *Galanthus sp.* The spring bulb display will be spectacular and prolonged particularly in the Serenity Garden and the Meadow Garden.

Visitor comment:

3/13/2015 “Best Ever! Love it – so beautiful and sweet! This is my favorite one so far!!!.” 2015 Spring Flower Show visitor

February 2015 Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2015	2014	Previous 5 yrs average
February 1 - 28	13,636	13,868	11,680
YTD February 28	24,638	24,199	
Total Member Households (individuals*) February 28	6,613 (10,648)	6,286 (10,060)	

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 2/28/2015	YTD 2/28/2014
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$9,562	\$11,093
Room Rentals YTD*	\$15,531	\$12,856
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$3,317	\$3,592
TOTAL YTD	\$27,410	\$27,541

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

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

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit: Light Gaps, daily Mar 21 – July 12

Leaf Mulch Sale Begins: the sale has been reformatted so that there is not a full-service sale for members - there are specific days when loading assistance is available for everyone

Pansy Sale – Saturday, April 4, 10 am – 4 pm or while supplies last

Wisconsin Gourd Festival, Saturday, April 11, 9 am – 5 pm by the Wisconsin Gourd Society

Education – April 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, April 21 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, Mar 30 – May 18, 6 – 7 pm

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

Garden Walks

Spring Into Gardening Walk – Get Ready for the Season, Thu, Apr 2, 5:30 – 7 pm FULL!

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Make Your Own Handmade Paper Lampshade, Wed, Apr 1, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Native Plants for Any Garden, Tues, Apr 7, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Indoor Vegetable Gardening, Thu, Apr 9, 6:30 – 8 pm

Beginner Book Making: Sticky Notebooks with Thai Paper Covers, Tue, Apr 14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Caring for Mature Trees, Tue, Apr 21, 6:30 – 8 pm

Incorporating Fragrance in the Garden, Wed, Apr 22, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Controlling Weeds and Invasive Plants, Thu, Apr 23, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Tree Planting Workshop, Fri, Apr 24, 6 – 7:30 pm

Wet-felted Laminate (Nuno) Scarf Workshop, Sat, Apr 25, 10 am – 2:30 pm FULL!

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: Stories by Dianna Pulley Aston (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

A Rock is Lively, Fri, Apr 17, 10 – 11 am

An Egg is Quiet, Fri, Apr 24, 10 – 11 am

A Seed is Sleepy, Tues, Apr 7, 10 – 11 am or Fri, Apr 10, 10 – 11 am

Morning in the Rainforest, grades 1 - 5 with adult, Wed, Apr 1, 8:30 – 9:30 am

FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	526	402.5
Pruned by Request	413	594
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	1897	499
Tree Removal	38	91.5
Ash Preemptive Removals	140	452
Storm Work/Hangers		22.5
Snow Plowing		42
Snow Removal		122.5
Unfilled vacancy		200

We had a new arborist that joined the west unit on March 16. We have preemptively removed 140 ash street trees this month. Both the west and east units have been able to devote some time to cycle tree maintenance pruning and request pruning which includes pruning trees for upcoming engineering projects. Some small tree cycle pruning was accomplished as well.

Forestry specialists have been reviewing ash street trees for preemptive removals focusing on trees that are smaller than 10 inches and growing under overhead power lines. The City’s Sidewalk Program will be replacing sidewalks in Alder Districts 10 and 20. The forestry specialists will be reviewing 2,000 locations where street trees and sidewalk are in conflict in advance of the project beginning in order to provide direction to the Contractor who is responsible for repairing the sidewalk. Finally, forestry specialists have been attending pre-construction meetings for upcoming engineering projects.

RANGER REPORT – JOSH SCHMITT

During the Month of February activity in the Parks is focused on winter facilities. Snow levels greatly reduced the number of cross country skiers and also cross country ski permit patrols by Park Ranger staff. Thus Park Rangers were able to focus attention on ice rinks and park patrols. We were also able to sharpen ice skates more frequently than in previous years. For the month of March we are looking forward to the spring season and beginning summer hiring. After a winter like this, we can’t wait for the nice weather.

2015 Parks Ranger calls for service													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	0	1											1
Behavioral Ban	0	0											0
Check Area	29	26											55
Damage to property	3	0											3
Dog violation	6	7											13
Drugs	0	1											1
Graffiti	4	2											6
No permanent Address issue	4	3											7
Incident	0	3											3
Maintenance needed	7	4											11
Misc	0												0
Not open/ closed	2	3											5
Parking issue	9	9											18
Sport without reservation	0	1											1
Total reports	64	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	124

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

The project's preconstruction meeting was held with Drax Co. and their subcontractors on February 19th. Construction began on March 15th, with substantial completion scheduled for mid-August. The contractor installed the construction fencing and erosion control measures the week of March 9th. They began striping the topsoil cap and excavating for the wall footings the following week. Wet weather during mid- month slowed progress, but the contractor anticipates pouring the retaining walls the first or second week in April. The skatepark specialty contractor, Hardcore Inc., is anticipated to be on-site in early May to begin forming the various concrete skate features.

Highland Manor Park

The building is 95% complete. The contractor has left the site and will be coming back as soon as it dries up enough so they can do site work (parking lot, grading and landscaping). 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. Work began at Fisher Street Park on March 10th and is anticipated to be finished by the end of April.

Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park Playground

Construction of this playground has begun, along with Fisher Street Park. These are the final two to complete from the 2014 - Group 2 contract; the contract is anticipated to be complete by July 2015.

Bowman Field Lighting Phase Two

Joe Daniels Construction will receive and install the new athletic field lights and poles the first week of April. They confirmed the system will be fully operational by mid-April, prior to the start of evening practices at Bowman Field. The project was delayed because of the new specially made poles that required the use of the existing footings.

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 Engineering in 2015 to come up with designs, schedules and estimates for each project. We are also attempting to put together a landscaping policy for the cemetery. In March, we met with the irrigation consultant to get them started on the irrigation design.

Brittingham Park at Proudfit

Speedway Sand and Gravel was the low bid at \$47,579. A hearing for the proposed pedestrian crossing of the existing railroad crossing was held at the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads on January 27. The draft ruling was received quickly and was favorable, with very few specific conditions. The final ruling will be issued after the notice and comment period. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled for April 21st and the contractor anticipates starting construction at the beginning of May. Substantial completion for the 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 is now finalizing the plan for the water line improvements at Elver Park. Construction of the water line system will be completed by Park Operations staff.

Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit

Design is underway for the parking lot off N. Sherman – staff is working with zoning to determine whether a variance may be granted for construction of a gravel lot (as opposed to the standard requirement under the new zoning regulations for asphalt for new parking areas within the City of Madison). Additional funds will be needed if an asphalt lot is required.

Highland Manor Park Improvements

Plans and specifications were developed during December and January for the new playground, basketball court and path improvements. The contract was bid and 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. Projects include roof, window and HVAC improvements. 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 Daniels Construction at \$162,776. The contract is now routing. The HVAC improvements are out for bid with an open date of April 24th. 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. All 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. Destree Architects is presently working on construction drawings. Staff is working on the site plan. 100% plan set is under review. Construction is to start as soon as possible in spring 2015, with completion tentatively scheduled around Labor Day.

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. The contract is out for bid right now, with bids due on March 27th. The estimated cost is \$215,000. The construction timetable is June 1 through August 14, 2015.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Work continues on building improvements at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. This phase consists of the replacement of the boilers. Plans and specs are done and were out for bid Friday March 6th with a bid receive date of March 27th. 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 by September 1st. These projects are managed by City Facilities Management, in partnership with Parks staff.

Garver Mill

The Baum proposal was selected by the committee. The resolution regarding the selection will be reviewed by the Board of Park Commissioners at their April meeting.

Wingra Creek Parkway

Staff is working with City Engineering on the Phase 3 Wingra Creek Parkway improvements. The stretch of creek that will be improved is from the railroad bridge, just south and west of Goodman Maintenance Facility, to Olin Avenue (approximately 2,000 linear feet of creek). The contractor has completed dredging and is about 75% complete, with fine grading, seeding and matting left to do. The snow has halted production the last week or so of March, but the contractor will be back on site as soon as possible to finish. This project is managed by City Engineering, in partnership with Parks staff.

Tenney Park Shoreline

Staff is working with City Engineering on shoreline improvements to address erosion along the Tenney Park lagoon. A public input meeting was held on January 13th. Staff presented plans for approval at the Park Commission on March 11th and the Landmarks Commission on March 16th. Staff will present plans and specifications for approval at the Board of Public Works on April 8th. Staff will also provide an update at the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association Meeting on April 9th. 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. Quotations for fencing improvements at Demetral and Warner Park will be opened on Thursday, April 2nd. 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. Design development for both projects is in progress, with construction anticipated to occur this fall.

Stevens Street Park Improvements

Replacement of the playgrounds at Stevens Street Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th, with Madison Commercial Landscapes being the low bidder at \$213,664.37. Work is anticipated to start in mid-March, with contract completion around August 7th. Other improvements to the park include a new seating area and access path to the playgrounds.

Flad Park Playground

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

Waltham Park Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Waltham Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. See Stevens Street Park Improvements for playground results. 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 occur in the summer of 2015 as part of the 2015 Park Paving Contract.

Sunridge Park Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Sunridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract will be opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December.

Junction Ridge Park Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Junction Ridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December.

Demetral Park Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Demetral Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th, Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December. Staff is also coordinating improvements to a portion of the existing playground equipment which will remain on site.

Arbor Hills Park Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Arbor Hills Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December

Tenney Park Beach Playground Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Tenney Park Beach is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December

Badger Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Badger Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December

Bernie's Beach Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Bernie's Beach Park Playground is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on March 27th. Work is anticipated to start in early June, with contract completion in December

Brittingham Park Playground

Staff will hold a third meeting with the neighborhood on April 20th to discuss options for the main playground area at the park. Construction of a phase of this project, as well as the Brittingham Beach playground, will potentially occur in fall of 2015/spring 2016 as part of the Playground Contract – Group 3.

Owls Creek Park Master Planning

Parks staff held two successful sessions with area students at La Follette High School and Sennett Middle School in March to gain additional input on the master plan design for the park. A final meeting to present design concepts to the neighborhood will be held April 15th at the park.

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). 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 during the summer of 2015. Purchase orders were also completed for the acquisition of a new scoreboard, that will work for multiple sports and the 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 Wethaven 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. The contract award is going through the approval process and construction is anticipated to begin in May.

2015 Spring Parks Division & Water Utility Landscaping

This contract needed to be rebid due to a single bid received at the March 6th opening. The new bid opening will be held March 27th, with installation work anticipated to begin as soon as frost is out of the ground and be completed by July 1, 2015.

2015 Parks Division Tree Planting

Dan Larsen Landscaping, Inc. of Cedarburg, WI was the awarded bid to install trees at 12 park properties in fall 2015 under this contract, with a value of \$36,207.

2015 Managed Meadows

Eco-Resource Consulting, Inc. submitted the lowest bid, of the three received, at \$14,393.55, for the installation & maintenance work at the new rain garden areas at Tenney Beach parking lot and Walnut Grove Dog Park. Work is anticipated to begin as soon as frost is out of the ground and installation completed by June 1, 2015. 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, so the future park improvements now have a home. The details are being worked out.

Demetral Park

We are working with City Engineering staff on park and bike path improvements in the Demetral Park/Packers Avenue area.

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 - The architect was supposed to have plans and specs ready by March 10th, with the first advertisement going out on March 13th. The project has been delayed. The new schedule has plans and specs out on March 27th with a bid opening date of April 24th. Work is expected to start mid-June. In an effort to attract more bids, the contractor will be given an option to start work at their discretion, with a final completion date of November 20th.

Cemetery Office Re-pointing - Work will go out for bid in the next few weeks. This is a non-BPW project so work could start as soon as temperature and conditions allow (late April or early May).

Forest Hill Mausoleum Restoration - The proposals from the top three leading candidates have been received and were reviewed by the selection committee. Isthmus was selected as the firm that best matched the criteria. Design work should start in the next two to three weeks. The contract for the study has been approved and a purchase order was given to Isthmus on March 23rd. They will provide a schedule and start the field work in the next couple of weeks.

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.
- Working 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 location has been approved by the Parks Superintendent; requested tree species and the management plan have been reviewed. Additional edible species approved by Habitat Stewardship and the Park Commission.
- Working with City Engineering on stabilizing the shoreline along the Yahara River at East Main. These repairs are anticipated to be completed this winter by City Engineering staff; plantings will be part of the Spring Landscaping Contract.
- Working on outfitting the concessions room with equipment and wi-fi for the newly completed splash park building at Reindahl Park.
- Working with Forestry to identify locations for Earth Day and Arbor Day plantings.
- Working on submitting an RFQ for the Goodman Topsoil Shed construction.
- 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.
- Working with Warner Park Community Recreation Center staff on re-carpeting the center in 2015. It is looking as though we will be ordering the carpeting through the State of Wisconsin Purchasing Agreement and putting out an RFQ for the installation. The carpeting is scheduled to be replaced when the Center is closed during their week long cleaning period at the end of August.
- An RFQ went out at the end of January for the repair of an electrical line at Warner Park Softball Complex. The primary line for diamond #2 was cut by the contractor working on the Warner Park Cunette project last fall. The repairs will be complete prior to the start of the 2015 softball season.

- Participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Development Plans for Owls Creek, Arbor Hills/Leopold, Allied Drive, Worthington and University/Hill Farms.
- Working with a consultant at Tenney Park Shelter to come up with solutions to acoustic concerns inside the shelter.

WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER – JACOB TISUE

- Upcoming Events at WPCRC
 - 11th Annual Springfest Art and Craft Fair
 - Saturday, April 4, 9:00am-3:00pm
 - We are currently full with over 80 vendor and are collaborating with Brentwood Neighborhood Association and Gardens 4 Empowerment to serve concessions/lunches as a fundraiser. We are advertising through Northside News, social media, email, and Isthmus Newspaper.
 - Warner Family Fun Nights - WPCRC has hosted our new special events throughout the 2014/15 school year – Warner Family Fun Nights. We have had great responses from the community and have had between 150-250 people each night. We have served over 1,200 residents with these programs – and there are 3 more still scheduled through June.
 - April 10th – Mallards Night (baseball themed event and projects, Mallards mascot, Mallards give-a-ways include ticket packages and gear)
 - May 8 – TBD
 - June 12 – Northside Nort Night (school end celebration with Northside related info, art projects, etc)
 - Northside Empty Bowls - Guests had their choice from a collection of more than 200 ceramic bowls handcrafted and donated by local artists, teachers and students. Soups and jambalaya prepared by local chefs and FEED Kitchen users were served with bread and other refreshments. Local businesses and organizations were involved with the collaboration of the Empty Bowls event.
 - We had over 250 people come through the event on Saturday, March 14 and raised over \$1800 for local causes. We look forward to doing the event again next year.
- 2015 Capital Projects
 - WPCRC has been working with Parks Planning on the 2015 Capital project of replacing the carpeting at the WPCRC. Cost proposals through the State of Wisconsin contract have been reviewed and carpet, rubber tile, and walk off mats have been selected. All other capital expenditures are being held off until the final costs of the carpeting replacement are determined (including fitness center equipment, community room upgrades, and technology updates).
- YTD Facility Usage Report

WPCRC Facility Usage Report – 2015

	Jan	Feb	YTD	2014	2013
Facility Rentals	280	378	658	3,257	2,849
Pass Visits					
Exercise Room	3689	3279	6968	30,746	34,303
Game Room*	148	140	288	1,658	1,817
Gymnasium	488	344	832	4,290	4,078

*Game room numbers do not include multiple youth groups and organizations that started using the area in 2014