

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S OCTOBER 2016 REPORT**

### **COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

#### **Parks Superintendent's Monthly Report Summary**

- Conservation work in September continued to focus on trail improvements at Edna Taylor to include widening and new gravel. Conservation is working with the PIO to develop a plan to notify and educate the public of our burn program.
- Most shelters will be winterized this month and closed for the 2016 season.
- Despite wet conditions, crews were able to keep the fields in good condition as softball, football and soccer are in full swing right now throughout the parks.
- EAB treatment operations were wrapped up the first week of September – 3,428 ash street trees were treated in 2016.
- Forestry specialists worked on preparing fall planting routes and determining our nursery orders to plant 857 street trees this fall.
- Crackle Fire & Froth was held on Friday, September 30 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens; GLEAM continues through October on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.
- WPCRC is working with City Engineering on a solar power project at the center. City Engineering also installed a solar array at Yahara Hills this summer.
- Recent events: An estimated 1,500 participated in this year's Trucks & Treasures held at Reindahl Park on the city's eastside. Learn to series continued with Disc Golf, Pickleball and Stargazing; Movies with Madison Parks finished the 2016 season with movies at Marlborough and Elvehjem parks on September 23 and 24;
- Highlights of upcoming events: Hayrides begin this month at Olin, Warner, Cherokee Marsh North and Elver parks. Learn to Stargaze, October 10 at Tenney Park.

### **WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES**

#### **EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR.**

2016 has been an excellent year for plant growth. Everything from grass to weeds to perennials have been growing consistently quickly all year. As a result, our crews have spent a lot of time mowing, trimming, and pulling weeds. A significant portion of our work in September revolved around plant growth.

The athletic season is starting to slow down. Fall softball is gradually fading out as is youth soccer. While we aren't working on routine athletic field maintenance, we have been aerating and overseeding fields. We will continue this work into October.

The Parks Arborist Crew is taking a break from tree removal for a bit. They did some stump cleanup work in September and will now be assisting with tree planting in October. We have removed 1,042 ash trees to date in 2016.

The mower shop has been working on equipment as seasonals have been leaving and is starting to get equipment ready for winter. We received bus stop additions from Metro and will be adding those stops to our plowing routes. September was another busy month for us and October looks to be busy as well.

#### **CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE– CHAD HUGHES, SUPERVISOR**

I don't think it is news to anyone that September was a wet month in Madison. With all the rain and optimal temperatures the grass continued to grow as the mowing crews struggled to keep up. Many athletic events had to be cancelled unfortunately due to all the wet weather but we were able to keep the fields in good condition. Softball, football and soccer are in full swing right now throughout the parks. We have been working on some field renovations through over seeding and aeration. Our LMW's have been staking out new fall tree plantings and have even started planting some trees with the help of the Parks arborists. Hay wagon rides started at the end of the month out at Reindahl with the Trucks and Treasures event.

As temperatures cool going into October we will start closing shelters for the season and look towards fall maintenance. Our LMW's will be planting trees for the majority of the month with a larger order than last year. We will finish aerations after all athletic events have concluded for the season. Our mowing operations will shift over to leaf mulching and cleanup and we will say goodbye to the last of our seasonal for the year. By the end of the month we should be pulling picnic tables and barrels and prepping for the upcoming winter season.

## **WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR**

### **Forest Hill Cemetery:**

Our unusually wet summer has continued, to the point where there were several days in September when it was far too wet to mow. This has been quite a challenge, as it's caused us to get fall behind on mowing and string trimming. It's also been difficult to get equipment in to dig graves; the path the equipment needs to take needs to be covered with boards to prevent extreme turf damage. These are conditions we see often in early spring, but rarely at the end of summer.

There was a hailstorm in the neighborhood in mid-September. This brought down a lot of leaves prematurely, but other than this occurrence, we haven't really begun to see leaves fall.

Roof work is ongoing at the mausoleum, and some moisture problems have been discovered at the Catlin Chapel. There has been some further interior stone deterioration, and the humidity level is extremely high. Engineering is looking at options for a ventilation system and a different floor, and in the meantime we're leaving the building open during the day (during dry weather) and running a dehumidifier at night.

The Talking Spirits tours will be taking place the first full week of October. School groups will be visiting during the week, there will be candlelight tours on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> (new this year), and daytime tours on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Spaces for the tours can be reserved by visiting the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum website at <http://www.wisvetsmuseum.com>.

During the month of September there were four full-size burials, three ash burials, one entombment, and two inurnments. There were also five full-size and nine cremains lot sales.

### **Summit Maintenance:**

Staff is still mowing parks and medians at every possible chance. Like the cemetery, we have lost some days to thunderstorms or exceedingly wet conditions, and we've had to extricate mowers from soft ground several times. We're finally looking at some dry and breezy weather at the end of September. We expect that this will help immensely with drying out the ground.

In addition to turf mowing, it's also the time of year when our flail mower is kept very busy with yearly cuts of prairie and other no-mow areas – that tractor will be going out as soon as the ground dries out enough that it won't get stuck or damage the ground. We're awaiting replacement of the rear mowing deck after this summer's accident; for now the tractor has a slightly shorter temporary deck.

We've finished our fall overseeding of athletic fields and select park areas – we're hopeful that the wet weather will result in better seed germination. We may do a little bit more aerating if soil conditions permit, but at least we were able to get the seed into the ground.

We're still cleaning shelters daily, though we have been able to skip a few trash runs following rainy days when people were not in the parks. We expect that the trash volume will continue to decrease, and we also expect that most of our shelters will be winterized by October 14.

## **CONSERVATION – PAUL QUINLAN, SUPERVISOR**

Conservation work in September continued to focus on trail improvements at Edna Taylor. After the re-route construction from last month was complete, the crew widened and placed new gravel on an additional section of the same trail loop in order to improve access for controlled burning and future mowing, thus increasing our efficiency in maintaining trails at this park. A second additional section will be widened and re-graveled this winter, when it can be accessed with equipment from Glendale School to the north. The main trail leading into the park from the parking lot was also improved with some additional gravel in key locations.

Restoration work included invasive species control at North Cherokee and Stricker's Pond. Teasel seed heads were collected at North Cherokee to prevent the population from spreading, and burdock and thistle were sprayed with herbicide. Buckthorn was removed from a portion of Stricker's Pond, partly to widen the trail for visitors, and partly to begin increasing our restoration efforts at this park to complement selective work that has been initiated by volunteers.

Other work included mowing, checking and clearing storm damage from trails, and additional firewood delivery for hayrides. The Goosinator was put into action in a number of parks where we noticed a heavy influx of geese throughout the month.

Brush removal projects were completed by contractors at Edna Taylor, North and South Cherokee, and Prairie Ridge. Requests for proposals have been released for follow-up forestry mowing work at Owen and for porcelain berry control at Kettle Pond.

The behind-the-scenes work this month included a meeting between Sally Swenson of city Engineering, and Lisa Laschinger, Paul Quinlan and Brandon Mann from Parks. The meeting was held to review and discuss plans for the Bonner Lane storm water basin project, scheduled for construction this winter at South Cherokee, and for the ancillary wetland scrape that Engineering will facilitate in an adjacent, reed canary grass-dominated wetland on the conservation park. Conservation staff decided on a plan to evaluate any existing native seed bank germination before re-vegetating the scrape area. Brandon Mann also developed seed mixes for several project areas where restoration has been initiated in recent years. These areas are ready to be sown this dormant season.

This fall, I am participating in the Supervisor Academy course hosted by the Employee Development & Organizational Effectiveness Office. My project for that will be to develop standards and protocols for our burn program and to begin gathering information for a notification system that will ultimately educate the public about this important conservation practice.

## **OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY**

### **Visitor comment:**

*“An exquisitely beautiful garden – one of the most beautiful we’ve seen. The design & execution are extraordinary.”* Linda & Jonathan, Gainesville, FL, 9/19/16

### **August 2016 Numbers**

<b>OBG Attendance</b> (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Previous 5 yrs avg</b>
August 1 - 31	37,668	42,213	37,710
YTD August 31	212,567	205,893	

<b>OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories</b> (unaudited)	<b>YTD 8/31/16</b>	<b>YTD 7/31/15</b>
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$58,361	\$55,607
Room Rentals YTD*	\$93,397	\$88,903
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$19,973	\$15,330
<b>TOTAL YTD</b>	<b>\$171,731</b>	<b>\$159,840</b>

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

**October 2016 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens** call **608-246-4550** for more information or visit [www.olbrich.org/events](http://www.olbrich.org/events)

**GLEAM: Art in a New Light**, Wed, Thu, Fri evenings in October, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

**Fine Art & Craft Sale**, by the Madison Weaver's Guild, Sat & Sun, 10/29-30, 10 am – 4 pm

**Education – October 2016** classes and programs 608/246-4550 for information/registration or visit <http://www.olbrich.org/education/classes.cfm>

### Wellness at the Gardens

- Gentle Kripalu Hatha Yoga**, 7 Mondays, Sept 12 – Oct 24, 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm
- Tai Chi Meditation**, Mon, Sept 12 – Oct 17, 6 – 7 pm OR Mon., Oct 24 – Nov 28, 6 – 7 pm
- Local & Sustainable Herbs for Diabetes**, Wed, 10/5, 6:30 – 8 pm
- Wild Food & Wild Medicine: Focus on Fall Roots**, Tues, 10/11, 6 – 8:30 pm

### Classes & Workshops for Adults

- Plants for Intense Fall Color & Interest**, Wed, 10/5, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Gardens of Everyday Folks**, Thu, 10/6, 6:30 – 8 pm
- Chinese Brush Painting – Year of the Monkey**, Sun, 10/29, 9 am – 5 pm
- Designing with the Best of Ornamental Grasses**, Wed, 10/12, 6:30 – 8:30
- Suminagashi Floating Inks**, Sun, 10/16, 1 – 4 pm
- Embellish Your Closet!, 2 Mondays**, 10/17 & 24, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Gardens of Stone**, Tues, 10/18, 6:30 – 8 pm
- Opsie Daisy Greeting Cards**, Tues, 10/18, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Etegami: Fall Japanese Picture Letters**, Sun, 10/23, 9 m – 5 pm
- What's Bugging Your Tree**, Thu, 10/27, 6:30 – 8 pm

### Learn & Play Together

#### Toddler Story & Stroll: Festive Fall Stories by Pat Hutchins

- Goodnight Owl**, Fri, 10/28, 10 – 11 am
- Ten Red Apples**, Fri, 11/4, 10 – 11 am
- The Wind Blew**, Fri, 11/11, 10 – 11 am

#### Family Classes

##### I Wonder.....Series

- What do Plants Eat?** Fri, Oct 7, 6:30 – 7:30 pm (grades K - 3)

#### Girl Scout Programs

- The Language of Flowers**, Sun, 10/1, 10 – 11:30 am

### FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	0	0
Pruned by Request	172	370
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	204	161
Tree Removal	151	631
Ash Preemptive Removals	65	209
Storm Work/Hangers		210
EAB Treatment		50

Storm and rain events continued to pull us away from completing routine maintenance tasks through September. We are also continuing to find trees that have declined significantly or died this summer.

EAB treatment operations were wrapped up the first week of September – 3,428 ash street trees were treated in 2016.

Forestry specialists worked on preparing fall planting routes and determining our nursery orders to plant 857 street trees this fall. Private developments have come in at a steady pace which forestry specialist reviews the proposed plan as it relates to street trees. The forestry specialists are also following up evaluating sites for tree replacement after arborists have removed the street trees.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES SUMMARY – CLAIRE OLEKSIK**

**Warner Park Community Recreation Center – Jacob Tissue**

- Warner Family Fun Nights - WPCRC is starting our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Family Fun Nights. They have become a staple of the Northside.
  - Next one - Friday, October 14
- WPCRC Advisory Committee Update
  - Last Meeting – Thursday, September 22
  - Next Meeting - Thursday, November 17
  - Committee discussed recommending raising fitness center membership rates for 2017 and possibly expanding the options members have for payment intervals
- Working with contractor to replace automated blinds October 2016
- Working with City Engineering on solar power project at WPCRC

**WPCRC Facility Usage Report – 2016**

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	YTD	2015	2014	2013
Facility Rentals	448	484	497	508	486	431	563	507	3924	5,016	3,257	2,849
<b>Pass Visits</b>												
Exercise Room	3416	3426	3266	2826	2474	2385	2142	2002	21,937	32,455	30,746	34,303
Game Room	174	190	217	184	215	151	126	111	1,368	1,677	1,658	1,817
Gymnasium	700	585	411	328	295	222	53	72	2,666	4,203	4,290	4,078

- June/July numbers do not include gym usage by the MSCR Summer Camp (approx. 1200 visitors per month)
- Game room numbers do not include multiple youth groups and organizations that use the area
- Also doesn't include members that check into one area, then use another area during the same visit

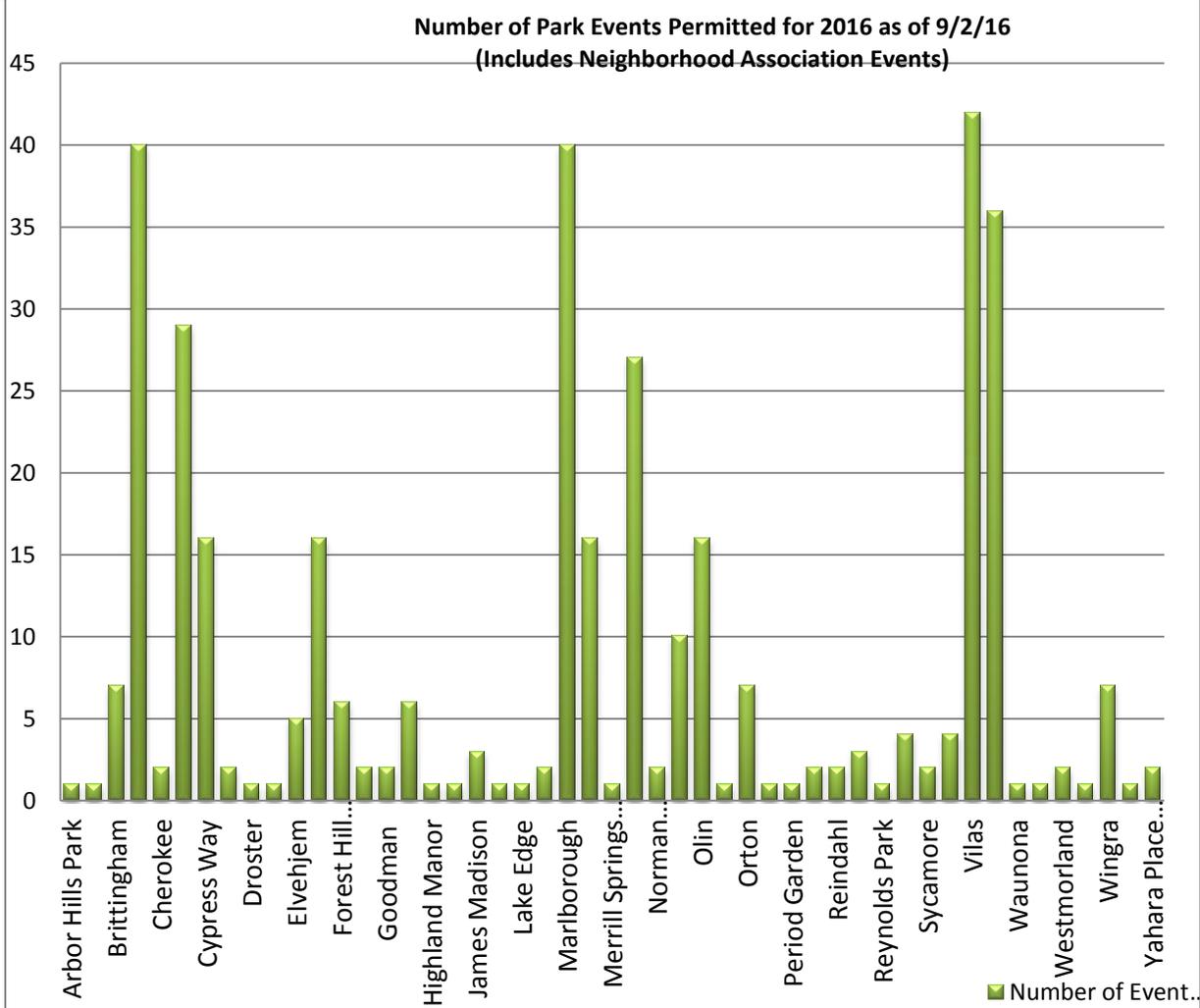
Events – Kelli Lamberti

2016 Special & Community Event Permits  
Count of Event Days

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	TOTAL
<b>Park Events</b>	3	1	0	6	22	60	83	52	22	<b>249</b>
<b>Neighborhood Association Park Events</b>	0	0	0	2	4	7	17	5	2	<b>37</b>
<b>Street Use Events</b>	0	3	2	18	27	50	61	71	42	<b>274</b>
<b>Neighborhood Block Parties</b>	0	0	0	1	3	15	15	11	22	<b>67</b>
<b>Downtown Performance Spaces*</b>	0	0	0	6	8	20	28	27	24	<b>113</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>740</b>

\* includes "Summer In YOUR City" programming

Additional Park Events Permits	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	TOTAL
<b>Beer Selling Permits</b>	0	0	0	0	1	3	5	6	6	<b>21</b>
<b>PA2 Amplification Permits</b>	0	0	0	0	4	9	9	7	6	<b>35</b>



Customer Service/Front Desk - Joanne Austin

2016 Shelter Reservations through Sept - Shaded cells are months a shelter is closed for the season.

	Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul		Aug		Sep		Total
Shelter Location	W k E n d	W k D a y																	
Brittingham	2						1		5		11	5	13	2	12	10	10	5	76
Burrows							2		12	2	16	2	14	4	12	6	9	1	80
Demetral							3		7		9		8		6		1		34
Elvehjem									1		7		2	1	7	4	3		25
Elver #1									4		11	2	14	5	7	2	9	1	55
Elver #2		2		1			6	1	7		12	3	12	8	7	4	9		72
Garner Main							2		9	5	15	5	14	6	8	9	12	7	92
Garner Upper							1		6	2	13	2	7	2	3	3	4	1	44
Gates of Heaven	3	5	7	3	6	8	8	6	6	10	7	6	8	4	2	6	8	4	107
Highland	1		2	1	2	1	7		3		4		6		4		3		34
Hoyt							2		12	3	18	6	21	4	19	7	12	6	110
Hoyt Roys									3	1	11	1	7	1	5	1	3		33
James Madison							4		5	3	10	10	10	3	6	1	8	1	61
Lake Edge											4		5		7		3	2	21
Marshall									4	1	11	3	9	1	6	3	6		44
Olin	1						2		10	6	11	10	10	11	15	10	10	8	103
Reindahl							1		3	1	11	2	10		8	1	6	2	46
Rennebohm							1		7	5	15	8	12	6	8	5	9	5	81
Tenny/John Wall							5	1	11	3	13	6	12	4	15	4	10	8	92
Vilas	1						6		13	7	15	11	19	7	14	17	12	12	134
Warner							4		8	2	10	7	7	5	8	6	7	1	65
Westmorland							1	1	11	4	13	12	10	2	6	1	13		74
<b>Total/Month</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1483</b>

**NEW in 2016!!**

**Picnic Shelter Reservations through September**

<b>2016 Picnic Reservations</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Total</b>
Acewood						1	4	4		9
Aldo Leopold						1		1		2
Arbor Hills							1			1
Blackhawk						1			1	2
Bordner									1	1
Churchill Heights										0
Country Grove						4	6	1		11
Eastmorland										0
Eken						1				1
Everglade										0
Goodman					1	2	5	2	1	11
Greentree-Chapel Hills										0
Haen Family								1	3	4
Heritage Heights					1	1			1	3
Hiestand					1	2	8	1	1	13
Huegel								1		1
Kennedy				1		1				2
Lake View Heights					2	4	3		1	10
Lucia Crest					3	11	24	13	3	54
Marlborough					3	11	24	13	1	52
Mayfair										0
Meadowood						10	21	12		43
Norman Clayton							2			2
Northland Manor						1	4	4		9
OB Sherry					1					1
Orton					3	18	22	25	2	70
Paunack										0
Penn				1	2	4	2	29	27	65
Pilgrim										0
Richmond Hill					1	1	2			4
Segoe						1	4	1		6
Sherman					1					1
Sherry										0
Swallowtail										0
Sycamore							2	1		3
Thut										0
Walnut Grove						2		1		3
Warner North Near Tennis									1	1
Warner South Near Dog									1	1
Waunona									1	1
Westhaven Trails					2		1	2		5
Wexford			1			6	9		1	17
Worthington										0
<b>Total Picnic Shelters</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>409</b>

## **Recreation Services – Tracey Hartley**

### **Learn To Series**

- Disc Golf – Hiestand Park, 4302 Milwaukee St. Partnered with Glide Disc Golf  
Saturday, September 17, 10:00 – 11:00 AM. 17 registered -3 attended.
- Pickleball – Garner Park, 333 S. Rosa Rd. Led by Volunteer, Norv Bernhardt  
Tuesday, September 28, 6:00 – 7:30 PM (re-scheduled due to rain). 43 registered
- Stargazing – Tenney Park 1402 Thorton Ave. Led by: UW Space Place  
Monday, October 10, 7pm. 8 registered

### **Movies in the Park**

- Penn Park – 2101 Fisher St. Friday, September 2, 7:30 PM  
Open Season Scared Silly - 47 people attended
- Peace Park – 452 State St. Saturday, September 10, 7:30 PM  
Despicable Me - 150 people attended
- Elver Park – 1250 Mckenna Blvd. Friday, September 16, 7:30 PM  
The Italian Job - 9 people attended
- Owl Creek Park – 23 Horned Owl Ct. Saturday, September 17, 7:30 PM  
Back To The Future - 50 people attended
- Marlborough Park – 2222 Whenona Dr. Friday, September 23, 7:00 PM  
Men In Black - 3 people attended
- Elvehjem Park – 1202 Painted Post Rd. Saturday, September 24, 7:00 PM  
The Good Dinosaur - 80 people attended

### **Trucks and Treasures**

Saturday, September 24, 2016, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Reindahl Park – 1818 Portage Rd.  
1,500 people attended  
8 garage sale vendors  
Med Flight arrived at 10:40am! Great added feature to the event.

### **Hayrides**

Reserved Hayrides will begin on October 7

### **Hayrides & Hikes at Cherokee Marsh– In partnership with Friends of Cherokee Marsh**

Saturday, October 22 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

### **Halloween Hayrides Around the Square– In partnership with BID's Family Halloween**

Wednesday, October 26 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm

### **Hayrides with Warner Family Fun Night**

Friday, November 11 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

### **Hayrides at Holiday Fantasy in Lights**

Sunday, November 20 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm

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## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – JANET SCHMIDT**

### **Bowman Field Baseball Backstop Netting Poles – South Side**

The four backstop netting poles at the Bowman baseball field require replacement. The project was originally bid in early 2016 but the single bid received was significantly over the project's budget. The project was redesigned by Beacon Athletics in an effort to deliver a project within the current funding. The Public Works contract was released for bids on September 16<sup>th</sup> with bids due October 7, 2016. The work is anticipated to occur in early spring 2017.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery – Near West Side**

Cemetery staff and consultants are working to come up with a long range plan that will address infrastructure needs at the cemetery. Improvements will include the irrigation system upgrades, storm water management improvements and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Staff is also working on a policy paper to be presented to the Landmarks Commission for approval regarding the tree replacement procedures at the cemetery. Improvements for the irrigation and storm sewer and drainage are tentatively scheduled for 2017.

### **Central Park – Near East Side**

The Central Park Phase 1B construction is substantially complete. The work includes a new entry plaza adjacent to the recently completed skatepark and a pedestrian railroad crossing near the E. Wilson Street intersection with Few Street. The skatepark plaza, sidewalk crossings and pervious sidewalk installation on Wilson Street are done. The remaining work includes bollard installation at the Few Street Railroad Crossing, which is anticipated to occur this summer. The City will be working with WisDOT and WSOR on a temporary fence along the park for installation this summer/fall, pending permit approval.

### **Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit – North Side**

Work on the remaining portion of the gravel parking lot and entry area is anticipated to start again in the late fall and will include completion of the lot, rain garden / stormwater management pond and installation of gate and kiosk at this southern trailhead.

### **Garver Feed Mill – East Side**

The rezoning and CSM for the project was approved by the Council on August 4, 2015. Conversion paperwork was submitted to the DNR and has been approved. Negotiations with the Baum Development team continue. The Baum team submitted revised storage building and site plans, which are currently being reviewed. Parks staff continues to work with the development team to resolve issues and work on obtaining final zoning approvals.

### **Tenney Park Shoreline – Near East Side**

Shoreline reconstruction and reconstruction of the bike path is complete. Landscaping and invasive plant removal along the shoreline through a separate Public Works Contract began in April. Hundreds of shrubs, acres of native seed, tens of thousands of native wetland and savannah herbaceous plants, and over 150 new trees were planted in April, May and June. Invasive plant removals will continue through December 2017, along with dormant native seeding.

### **Brittingham Park Playgrounds – Isthmus/Central**

Staff continues to work with Department of Civil Rights staff and stakeholders on accessible equipment layouts and will attend the Disability Rights Commission to share concepts. Staff will continue to work with the core group of citizens to refine the equipment and design of the site prior to the public meeting, which has been scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Bayview International Center for Education and the Arts. Construction on the parking lot and playground will begin in the spring of 2017.

### **Allied Drive Improvements – South Side**

Following a robust schedule of public input meetings that occurred with youth and the residents of the community over the summer, the Allied Dunns Marsh Neighborhood Association (ADMNA) voted to approve a master plan for the new park to send on the Board of Parks Commissioners regular meeting in October for master plan approval. Along with the master plan a new name for the park, “Allied Neighborhood Park” will be put forward to the Board for review and approval. A goal of the project is to complement amenities already available at the adjacent City of Fitchburg park by way of maximizing facilities available to both cities. Rough grading work for the park is anticipated to occur in late fall 2016 or early 2017 with installation of the basketball court and other amenities in 2017.

### **Demetral Park Path Improvements – East Side**

Staff worked with City Engineering on park and bike path improvements in the Demetral Park/Packers Avenue area. Construction is anticipated to be completed in October.

### **Berkley Park Playground – North Side**

Madison Commercial Landscapes will be starting at Berkley Park in early October and are anticipated to complete the installation of the new equipment, surfacing and benches at the end of that month.

### **Cardinal Glenn Park Playground – Far West Side**

The addition of new 2-5 age range equipment, new surfacing, base course preparation, and the relocation of several pieces of equipment have been completed by Parks Construction staff. Work to install the new asphalt walking path at the park was completed in August under a separate Public Works contract. The installation of new sun shelter and landscaping at the park will also occur under separate Public Works in the fall.

### **Honeysuckle Park Playground – East Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 contract. The Honeysuckle Park playground replacement was completed in late July.

### **Kingston-Onyx Park Playground – East Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 contract. Work for the contract includes four playground replacements and is currently underway.

### **Lerdahl Park Playground – North Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 3 contract. Construction for the Lerdahl Park Playground has been completed.

### **Sycamore Park Playground – East Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 contract. Work for the contract includes four playground replacements and is currently underway.

### **Raymond Ridge Park Playground – West Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 contract. Construction for the Raymond Ridge Park Playground has been completed.

### **Waunona Park Playground – South Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 contract. Construction for the Waunona Park Playground has been completed.

### **Westchester Gardens Park Playground – North East Side**

This project was bid with the 2016 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 contract. The playground replacement at Westchester Gardens has been completed.

### **Wheeler Heights Park Playground – North Side**

Madison Commercial Landscapes anticipates work beginning on the replacement of the equipment, benches and surfacing at Wheeler Heights Park in late October and to be complete by the contract's end time in November.

### **Esther Beach Park Improvements – South Side**

Phase I of the Esther Beach Park Master Plan Implementation includes construction of the new restroom building and associated site work which was bid on July 15<sup>th</sup> with bids opened on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The contract has been awarded to the low bidder Joe Daniels Construction at \$428,888.00 and is anticipated to begin this fall with completion by May 25, 2017. Staff is coordinating with the Engineering Division to construct a raingarden and riprap outfall as part of the Phase I improvements for Esther Beach Park.

Phase II of the Esther Beach Park Master Plan Implementation includes upgrading stormwater facilities, shoreline repair, construction of a new canoe/kayak boat launch and reconstructing the existing parking lot. Phase II Improvements were presented to the Board of Public Works on September 7<sup>th</sup> and were advertised on September 23<sup>rd</sup> with bids opening on October 7, 2016. Construction of Phase II Improvements are anticipated to begin in June and be complete by fall 2017.

### **Penn Park Shelter Replacement – South Side**

A third public input meeting for the Penn Park shelter replacement was held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Topics included the potential rehabilitation of the existing shelter and a proposed parking lot design. Renovating the existing shelter rather than completely removing it was supported by attendees as the existing canopy will be substantially larger than a new structure. An RFP to select an architectural consultant to prepare construction drawings for the shelter renovations was released on August 3. Destree Architectural Design, Inc was the selected consultant and will begin work in early October. The project is anticipated to go out to bid in February 2107.

### **2016 Garner Park Tennis to Pickleball-Court Conversion – West Side**

DRS LTD of Madison has completed the project to convert the existing tennis courts at Garner Park to the city's first dedicated (6-court) pickleball facility. Parks held a September 15<sup>th</sup> grand opening event at the new courts, working with The Friends of Pickleball, who successfully fundraised in support of the project.

### **2016 Paving Contract – City Wide**

This contract includes construction of paths at Cardinal Glenn Park, reconstruction of basketball courts at Rimrock Park and Aldo Leopold Park, installation of an asphalt path at Village Park and Aldo Leopold Park and pulverize and repaving the path at Westmorland Park. Paving and restoration is complete at all parks with the exception of Village Park which is expected to be completed in October.

### **2016 Sun Shelters Request for Bids and Contract – City Wide**

Work by Madison Commercial Landscapes, Inc. continues with the installation of the shelters at Cardinal Glenn and Worthington Parks still to be completed by the end of October. The shelters at Owl Creek, Junction Ridge and Sauk Heights Park are complete.

### **2016 Fall Parks Division and Water Utility Landscaping Contract – City Wide**

Greener Valley Landscaping, Inc of Janesville completed installation of perennial plants, shrubs and conifers at 14 parks, 1 golf course and one water utility well site and will continue with installation of hardwood trees at many of these sites through late October. Maintenance and watering of the plants installed under this contract will continue through December 1, 2017.

### **2016 Parks Division Rain Garden Management Contract – City Wide**

Planting of new plant plugs by Tallgrass Restoration at Goodman and Olin Parks was completed at the end of September. At Central Park, the planting of native species plugs has been very successful with a robust planting area established in the park's previously-unplanted rain garden. This contract includes a year of maintenance (2017 growing season) at each park site and under separate change order, included invasive control in sensitive park areas at James Madison, Merrill Springs and Warner Park sites.

### **2016 Dog Park Improvements – City Wide**

Construction is complete for entrance improvements at Quann Dog Park. Staff has received bids for entrance improvements at Brittingham Dog Park to install a double gated entrance and improve accessibility. Bids were received in August and awarded to the low bidder Raymond P. Cattell Inc. for \$21,410.00. Work is expected to start at Brittingham the first week of October and be complete by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation – City Wide**

Staff is developing a GIS-based mapping database to inventory all ash trees removed in the City of Madison park system. Installation of new trees to replace removed ash trees is underway. Living Landscapes, LLC was awarded both of the fall and spring tree installation contracts that were opened at the end of November. The trees included in these contracts replace approximately 2/3 of those removed due to EAB infestation. Work to install the trees at six parks including Brittingham, Demetral, Olbrich, Reindahl, Sycamore and Warner Parks were completed in June and work to install trees at Elver, Garner, Goodman, Marshall, Olin, Thut and Vilas Parks will begin in October. Both of the contracts include a maintenance year (2017) to help ensure establishment of the trees.

### **Cherokee Park Canoe/Kayak launch – North Side**

Work has begun on the project to re-grade and improve the canoe/kayak launch site at Cherokee Park. Previously, the neighborhood submitted its choice to relocate the existing racks at the park approximately 100 feet north of the existing, signed launch location once work has been completed. Additional native plantings will be installed near the racks by way of providing screening in spring 2017 under a separate contract.

### **Sugar Maple Park – Far West Side**

Rough grading work at the site began in July along with the installation of stormwater lines and inlets. A new path and half basketball court and sun shelter will be constructed with this project. Paving of the path and half basketball court will be completed by the end of September. The remaining work is anticipated to be complete in October.

### **Waldorf Park Master Planning – West Side**

Staff has met with City Engineering to determine grading and stormwater drainage options for the site and work out the overall project scope and feasibility. Site and grading plans are being developed with rough grading and drainage improvements are anticipated to occur in late 2016 or early 2017 with construction of park amenities and improvements in 2017. A follow-up meeting will be held with the neighborhood on November 3, 2016 as part of the 2017 Playgrounds – Group 2 workshop to determine the type of equipment and surfacing to be installed at the park.

### **Brittingham Park Sidewalk Extension**

Work has begun on a new section of sidewalk extending from the existing bike path crossing of North Shore Drive to S. Bedford St. The project was awarded to Speedway Sand and Gravel, Inc for \$74,020. Construction started Sept 12, 2016 and is expected to be completed by October 21, 2016.

### **Worthington Park Shelter Replacement – East Side**

This project was included in the **2016 Sun Shelters Request for Bids and Contract** (see above). The shelter replacement at Worthington Park is anticipated to occur in November of 2016.

### **Park and Open Space Plan – City Wide**

Staff has begun data collection on the 2018-2022 Park and Open Space Plan Update. Staff is coordinating volunteer efforts for field validated observation of park users in a sample selection of parks. Volunteer efforts thus far have resulted in approximately 500 observations. Staff is also distributing comment cards at park events as well as libraries, community centers, neighborhood centers and the senior centers to gather input on recreation preferences. Comment cards are being distributed in English, Hmong and Spanish languages. Parks is also involved in the Planning Division's Comprehensive Park

Plan interagency core team and will coordinate efforts with the Comprehensive Plans adopted Engagement Strategy. The Park and Open Space Plan implementation strategy outline was presented to the Long Range Planning Subcommittee on June 28, 2016 with an update provided on September 1, 2016.

### **Reynolds Tennis**

Staff issued a Request for Quotation for a modular athletic court surfacing for the existing tennis courts at Reynolds Park, the contract was awarded to CDC Holdings Co – Sport Court WI for \$50,013.50. Staff presented this project at the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association Meeting on September 8, 2016.

### **Goodman Ice Rink (Franklin Field) - Central/South**

Staff is working on design to modify and replace the lighting at the existing ice rink at Goodman (Franklin Field). Work will include replacement of the existing lights with new electric and poles, modifying the existing outlet structure to Wingra Creek used to drain the rink, and possible demolition of the existing warming shelter. Design will occur summer and fall of 2016 with improvements occurring fall of 2016 or spring of 2017. Staff has designed and is seeking quotes for the rehabilitation of the storm sewer draining the ice rink and replacement of the control valve. Quotes are expected by Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. Estimated cost for storm sewer repair is \$25,000.

### **Reger Park**

Staff has designed a temporary asphalt drive apron serving the path at Reger Park from Oak St. An asphalt drive apron will be added here and is expected to be sufficient until a permanent concrete apron can be placed as part of the reconstruction in the next few years. Approx 140' of the asphalt path through Reger Park will be replaced to align with the new drive apron and avoid a large Elm tree in the street terrace. This work has been awarded to Raymond P Cattell Inc by change order in the amount of \$19,825.50. Work was started on Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 and is expected to be completed by Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

### **Other Projects**

- Staff is coordinating installation of additional shade structures at Elver and Reindahl splash park.
- Staff is working with Engineering on preliminary survey work for shoreline projects at Wingra and Yahara Place Park.
- Staff is working with a consultant at Tenney Park Shelter to come up with solutions to acoustic concerns inside the shelter. The consultants have been reviewed by City Facilities Management and staff continues to explore options. Improvements are scheduled for 2017.
- Staff participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Development Plans for Owls Creek, Arbor Hills/Leopold, Allied Drive, Emerson East – Eken Park – Yahara Neighborhood Plan, Worthington and University/Hill Farms.
- Staff is developing a GIS-based mapping database to inventory facilities within parks including memorial plaques, benches, trees, etc.
- Staff is coordinating emerald ash borer removals and replacements, and tracking proposed species to meet urban forest diversity guidelines in parks.
- Staff is coordinating the installation of memorial benches at Yahara Place Park, Owen Conservation Area and Tenney Park.
- Staff is working on developing walking routes that incorporate paths through park properties, bike trails and sidewalks to create a series of park-oriented walking loops to be mapped via MapMyWalk (or other similar site) and serve as a means to promote Madison's walkability.
- Staff is working with the Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee on drafting policies related dogs in parks.
- Parks Staff is working with Engineering staff to cite locations within park properties that may utilize photo voltaic (solar) equipment to help reduce energy costs. Locations include Warner Park and Yahara Hills Golf Course.
- Parks Staff will be working with Engineering on the Warner Park Lagoon Planning Grant. The first public input meeting was held in late winter.

- Gates of Heaven flooring replacement is scheduled for late 2016. Staff will work with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine if a more durable variety of flooring will be allowed since Gates of Heaven is on the National Register.
- Staff have reviewed and approved two edible landscape permit proposals that were installed at Hollister Avenue Triangle Park and Eken Park in May and continue to receive inquiries about the program and answer questions regarding park site eligibility, the application process and program parameters.
- Staff worked with Purchasing to issue a Request for Quotes for rubbermulch playground safety surfacing which will ensure pricing through 2019 for playground replacement projects.
- Staff worked with Purchasing to issue a Request for Quotes for park benches which will ensure pricing for the Madison Kay Park bench through 2018
- Staff is working with a group of area residents interested in determining the feasibility of rehabilitating (either through adaptive re-use or restoration) the Annie Stewart Memorial fountain at Vilas Park.
- Staff are working with Engineering to review and approve consultant sketches for the design of the Starkweather Uplands Conservation Park.
- Staff is coordinating with Engineering for the selection and placement of plants to screen a waste oil tank building to be located at Glenway Golf Course.
- Staff is working with Engineering to review structural improvements for the Reindahl Barn at Reindahl Park. Structural stabilization of the beams is anticipated in the fall of 2016 or spring of 2017.
- Staff is working with the University Hill Neighborhood Association to install table tennis and bench improvements as part of a grant obtained by City Planning for neighborhood improvements.
- Staff worked with Purchasing to issue a Request for Quotes for the weeding maintenance of Warner Park traffic islands near the Mallards complex

#### **Projects Completed in 2016**

- Staff coordinated invasive plant removals along the Yahara Parkway.
- Staff coordinated installation of additional splash park features at Elver splash park.
- Yahara Hills Clubhouse Improvements – South East Side
- Parks Project website is complete and up and running. Please visit our site at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/projects> or <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/projects>
- Aldo Leopold Park Playground
- Cardinal Glenn Park Playground expansion/resurfacing
- Garner Park Pickleball Court Complex
- Lerdahl Playground
- Midland Park Playground
- Quarry Park Trails Usage Plan
- Reynolds Park field re-grading (ongoing field rest through 2017)
- Rimrock Park Playground
- Sidewalk along Drake Street at Vilas Park
- Parks Division Rain Garden Management (maintenance ongoing)
- Spring Parks Division Tree Planting (maintenance ongoing)
- Sun shelter at Owl Creek Park
- Sun shelter at Junction Ridge Park
- Sun shelter at Sauk Heights Park
- Demolition of the house located at 2049 Baird Street for expansion of Penn Park.
- 2016 Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements
- Lake Edge Restroom and Shelter
- Rimrock Park basketball court
- Tenney Park restoration including installation of over 30,000 native forbs, grasses, sedges; over 800 shrubs; and over 200 trees.
- Westmorland Park Path