



PUBLIC MEETING

PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

6:30PM

DPW OPERATIONS/PARKS CENTER

2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI

AGENDA

- 1.) Call to Order
- 2.) Review Minutes of: August 12, 2015
- 3.) Citizens Participation

- 4.) Old Business

- 5.) New Business
 - a.) Review and consideration of a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park as proposed and presented by Beloit Family Services.
 - b.) Review and consideration of the landscaping plan surrounding the Historic Plaque of Roy Chapman Andrews on Turtle Island in Riverside Park.

- 6.) Director's Report
- 7.) Committee Members Comments
- 8.) Adjournment

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- * *Commissioners unable to attend are encouraged to contact Brian Ramsey @ 608/364-2919 or the Parks Administrative Secretary @ 608/364- 2929 prior to the meeting.*
- ** *Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services.*
- *** *For additional information or to request this service, please contact the Parks & Leisure Services Division located at 2351 Springbrook Court, Beloit, WI 53511 or by calling 608/364-2929.*

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 2015
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI 53511**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chad Larson Carl Lange, Carol Mankiewicz, Mark Preuschl,
Anthony Stewart

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sheila DeForest, Jeff Johnson, Therese Oldenburg

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Greg Boysen, Public Works Director

GUESTS:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mark Preuschl at 6:33 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 8TH AND JULY 8TH, 2015 MEETING

Chad Larson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Carol Mankiewicz. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None

OLD BUSINESS-

None

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM

- A. Review and consideration of the proposed new Playground Equipment scheduled for purchase and installation in Vernon Park.** Five separate vendors submitted a total of seven proposals which have been reviewed and evaluated by our Playground Committee in determining the two best proposals. The Public Playground Meeting was scheduled and held on Wednesday, July 22nd, 2015 in Vernon Park at 6:00 pm. A total of over 20 members of the public attended the presentation with a total of twelve voting and selecting the proposal submitted by MN/WI playgrounds. At the meeting their preference was for green and blue colors and the vote was split 6/6. The playground will be installed by no later than the end of October. Carl Lange made a motion to accept the proposal as presented by MN/WI Playgrounds for Vernon Park, and the alternate color scheme as presented in rendering #2 seconded by Chad Larson. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Review and consideration of a proposal from the Rock County Historical Society to allow them to place small Geocaches within selected parks sites.** The Rock County Historical Society introduces their newly proposed program, “Cache Quest”. They want to get people out and about in Rock County. Geocaching is an outdoor recreational activity where a GPS receiver or mobile device and other techniques to hide and seek containers, call “geocaches” anywhere in the world. Geocaching is a treasure-hunting game that has become very popular and is enjoyed by all ages. A complete list of where the Geocaches would be located has been included. The participants within this program would still have to comply with all park rules and regulation. As long as we are aware of where all the Geocaches are and they aren’t on any playgrounds, the request will be supported. Char Larson made a motion to support the request as submitted by the Rock County Historical Society as long as they comply with Park Rules & Regulations seconded by Carol Mankiewicz. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Review and consideration of naming the newly acquired Girls Scout building in Big Hill Park.** As of June 26, 2015, the City of Beloit purchased the former Girl Scout building in Big Hill Park. Currently we have two long-term tenants that will be sharing this space. The Welty Environmental Center is leasing approximately 2,000 SF on the main level and the Beloit Police Department is leasing approximately 250 SF in the lower level of the building. We have currently been referring to it as the Big Hill Center but it needs to be officially named in accordance to the Administrative Policy & Guidelines for Naming of Parks & Recreational Facilities. The building can always be renamed later but for now we want to label it. Mark Preuschl made a motion to refer to this facility as the Big Hill Center and acquire signage for appropriate identification seconded by Anthony Stewart. Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached for Committee review.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Anthony Stewart- Would like to know if we could put a drinking fountain in the dog park for the dogs and one for their owners because it is so hot in the summer. Also what would it take to put swing in Brown-Hatchett Park? Brian explained the playground replacement schedule that we have in place. The dog park is designed as a detention pond so we can't put a water fountain inside of that. The closest place would have to be where the pathway is to walk to the park itself. The cost to install would also be extremely expensive in order to run a water line.
- Carl Lange- Events that he is involved is consist of the Night Run this Friday at Leeson Park at 7pm. He will be trying out the High Schools timing software. On August 29th the Ride Across Wisconsin will be held.
- Carol Mankiewicz- Has started a big turtle project. At the golf course, Mark Young has been very helpful for logistics. Won't be marking the turtles at the course but the ones at Harpers Prairie will be. Likes to trap, mark, and measure the turtles. At Harpers Prairie there is a lot of wild parsnip. Brian stated that we won't be able to do anything about that until when a controlled burn can be executed.
- Mark Preuschl- The entrances where the gaps are in the fence line at Vernon Park are awful. There is also a pipe sticking up out of the ground. Can we dress it up a little bit? It's laid out like Summit Park. Why haven't we done anything about tennis courts that are still there? Brian explained that's why we have a master planning for parks as well as CIP plans.
- Chad Larson- Sonya Baden and Matt did a good job with the Kubb tournament that was held. It's a cross between horse shoes and chess. They had about 20 teams this year. Beloit hockey will be selling stuff during the Dirty Dash. October 12, will be the first day of ice skating. Trying to get more kids out to skate. Learn to skate dates will be advertised soon with radio ads, TV, billboards and posters.

ADJOURNMENT

Chad Larson made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Anthony Stewart. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Travia Foy.

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
NEW BUSINESS ACTION REPORT – ITEM A**

MEETING DATE September 9, 2015

TITLE: Review and consideration of a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park as proposed and presented by Beloit Family Services.

BACKGROUND

In October, 2014, John Pfleiderer, Executive Director of Family Services in Beloit, first addressed the Commission regarding their conceptual idea to develop a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park. The purpose of the garden would be dedicated to those who have suffered from interpersonal violence and is intended to create a place for meditation. Currently, they are working with Angus Young Architecture in order to create an appropriate design which may include a pergola, benches, a deep-tone wind chime, a central rock sculpture, perennials, and would include a brick-style patio area. As Family Services is located directly across College from Horace White Park, they are interested in sponsoring this new feature within the park, and would like to review design and location for this proposed project with the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Furthermore, Family Services indicated that they would seek volunteers to adopt the new garden area in regards to maintenance and upkeep.

Since our initial meeting, we have had several discussions regarding this design, which include the impact within the park and the how it fits within the scheme and scope of the Master Plan for Horace White Park which was created in 2009.

Enclosed is a design plan from Angus Young regarding the construction of a Pergola as the central focus point of the garden, and a proposed garden designed as completed by the city's Horticultural Specialist, Sam Huffman. At the requested by Family Services, the plant material for the garden area has specifically been design with plants that generally attract butterflies as they are attempting to establish a theme for the garden.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL IMPACT

Family Services would be donating the garden and paying for the installation of all materials. Even though Family Services plan to use volunteers in regards to long-term care of the garden, the Parks & Leisure Service Division anticipates minimal impact to

our annual operation funds as related to long-term maintenance and care of the garden within the park.

OPTIONS

NA

PROJECT TIMELINE

- Determination of a generalized location within the park site at tonight's meeting.
- An appropriate design would need to be reviewed at a Landmarks Commission Meeting due to the historic significance of this park site.
- Upon approval of the Parks Commission and the Landmarks Commission, a presentation would be scheduled for review with City Council to accept the project.
- Currently, it may be possible to begin the construction of the Pergola yet this fall, and the development of the landscaping garden next spring of 2016.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based upon several planning meetings with John Pfleiderer, the staff has no objections to the proposed project, and highly recommends support of this project by Parks & Recreation Commission.

Angus
Young

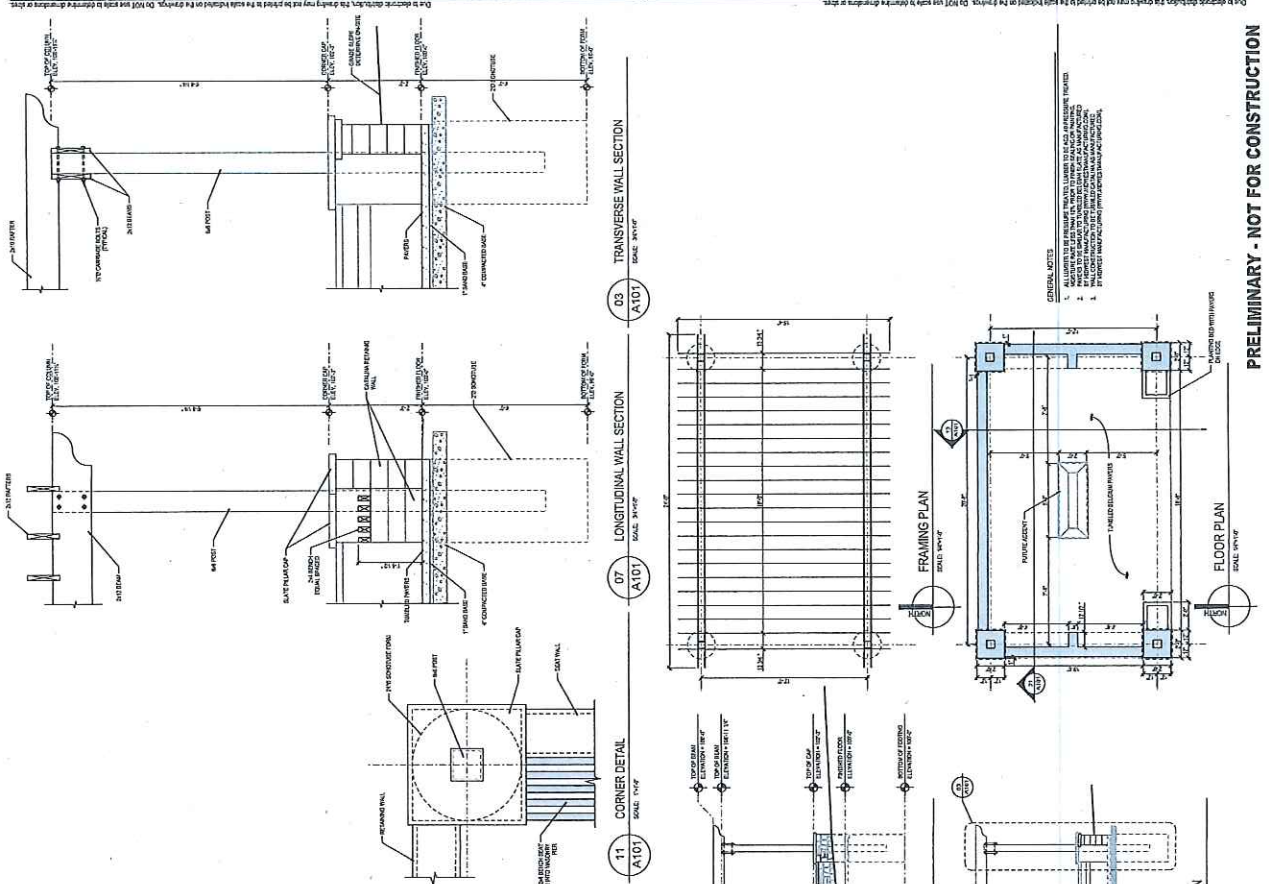
Architecture | Engineering
Interiors | Landscape

Balance in Creativity

www.angusyoung.com



Remembrance Garden



PROJECT NUMBER	50041
ARCHITECT	PERGOLA
REVISION BY	JCT
DATE	03/17/15
BY	AV
DATE	03/17/15

Angus Young
Engineering
Interior Design

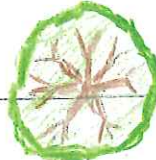
255 SOUTH PARK DRIVE, SUITE 100, WISCONSIN
WISCONSIN 53090
TEL: 414.224.1111 FAX: 414.224.1112
WWW.ANGUSYOUNG.COM

REMEMBRANCE GARDEN
PERGOLA
FAMILY SERVICES OF BELOIT
BELOIT, WI

PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

A101

PYRUS CALLERYANA

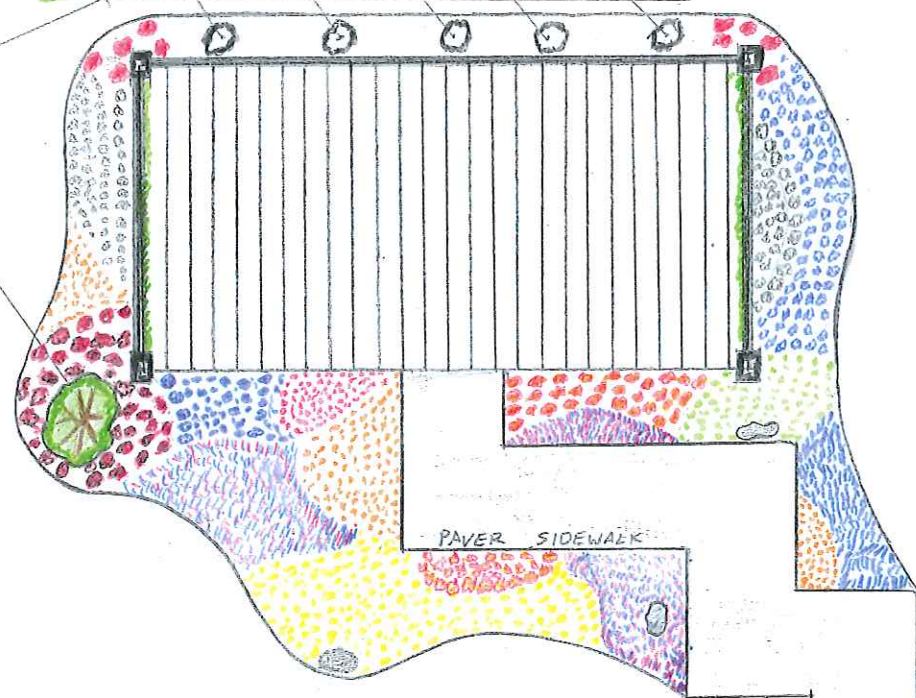


HYDRANGEA TREE FORM

AMELANCHIER

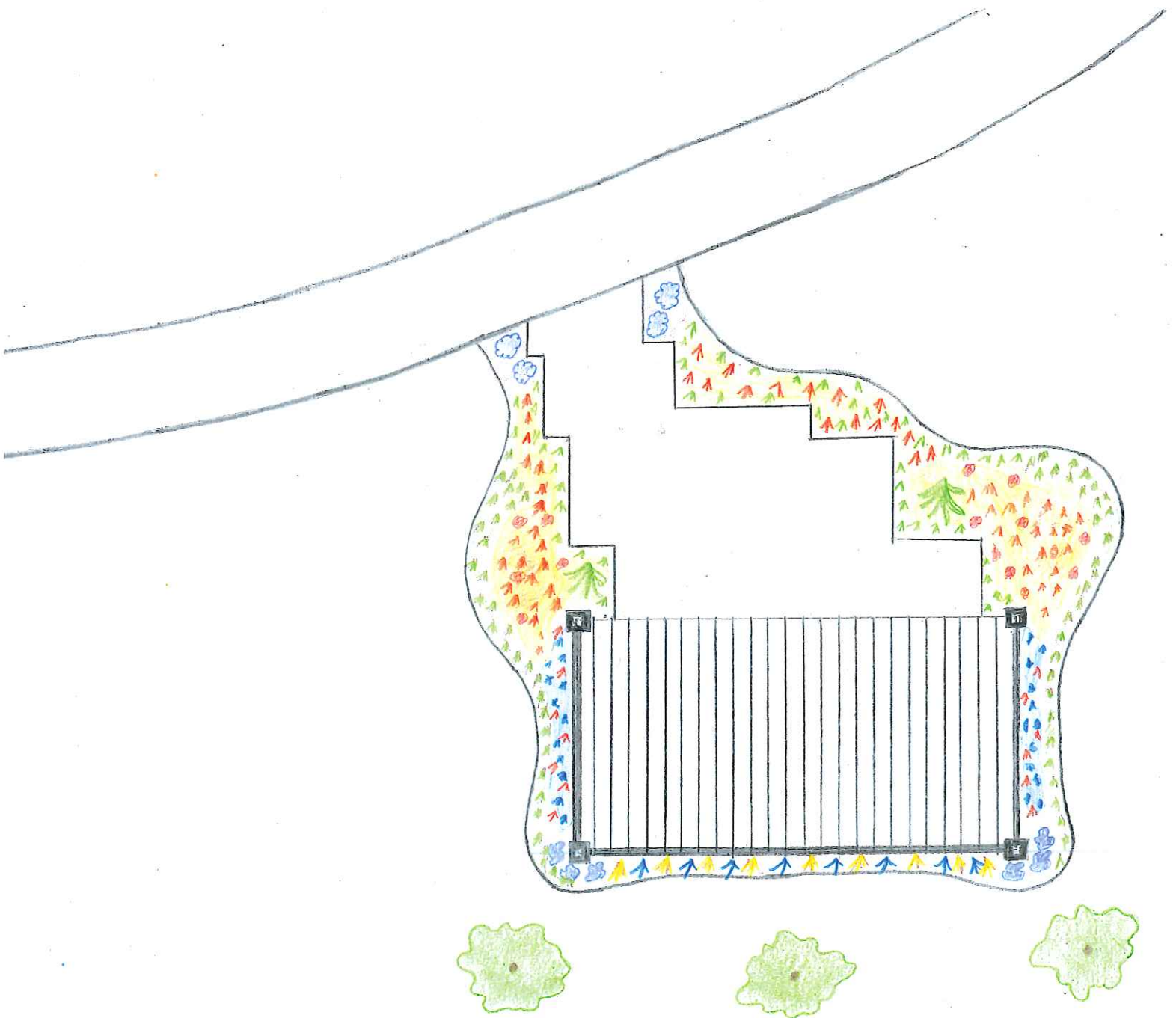
PLANT LIST

- ★ GAILLARDIA
- COREOPSIS
- DIANTHUS
- ✎ PHLOX
- HIBISCUS
- ▨ PEROVSKIA
- MONARDA
- SEDUM
- ACHILLEA
- DELPHINIUM
- ECHINACEA
- BOULDERS
- WISTERIA VINE



PAVER SIDEWALK

EXISTING SIDEWALK

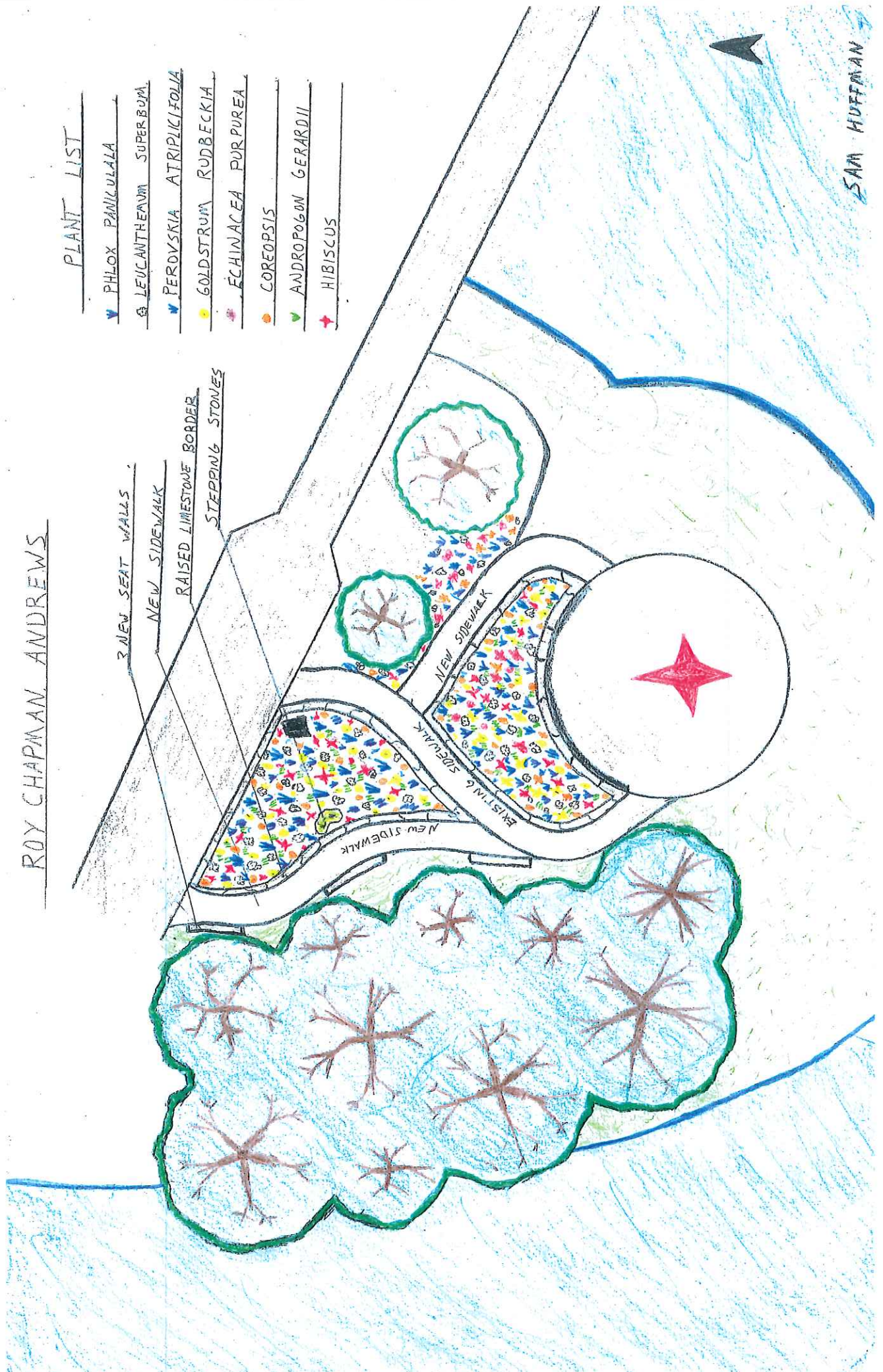


ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS

PLANT LIST

-  PHLOX PANICULATA
-  LEUCANTHEMUM SUPERBUM
-  PEROVSKIA ATRIPLIKIFOLIA
-  GOLDSTRUM RUDBECKIA
-  ECHINACEA PURPUREA
-  COREOPSIS
-  ANDROPOGON GERARDII
-  HIBISCUS

3 NEW SEAT WALLS
NEW SIDEWALK
RAISED LIMESTONE BORDER
STEPPING STONES



SAM HUFFMAN

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*Submitted by: Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting – September 9, 2015 @ 6:30pm*

A.) Correspondence

- 1) BDN Article: Dirty Dash Event - "Good Clean Fun? Not."
- 2) BDN Article: Bike Ride Across Wisconsin - "Beloit A Big Wheel for Bikers"

B.) Parks Report

1) *Routine park maintenance:*

- Picking up litter and debris in all parks & along the business corridor of Milwaukee Road.
- Empty trash barrels in all parks weekly.
- Trimming trees and downed branches in parks, trails, and cemeteries.
- Inspect trails and remove any felled trees.
- Routine cleaning and maintenance of the Dog Park.
- Mowing routes of parks & other designated areas, including two (2) new areas, Milwaukee Road corridor and the area around the Big Hill Center in Big Hill Park.

2) *Park Projects:*

- Provided assistance in prep & set-up of the Beloit Dirty Dash; clearing trail, building obstacles, clearing parking lot, digging mud pits, etc....
- Removed pipe protruding from the ground @ Vernon Park.
- Hired contractor to paint bleachers @ Krueger Park.
- Repaired damaged walls and prepped for painting contractor.
- Hired contractor to paint the lobby area @ Big Hill Center.
- General clean-up and maintenance of the interior of Big Hill Center.
- Commence shutting down swimming pool.
- Hired contractor to pave roadway in Eastlawn Cemetery.
- Provided assistance in set-up of Bike Ride Across Wisconsin event held in Riverside Park.
- Trimming trees at Schellenger Park.
- Hired contractor to install new roll-up door for maintenance storage room in the lower level of the Moore Pavilion in Riverside Park.
- Hired contractor to replace electrical panel support for the Lagoon fountains in Riverside Park.
- Assisted the DBA by providing Picnic Tables and additional trash containers for the Annual Street Dance.

C.) Horticulture Report

- 1) Completed building new Landscape Planters on Milwaukee Road, and will be installing new planter material in late September.
- 2) Replaced the walking bridge between Hole #2 & Hole #3 at the Golf Course, and installed rip rap material next to the bridge and along the creek bed.
- 3) Watering hanging baskets and planters in Riverside Park, and on the Portland Avenue Bridge.
- 4) Watering down the mulch on Riverside Drive in order to prevent fires caused by cigarette butts being tossed out by motorist passing by.
- 5) Sprayed weed control on the rip rap rock along the riverbank and other areas.
- 6) Cleaned-up the landscaping areas around the Big Hill Center before the Dirty Dash event.
- 7) Cleaned-up the landscaping beds at the Riverbend Bike Path on Water Street.
- 8) Cleaned-up the landscaping beds around the Leisure Services Office.
- 9) Met with the Roy Chapman Andrews Society and presented them with a landscaping plan to install around their Historic Market on Turtle Island.
- 10) Met with John Pfleiderer, Executive Director of Family Services to review their proposal for a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park, and currently preparing a landscape design plan that will enhance the proposed pergola.

D.) Recreation Report: *(See Attachment)*

Good clean fun? Not.

By Erica Pennington epennington@beloitdailynews.com | Posted: Monday, August 24, 2015 4:00 pm

Nearly a dozen soles were forever lost to the dark depths of muddy pits at Big Hill Park on Saturday.

No tears were shed over the shoes, though. Runners had too much fun at the Dirty Dash to worry much about their footwear.

“That was the hardest part about the run, because you would get stuck in the mud,” said Maggie Gianvecchio.

Gianvecchio, 17, of Beloit, joined in the inaugural Beloit Parks and Recreation event with friend Grace Roegner, 16.

“The walls that we had to climb over were the biggest challenge I think,” Roegner said.

Saturday’s weather was perfect for the Dirty Dash youth run/walk as the teen event kicked off at 9 a.m., featuring a 1-plus mile run with obstacles.

Soon following was a half-mile run with obstacles for children ages 10-13. The “bunny loop,” was a short track with obstacles for kids age 5-9.

“The bunny loop and cotton trail were by far our larger groups,” said Recreation Coordinator Sonya Baden.

Kembre Daniel, 13, traveled all the way from Chicago to run in the Dirty Dash with Max, Ben, Ellie and Nora Saladar — his cousins who live in Beloit.

“The run was so fun and also intense at the same time,” Daniel said. “It really feels good to be outside and doing this.”

Ethan Ramirez, 14, traveled to Beloit from Janesville to participate in the run while his mom volunteered to help out.

“I heard the word ‘dirty’ and I like running, so I was all about coming out here to try it,” he said.



Dirty Dash

Participants in the inaugural Beloit Dirty Dash had to run, climb over logs, maneuver through tires and wade through mud pits at Big Hill Park on Saturday. The event went so well that organizers say it will be making a return next year.

In all, around 340 participants came out to Saturday's event. Baden says the number of kids and community support was impressive.

"Originally we were hoping for 150 kids, but after all the support and encouragement from the community, the Dirty Dash is definitely something that we'll be doing again," she said.

Baden said any damage from building the course at Big Hill Park was minimal, and even the most frequent park user probably wouldn't notice anything awry.

"The main loop where there is a cross country trail was not torn up at all," Baden said. "We even mowed around the existing trees in our parking area we made."

Beloit Parks and Leisure Services has many other events planned throughout the fall, including sports leagues for adults. For more information, call 608-364-2890.

Beloit a big wheel for bikers

By HILLARY GAVAN Senior Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, August 31, 2015 4:00 pm

BELOIT — As almost 500 bicyclists rode into Beloit on Saturday, they were treated to nutritious lunch and entertainment ranging from the Beloit Memorial High School Pom Pon Squad and Even Start Dancers to gospel singers.

At around 11:30 a.m. the first bicyclists rode in over the Portland Avenue Bridge on their way to the Rotary River Center, the premier rest stop of a ride from Dubuque, Iowa to Kenosha. The 175-mile ride, consisting of avid bicyclists and members of the elite TREK Factory Racing Team, was held to raise funds for the Wisconsin Bike Federation, an advocacy group devoted to the interests of bicyclists and pedestrians. In its inaugural year, organizers are hoping to make it an annual event with thousands of riders. Beloit is hoped to be a permanent rest stop.

Local residents in the event included John Pfleiderer, Phil Shields, Jon Nelson and Todd Peopping.

One of the first riders in on Saturday was Matthew Busche, the U.S. National Champion with the TREK Factory Racing Team. The team was stopping in Beloit before catching a bus to Chicago where they would be leaving for a bicycle tour of Alberta, Canada.

Busche said the hilly terrain wasn't easy, but the roads were nice and quiet.

Dave Cieslewicz, executive director of the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin and former mayor of Madison, said it was an off day for the TREK Factory Racing Team, "who were kind enough to ride." He said Beloit was one of eight stops along the ride and had an impressive lineup of entertainment and volunteers at rest stops.

The rest of the riders were a bit behind schedule because of a south wind, according to organizer Rick Barder. However, it didn't dampen attendance as 477 riders plus the TREK team were signed up for the big day.



Passing through

Bicyclists rode into Beloit Saturday morning over the Portland Avenue Bridge on their way to the Rotary River Center. Almost 500 bicyclists stopped through Beloit on a ride from Dubuque, Iowa to Kenosha to benefit the Wisconsin Bike Federation.

"Beloit should be proud. The streets were well maintained and the directional people were helpful," said local rider Pfleiderer. "It was nice to see the cheerleaders and the band. I think it was a very positive statement for Beloit. There was nothing like it at the other rest stops."

Pfleiderer agreed with other riders, saying the ride from Dubuque was brutal. Although scenic, he had trouble seeing it because of the light rain.

Although he said he saw the "Van Gogh version" of the scenery, he said the ride was a great experience and he hopes it becomes an annual event.

"I see future opportunities for Beloit to be seen. It's a good opportunity for Beloit to make a statement for being a destination point."

It wasn't only the bicyclists enjoying the festivities on Saturday. Even Start dancers Cassandra Montes-Aguilar, 17, Anna Casique, 10, and Guadalupe Casique, 12, had arrived in colorful dresses to perform traditional Mexican dance for the riders. Cassandra, who said she'd been with the group since she was 3-years-old was looking forward to performing.

"I'm completely excited. I always wanted to see an event like this. I like riding my bike and would consider riding in it," Aguilar said.

Eric Eisenberg and Terri Burdick were volunteering along Portland Avenue Bridge, holding signs directing riders along the correct path. Eisenberg said he bikes several thousand miles a year and was eager to support the event and bicycling in Beloit.

"I've never had a bad day on a bike," Burdick said.



Recreation Report August 2015

Programs/Activities/Numbers

Krueger Pool

- Total Concession Revenue for June/July/ August \$12,860.63
- Total Open Swim Revenue for June/July/August \$27,560.48
- Total swim lesson registrations 271
- Water Aerobics Registrants 48
- 19 Birthday Parties in June/July/August
- 12 Private Pool Rentals
- 18 Family Pool Passes, 8 Individual
- Total attendance June/July/August 12,752
- Krueger Swim Team 36
- Beloit Tide 120
- Sunday, August 23rd, last day of the season
- Pool Shut down has begun and will finish in September.

Edwards Pavilion/Ice Arena in Telfer Park

- 9 Paid Rentals in August.
- 16 rentals for the season (June, July, August).
- Rink Tec has been scheduled for Ice Arena startup.
- Entrance doors have been schedule to be replace the week of September 14th

Adult Softball Leagues

- End of Season Tournaments take place for all 5 leagues.
- Preparing for Fall Softball Leagues, planning to extend the deadline until September 11th.

Rotary River Center

- 4 Rotary Meetings
- 3 FOR Events
- Held Ride Across Wisconsin Event at the Rotary on August 29th.
- 9 paid rentals in August

Playgrounds and Camps

- Vernon Park averages 35 kids/day
- Summit Park averages 25 kids/day
- Krueger Park averages 20 kids/day
- Big Hill Park averages 12-16 kids per week

- 18 participants @ Wacky Wednesdays
- 6 participants @ Critter Camp

Other Programs/Activities

- Punt, Pass & Kick held with 40 participants. 8/14
- Held outdoor movie at Krueger Haskell Golf Course on 8/28. Disappointing turnout due to weather.
- Lagoon Operation began our fall hours.

Beloit Dirty Dash

- 340 kids registered for this inaugural event.
- 60 Volunteers the day of to help with operations.
- Many hours, by many departments made this event happen. It was a great experience for all involved.
- Critique meeting is scheduled for next week September 10th
- Revenue and Expense report will come out next week as we are still collecting some items, however this program was an exceptional boost for the Leisure Services operating budget.
- Over \$3,000 in business sponsorships have been collected.

Grinnell Hall

- 2 more bus trips planned! These have been very well received by Grinnell Members.
- Final Picnic for the summer was held on August 27th.
- Membership drive has begun and going well.
- Jazzercise program started on Saturday August 29th.
-

UP - Coming Activities:

- Fall Wiffleball Leagues - September 14th
- Fall Kickball Leagues - September 15th
- Adult Volleyball League - October 26th
- Ice Arena Set-up begins - September 8th
- BYHA begins practice - October 12th
- Public Skate starts - October 23. (Friday's 7-9pm, Saturday & Sunday's 2-4pm) through March.