

Maywood Report

Marina, Parks, and Forestry

February 6, 2024

Kendra Kelling – Maywood Director

Programming & Events

- Spring program planning is underway! Flapjack Day is coming up Sunday, March 17th.
- Maple sugar training took place on 1/27, and Y-Koda has field trips lined up.
- 2024 budgeting, insurance, accounting meetings and event planning are being finalized.
- A Team Maywood planning meeting took place on 1/24, as we prepare to kick off the biking season.
- Winter programming highlights include: Wishing for Winter, which was well attended by pre-school families; Dave Kuckuk's presentation on the 25th Anniversary of his Ice Age Hike; Wreath Making and Porch Pot Making; A Full Moon Night Hike; and the Older, Wiser, Livelier Scholars program, which featured a Bur Oak Hike, Environmental History, Winter Potluck, Pigeon River Estuary Hike, Survival Skills and Nichols Creek Hike.

Land Management

- Maple sugaring season is here earlier than ever. Dave Kuckuk assisted with test tapping on 1/30. Visited Smokey Lake on 1/4 to pick up new pan and meet the owners. Mike DeMaster shared a thorough documentation that he has developed of the entire Maple Sugaring process.
- On 1/26, Met with City of Sheboygan, Stantec, and LNRP to discuss current and potential grant opportunities-Sustain Our Great Lakes, Fund for Lake Michigan, and Targeted Runoff Management grant programs. Met with Stantec, LNRP and WisCorps to discuss WisCorps services and potential for future engagement.
- The City of Sheboygan removed several ash trees down along the trail in December, and several more came down during January's snow storm.
- Property Stewardship Committee has continued to meet monthly, and on 11/20 and volunteers held a workday following the meeting to remove and treat invasive buckthorn from the deer enclosure in the Maple Forest.

Building & Grounds

- The City of Sheboygan completed all winter maintenance tasks, including: checking filters, condensate line, and light timers; prepping the wagon trail and prairie for ski grooming; and providing salt and sand for icy areas. In addition, they replaced weather stripping on doors, transported trees and hung the wreath outside the entrance.
- On 12/26, City Electricians fixed the lights on the sign by the road. They also came into the building to work on the emergency light, but will need to return with parts. In January, the lights on the sign by the road went out again, and electricians are still working to figure out the issue.

Walkway lights are also not working, after electricians checked on a couple that were burnt out. They conveyed that these are older models and may be difficult to replace.

- On 1/5, a park visitor drove into the light pole closest to the port-a-potty, damaging the pole and the outlet at the base of the pole. This has not yet been addressed.
- On 1/21, two cars were broken into at Maywood, along with several other locations throughout the community.

Staffing

- Nate Dallesasse came onboard as the new Office Coordinator on 1/3 and he is doing a great job settling into his new role.

Maple Sugar House Project

- The Maple Sugar House Committee resumed meetings on 1/15, as the potential for a Capital Campaign Project is beginning to gain momentum. Reviews of build plans, construction estimates, and information gathering is underway, and a need for additional research and needs assessment has been determined. A tentative timeline outlining needs and expectations was developed in December to guide next steps. A Q&A session including all Executive Committee members, Property Stewardship Committee members, Maple Sugar House Committee Members, and Steve Schmitt took place on 11/14.

Partnerships & Networking

- Met with Sarah DeZwarte on 1/29 to discuss metrics, evaluation, and goal-setting. Represented Maywood at the Y-Koda Outdoor Skills Banquet as a volunteer on 12/7.
- Met with Tom Rauwerdink, Library Assistant at the Mead Public Library, on 12/8 to discuss opportunity for Maywood participation in upcoming science podcast.
- Met with the Sheboygan Sustainable Task Force Transportation Subcommittee on 11/20 to develop plans for an Electric Vehicle Expo.
- Met with Better Life Chiropractic team on 11/16 to discuss stability, balance, and hiking series to be held at Maywood January-March.
- Represented Maywood at the Association of Fundraising Professionals Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter's National Philanthropy Day Event on 11/15.