

# Maywood Report

Marina, Parks, and Forestry

May 7, 2024

Kendra Kelling – Maywood Director

## Programming & Events

- Planning for Walk on the Wild Side, Prairie Walk, and other summer programming is underway!
- Developed and led OWLS Programs: GPS Navigation and Geocaching 2/1, Winter Tree ID with Dave 2/9, Bur Oak 2/16, Animal Tracks on 2/23, Maple Sugaring 3/1, Trout Unlimited Onion River Restoration 3/8, Ojibwe Language & History 3/22, Kamrath Creek 4/5, Birding 4/12, Camp Riversite 4/19, and Arbor Day 4/26.
- 4/27-Arbor Day Tree Planting event. Total of 100 trees planted (20 by OWLS the previous day). 10 Sugar Maples planted to replace invasive buckthorn in Forest Unit 1 deer enclosure north of Maple Forest. 10 Red Cedar, 10 White Oak to replace ash lost to EAB in Forest Unit 3. 20 Hackberry, 20 Red Maple, and 10 Swamp White Oak planted to replace ash lost to EAB in Floodplain Unit 1 and Floodplain Unit 3 as a part of the Great Lakes Bird Observatory Sustain our Great Lakes regional partnership grant. These 50 trees and 100 tree tubes and stakes paid for with grant funds. 20 River Birch planted in this floodplain section as well.
- 4/20-Earth Day Park Clean-up.
- 4/20-Saturday Morning Maywood Bird Walks begin and continue weekly through the end of May. 29 species detected on 4/20 and 30 on 4/27.
- 3/17-Flapjack Day was a hit! A huge thank you to all of the staff, volunteers, board members, and our partners with the Sheboygan County YMCA and City of Sheboygan for their time and energy supporting the event! Raffle items left from Banquet were used at Flapjack Day and Smoky Lake donated a Beginner Tapping Kit. Laura Anderson of Biggby is interested in providing hot chocolate for Wishing for Winter in 2024 and coffee for Flapjack Day in 2025.
- 3/5 Hosted Crane Count Training.
- 3/4-Attended Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting to discuss the Electric Vehicle Expo at Maywood.
- Trivia Night was a welcome return, with a full house on 2/3!

## Land Management

- Property Stewardship Committee Meeting met monthly on 2/19, 3/18, 4/15, and conducted a Bur Oak Litter Clean-up on 4/24.
- The Property Stewardship Committee, with assistance from the City, has been working to identify precise boundary lines for the park between Maywood and Evergreen and account for parcels that have been added over the years. While none of the documents recorded in the Register of Deeds office indicate the parcels were being added to Maywood, there are 4 parcels for which there are Common Council resolutions attaching the pieces to Maywood. According to this research, Maywood includes 144 acres, but the boundary line between Maywood and

Evergreen is still unclear. The City Clerk shared that she found a document requesting the land be dedicated parkland to Maywood or Evergreen (by the Director of Planning and Development) but that was just a report that was referred to Board of Parks and Forestry and then it was filed. She found a Resolution in 2007 that was waiving the City's interest in future road right of way for possible extension of Taylor Drive. The committee has also been working to clarify to what extent biking is permitted in the park and the City Attorney provided clarification on Sec. 40-46.

- Volunteer efforts in the park have been ramping up. 3/27-Volunteer Group with Sheboygan County Health and Human Services Youth Justice dismantled and cleaned up old benches in disrepair in the wetlands. The group returned on 4/24 and replaced stonework on hillside steps, cleaned maple sugaring supplies, and sorted and filled water jugs in preparation for tree planting efforts. 4/10-Millipore Sigma Volunteers cleaned out garage. 4/12-Lutheran High Volunteers took down and cleaned Maple Sugaring supplies and located survey bricks in overflow parking lot. Adopt-a-Habitat training on 4/13 and 4/17.
- Received one of the two grant applications submitted for Bur Oak Preserve Trail Development & Habitat Improvement. \$1,000 requested from Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin's Norma & Stanley DeBoer Quiet Trails Fund. \$2,600 requested from South Eastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium Assistance Program.
- Lake Michigan Bird Observatory (Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory) received a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant to plant native plants and trees, plus expand the Motus Wildlife Tracking system. Maywood Environmental Park has committed to planting fifty whip trees to replace ash trees along the Pigeon River and planting native trees and/or shrubs at one or more sites around the border of the park to reduce the impact of storm water runoff from surrounding housing developments on the riparian ecosystem. The grant provides an allowance of up to \$8,000 for purchase of plants at Maywood.
- 3/21 Met with Bill Holbrook, donor of the Hummingbird Garden and Diane Reisterer, Garden Club member and lead volunteer of the Hummingbird Garden development, to discuss plans for improvements in 2024.
- 2/2-City Forestry crew removed dead ash across trails and along parking lot, as well as pine tree next to garage. Tim did not see any concerns in the Maple Forest and advised to wait until the ground is drier to trim the Norway maple. 3/5-Met with Tim Bull. City is cleaning up junk wood area across the street and asked what we wanted to keep. Only kept split wood, as the rest was mostly rotten. Tim will provide additional wood for firewood as needed and cut down into ~16 inch chunks for us. Kendra informed Tim of several tree concerns: Tim's crew cut down a poplar that was leaning in the Maple Forest, cut the Beech tree in the lower deer enclosure into manageable pieces, and removed an ash from across the path east of the building that runs down the hill. The dead pine with the broken top northeast of the building and the small pine in the upper deer enclosure are on the list for removal. Kendra and Tim discussed options for getting rid of the buckthorn-Tim may be able to get a chipper into the maple forest, otherwise we will need to pull the brush out so it can be accessed.
- The Maple Forest trees were tapped on 2/15 and a total of 410 gallons of sap was collected for a total of 9 gallons of processed syrup. The first collection took place on 2/21, and sap slowed significantly beginning 3/2. Property Stewardship volunteers cleaned the evaporator on 4/18.

## **Building & Grounds**

- 4/15-Resumed monthly meetings with Joe Kerlin.
- 2/2-JSM service visit to adjust timing on security footage that was off due to power outage.  
4/12-JSM Secure visit due to smoke detector error. Return visit on 4/18 for same error. Error has continued to occur on a nearly daily basis. JSM is ordering a replacement smoke detector for installation on 5/7.
- 3/28-YMCA deep cleaned floors in pre-school classroom.
- 3/15-Otis Elevator Inspection. Elevator phone is disconnected. Mike with City Buildings and Grounds is working to reconnect. IT Department came on 3/20 to identify phone line and to transition Maywood staff to cloud-based email.
- 2/1-Day Care Licensor advised that Radon mitigation is required in response to test indicating high levels. City was informed on 2/2 that Maywood tested at 10.7 pCi/L, recommended is 4 pCi/L. On 2/9 City conducted a follow up test, which also came in high at 7.2 pCi/L. 3/1-Joe emailed Kendra with his recommendations on Radon Mitigation. Joe proposed that the city will pay for the old side, \$4,625 and Maywood pays for the new side, \$3,595. Electrical is not included-hopefully the city can do this.
- 2/28-New Refrigerator delivered from Bitter Neumann to replace the one in the kitchen that stopped working.
- 2/7-Provided new wood panels for Laurie's students to paint for display on the Prairie Outlook.
- 2/3-Electricians came to address lighting issues. Walkway lights were fixed-there was a problem with the timer and they decided to remove the timer, so they are now automatic dawn to dusk, but the timer could be replaced if needed. They also found a few more light bulbs that will work in this old style fixture and ordered a few extras. Emergency light downstairs is fixed. There is an egress part of that light that has to be finished, but the way they were wired when the building was built initially won't work, so they will need to engineer a fix. The damaged light pole will likely have to be removed and replaced along with the conduit that is broken. The lights by the entrance sign are going to have to be a spring fix. There is a bad underground that is causing the breaker to trip.

## **Administration**

- 4/24-Maywood Association Annual Meeting featuring a presentation by Karen Merlau on Snapshot Wisconsin.
- 2/19- Sgt. Andy Kunder of SPD provided ALICE training for Maywood Staff, Y-Koda Staff, and Maywood Front Desk Volunteers.

## **Maple Sugar House Project**

- Maple Sugar House Sub-Committee met monthly on 2/19, 3/18, and 4/15, with a focus on Needs Assessment and continued information gathering. Maple Sugar House Subcommittee Members toured Riveredge on 3/25 and Arch Electric owner Ed Zinthefer's Maple Sugaring operation on 4/30. In 2024, 10 schools signed up to bring 419 students on the Sappin' & Sawin' Field Trip at Maywood. This compares to 11 schools and 393 students in 2023, in addition to 25 students from JMKAC. Wilson is new this year, and Y-Koda is working on expanding to other

schools. In addition, OWLS, Warriner students (27), and a group of participants from RCS (30) participated in Maple Sugar programming this year.

### **Partnerships & Networking**

- Glacial Lakes Conservancy is planning a work day at Bur Oak as a part of Land Trust Days on 7/27 from 9am-noon.
- Working on collaboration with Generations in Plymouth to promote OWLS program on 5/10.
- 4/29-Met with Ashley, student at Lakeland University to plan for her project to compose a musical arrangement inspired by environmental issues at Mayood park.
- 4/25-Attended Sheboygan River Basin Partnership meeting.
- Betterlife Chiropractic held a series of three events focused on hiking balance and stability in partnership with Maywood with a mini workshop on 2/6, and night hike on 3/5 and a full workshop on 4/6.
- 4/5-Met with UWGB Lifelong Learning Coordinator to discuss hosting a course at Maywood in spring of 2025.
- 4/3-DEIJ Community of Practice for Wisconsin Conservation meeting coordinated by the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.
- 3/28-Sheboygan County Cycling Board President, Nathaniel Darling, stopped in to invite Maywood members and leadership to attend their Annual Spring Meeting on 4/18 at 5:30pm at Ivars USA.
- 3/26-Presentation to Ivy League Garden Club at Maywood.
- 3/23-Led five students from Lakeland University Biology Club on a nature walk and provided an overview of Maywood.
- 2/7-Chamber of Commerce Nonprofit Roundtable at Campus Life