

SASY Committee Report Form

Date of meeting: August 2013

Name of Committee: Olbrich Gardens Liaison

Liaison : Mark McFadden

Purpose (goal) of Committee: Liaison with Olbrich Gardens and Olbrich Botanical Society

Action items:

Specific issue(s) to report:

No decisions have been made yet regarding Olbrich's building reconstruction project. In fact, the decision to attempt to raise funds for expansion is still in the "feasibility" stage. Discussions continue between leadership at Olbrich, the Mayor's office and city staff. A final version of the consultant's report should be available shortly.

Regarding the Garver building, a city engineering study has been completed. A presentation on that report was done at the Goodman Community Center on July 25th last month. The results of that study and the conclusions of the report are likely to go a long way toward deciding the eventual fate of the structure.

A link to the Garver report is available here:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/documents/MasterReportCompiled072413.pdf>

Recommendation(s): None. For information only.

Discussion items at board meeting: None. For information only.

Next meeting: September 2013

**Olbrich Botanical Gardens
Report for the Superintendent's Report to Madison's Board of Park Commissioners
August 2013**

Amazingly the summer is almost over. 'Blooming Butterflies', which ends on August 11 has been relatively smooth. The weather, compared to last summer's scorching, dry days, has been good for garden visitors. Staff began irrigating in mid-July – a contrast to last summer as well. The Gardens are looking extremely well and if I was to single out one area (which I don't like to do because all our garden rooms are beautiful), the Perennial Garden is looking particularly lush this week with masses of blooms on many of the tall later-season perennials featured in that garden.

Visitor comment from the past month:

This comment was forwarded by one of our Greeters: "Group of disabled adults just left. Leader wanted us to know how thrilled she was at the treatment they received, which she said isn't always the case. Everyone was supportive and kind." (6.18.13)

Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2013	2012	Previous 5yrs average
June 1 - 30	26,123	24,878	24,426
YTD June 30	109,239	116,322	
Total Member Households (individuals*) June 30	6,459 (10,524)	6,246 (9,529)	

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 6/30/2013	YTD 6/30/2012
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$35,770	\$27,516
Room Rentals YTD*	\$69,902	\$67,692
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$7,705	\$7,755
TOTAL YTD	\$113,377	\$102,963

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

August Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens call 608-246-4550 for more info

Wisconsin Visual Artists Exhibit of Botanical Art, Sundays, 11 am – 5 pm, Aug 4 – Oct 27

Leaf Mulch Sale – Load Your Own Bags: ongoing 10 am - 4 pm daily while supplies last

Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies, 10 am – 4 pm daily, through Aug 11

Madison Public Library's 'Dig Into Reading' Picnic and Concert, Tues, Aug 6, 6 – 8 pm by Madison Public Library

Conservatory Exhibit: Integrated Pest Management, Aug 13 – Oct 27

Daylily Sale, Sat, Aug 17, 10 am – 4 pm & Sun, Aug 18, 11 am – 3 pm by the WI Daylily Society

Dahlia Show, Sat, Aug 17, 10 am – 5 pm & Sun, Aug 18, 9 am – 4 pm by Badger State Dahlia Society

Education – August classes and programs call 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit www.olbrich.org

Guided Garden Strolls – every Sunday, June 2 – September 20 @ 1:30 and 3:30 pm a drop-in casual overview by Olbrich's expert volunteer guides. Each stroll is 45 – 60 minutes in length and varies by season, peak interest and bloom. Meet near the outdoor garden entrance – rain or shine. (cancelled only in the event of dangerous lightning)

NEW! Young Writer's Summer Camp, Mon – Thurs, August 5 – 8, 9 am – 2 pm **FULL!**

Wellness at the Gardens

Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays, 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)

Yogalates, Wednesdays, through Aug 28, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, through Aug 12 (no class July 15), 6 – 7 pm

Garden Walks

Container Gardening Walk, Tues, Aug 13, 6:30 – 8 pm

Hydrangeas & Summer Flowering Shrubs Walk, Wed, Aug 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Garden Lighting for Homeowners Walk, Tues, Aug 22, 7:30 – 9 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Birds, Bees, & Butterflies – Colored Pencils and Acrylics Workshop, Sat, Aug 4, 10 am – 5 pm

Nature and the Creative Process: A photographic Presentation, Mon, Aug 5, 6:30 – 8 pm

Color Theory Through Watercolor Workshop, Sun, Aug 18, 10 am – 5 pm

Drawing: Explore Your Experimental Nature, Sun, Aug 25, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Herbal Harvest Workshop, Sun, Aug 25, 2 – 4:30 pm

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: Bugs in the Garden

Ladybugs, Fri, Aug 2, 10 – 11 am **FULL!**

Bees, Fri, Aug 9, 10 – 11 am **FULL!**

Little Sprouts Gardening: Stories in the Garden

Quiet in the Garden, Thu, Aug 1, 10 – 11 am **Full!**

The Little Red Hen, Thu, Aug 8, 10 – 11 am **Full!**

Curious George and the Pizza, Thu, Aug 15, 10 – 11 am **Full!**

Twilight in the Gardens: Fireflies, Fri, Aug 16, 7 – 8 pm **Full!**

Roberta Sladky
July 31, 2013