

REGULAR MEETING
Board of Park Commissioners
October 5, 2015
Lincoln Center
1519 Water St.
Meeting Room
6:00 p.m.

*****Please note new location, date and time
then normally scheduled meetings*****

AGENDA

Discussion and Possible action on:

1. Roll Call.
2. Approval of the September 2, 2015 Minutes.
3. ***Request to Develop Cultural Commons in Pfiffner Pioneer Park (Stevens Point Rotary Club).
4. Adjournment.

***** This item will be discussed jointly with the City Plan Commission.**

Meeting Rider

Any person who has special needs while attending this meeting or needing agenda materials for this meeting should contact the City Clerk as soon as possible to ensure a reasonable accommodation can be made. The City Clerk can be reached by telephone at (715) 346-1569, TDD # 346-1556 or by mail at 1515 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481.

Copies of ordinances, resolutions, reports and minutes of the committee meetings are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection during normal business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00p.m.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Please take notice that a quorum of the Common Council, City Boards/Commissions may attend this meeting.

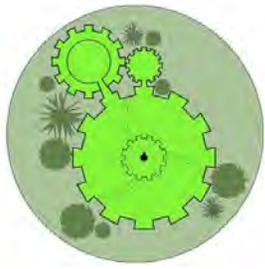
Agenda notes

3. About a year ago I was approached by several members of the Stevens Point Rotary Club looking for a project to celebrate their 100th anniversary. We looked at a number of different projects in the parks, but most did not fit what they were trying to accomplish. They then proposed the idea of developing a garden area similar to one that the Rotary Club in Janesville constructed and operates. After looking at number of different sites throughout the city/parks, the area just north of the lagoon was chosen as the best overall site. This area years ago housed a senior exercise course. As the equipment deteriorated, it was removed and not replaced because of the lack of use. Since then the area sees very little use from park patrons, except for locating the portable restrooms there during Riverfront Rendezvous.

The Rotary Club then approached the two Sister Cities and Partner city organizations in town, to see if they would be willing to work on this project with them. The groups have worked together over the past several months putting together their vision statement, why the project, objectives and the proposed plan. They also met with staff to work out a maintenance agreement for the area. All of this material is attached.

If the proposal were approved, the Rotary Club with help from the other three organizations would start a capital campaign to raise the necessary funds to cover the costs of the project and ongoing maintenance of the area.

As staff, I would recommend approval of the development of The Cultural Commons as proposed, along with the maintenance agreement.



The Cultural Commons

An Interactive Garden and Education Space

Project Title: The Cultural Commons: An Interactive Garden and Education Space

Our Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a garden and education space within Pfiffner Park to serve as an interactive and dynamic educational experience for all people. This space will establish a natural *point of beginning* along the Wisconsin River, leading to a greater understanding of and connection to our community's past, present, and future multicultural heritage.

Founding Organizations

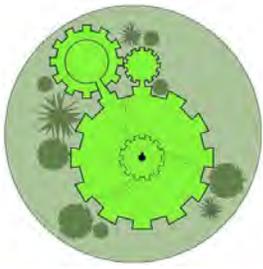
The Rotary Club of Stevens Point, the Partner City of Estelí, Nicaragua, the Sister Cities of Gulcz, Poland and Rostov Veliky, Russia, along with support from the UWSP community, have joined together to conceptualize, create, and dedicate an attractive and enduring reflection of our collective role in the culture of Stevens Point.

Why is this project being proposed?

The gardens will honor our community's history and heritage and the long-term international relationships with the people of Rostov Veliky, Russia, Gulcz, Poland, and Esteli, Nicaragua. The gardens will be a strong and visible statement of commitment to the idea that we in Stevens Point, Wisconsin are indeed part of a wider world.

Objectives

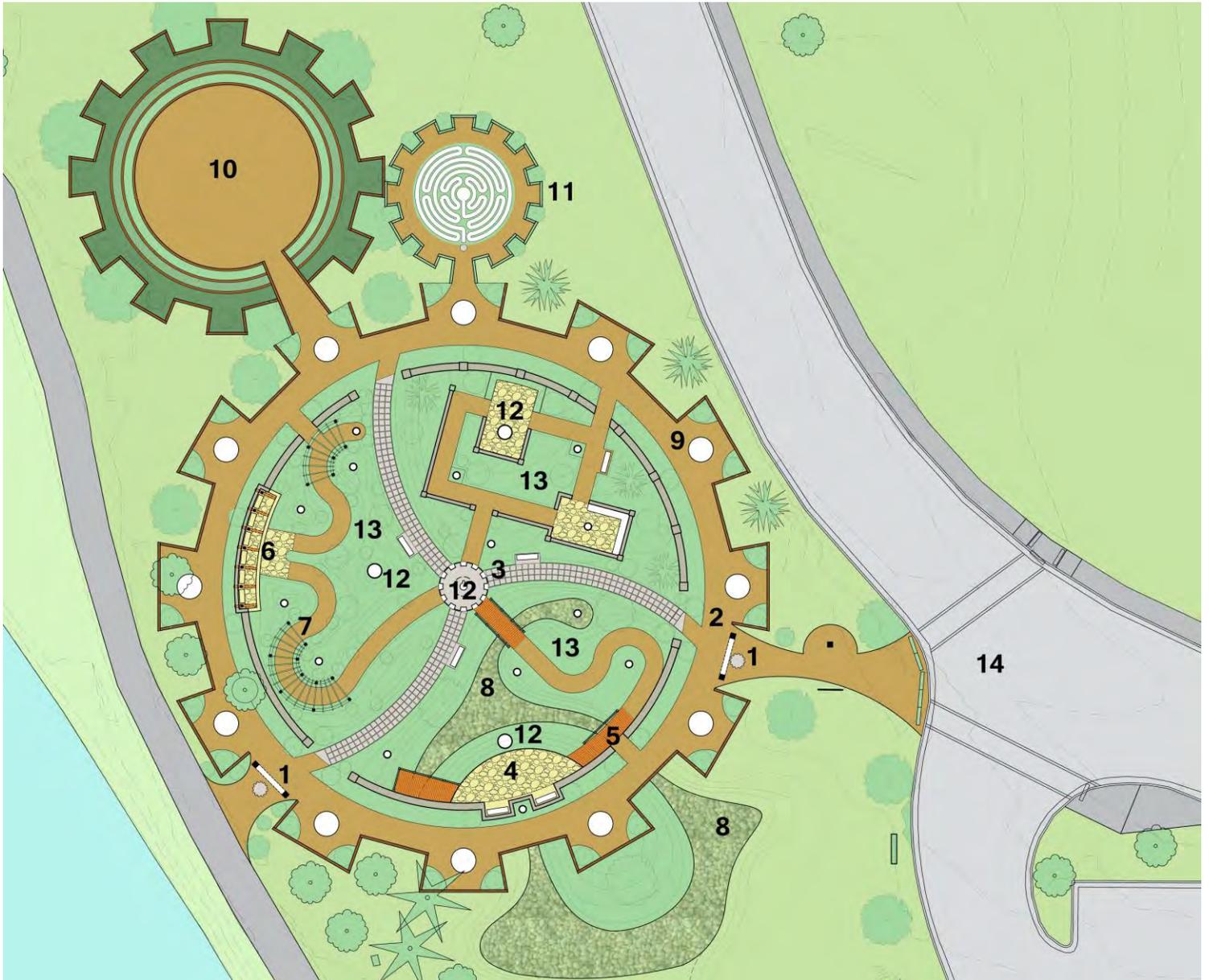
- **Represent** the different cultures of the three sister/partner cities through native plantings, shade structures, and walking paths as well as through an interactive smart phone application.
- **Educate** about local and regional heritage and culture via initiatives, tourism, activities and events as well as historical facts linked by phone app, and as experienced within the gardens.
- **Celebrate** multicultural relationships through unique sculptures and other site features.
- **Create** an outdoor place for people to come together for celebration, education, and learning through a variety of experiential spaces such as an outdoor classroom amphitheater, a reflective labyrinth, and flexible community organization exhibit areas.
- **Develop** greater awareness and appreciation of other cultures, local heritage, and international relationships.
- **Enhance** aesthetic and functional enjoyment of the Riverfront.
- **Promote** cultural tourism
- **Support** health and wellness through the gardens' proximity to existing natural areas such as the Wisconsin River and the Green Circle Trail
- **Encompass** sustainable design through native plantings, natural materials, and wildlife habitat
- **Live** as an enduring multicultural, multigenerational, fully accessible space as linked to a vibrant community life.



The Cultural Commons

An Interactive Garden and Education Space

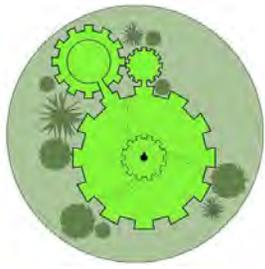
Proposed Site Plan and Features



1. Entry Gate and Kiosk; 2. Cultural Commons Exhibit Spaces and Path; 3. Specialty Donor Pavers; 4. Flagstone Paving; 5. Wooden bridges/decking; 6. Veranda shade structure and seating; 7. Pergola; 8. Rain Garden “Riverscape”; 9. Community Exhibit Space; 10. Outdoor Classroom; 11. Labyrinth; 12. Specialty Sculptures; 13. Themed Garden Plantings; 14. Accessible Crosswalks.

ROTARY CLUB OF STEVENS POINT

PARTNER CITY OF ESTELI, NICARAGUA ● SISTER CITY OF GULCZ, POLAND ● SISTER CITY OF ROSTOV VELIKY, RUSSIA



The Cultural Commons

An Interactive Garden and Education Space

Partner Organizations Sponsoring the Project:

The Rotary Club of Stevens Point

Rotary International is 1.2 million neighbors, friends, and community leaders in 34,000 clubs who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities and around the world. Our differing occupations, cultures, and countries give us a unique perspective.

Our impact starts with our members – people who work tirelessly with their clubs to solve some of our communities' toughest challenges. Our efforts are supported by Rotary International, our member association, and The Rotary Foundation, which turns generous donations into grants that fund the work of our members and partners around the world. Our shared passion for service helps us to accomplish the following:

- Scholarships for students from SPASH, Pacelli, MSTC and UWSP
- International Youth Exchange
- A pre-school in Esteli, Nicaragua
- Literacy in Turkey
- Grants for local youth and non-profit organizations
- Local efforts to support Rotary International's Post-polio Syndrome Messaging Project

The Russian Sister City Project

Rostov Veliky (Rostov the Great) is a community of 35,000 people located on the banks of Lake Nero about 125 miles northeast of Moscow, Russia. This ancient city is over 1,150 years old and attracts many tourists to see its churches, museums, and the famous Rostov bells.

The purpose of the Sister City Project, begun in 1983, is to nurture mutual understanding and peace through personal relationships between the people of Stevens Point, Wisconsin and Rostov Veliky, Yaroslavl region, Russia. This communication includes a sharing of our language and culture through exchanges in education, environment, tourism, and the arts.

In recent years, the Russian Sister City Project has focused on an exchange of information and ideas on the natural environment in our two cities and regions. Stevens Point hosted three groups from Rostov Veliky in 2008, 2010 and 2012, all funded by Open World grants from the US Library of Congress. Delegates engaged in lively conversations with local counterparts on ground water, solid waste, alternative energies, and citizen initiatives to preserve the environment.

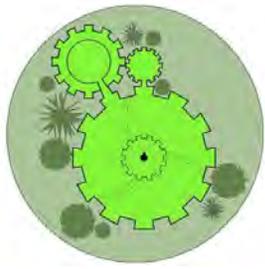
Eleven citizens from Stevens Point traveled to Rostov Veliky in the summer of 2012 to help celebrate the city's 1,150th anniversary. Every other June we send two teachers and their student assistants to Rostov Veliky to teach conversational English to children, ages 10 to 18.

The Gulcz, Poland Sister City

The Gulcz Sister City relationship is managed by the Polish Heritage Awareness Society, a 501c3 non-profit organization "dedicated to the education, promotion and preservation of Polish American Heritage." Some of our history and activities include:

ROTARY CLUB OF STEVENS POINT

PARTNER CITY OF ESTELI, NICARAGUA ● SISTER CITY OF GULCZ, POLAND ● SISTER CITY OF ROSTOV VELIKY, RUSSIA



The Cultural Commons

An Interactive Garden and Education Space

- Conducting and hosting ongoing family-to-family visits in Gulcz and the Stevens Point area to share cultures
- Provided clothing and school supplies to Gulcz in the early days of the sister city relationship
- Provided the funding for Gulcz's first computers to use in the classroom; the Gulcz school has been renamed the Polish American School because of these activities
- Promoting face-to-face teacher and classroom exchange visits via Skype with Almond-Bancroft and Gulcz grade schools
- Developed and hosted a weekend 150th Anniversary Celebration of Michael Koziczowski, the first Polish settler to Portage County in 1857, followed by thousands of other families
- Hosting the annual Dozynki Harvest Festival; the group has awarded over \$50,000 in scholarships to area junior and senior high school students
- Hosting community expert lectures on:
 - Identification of safe mushrooms to enjoy;
 - Personal experiences of living and surviving in a World War II concentration camp and resettlement in Stevens Point;
 - A firsthand account of Saint Pope John Paul II's visit to Stevens Point.

The Esteli, Nicaragua Partner City

Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas, Inc., (W/NP), a charter member of Partners of the Americas, Inc., is located in Stevens Point, WI. Within the organization, W/NP has a unique Partner City program linking communities in Nicaragua with communities in Wisconsin, and Stevens Point/Estelí Partner City is one of these.

This structure provides grassroots opportunities through people-to-people activities at the local level that promote cultural awareness, sustainable community development, and form ties of friendship between the people of Stevens Point, WI and Estelí, Nicaragua. The concept of partnership empowers citizens from both countries to identify and affect change.

We bring people together, help them become aware, and identify ways to put their ideas into action. Collective efforts have:

- Significantly improved emergency medical services in Estelí with the addition of a functioning ambulance that once provided service in Stevens Point,
- Enhanced early childhood education and vocational skill building courses in Estelí through Stevens Point Rotary support, and
- Made possible youth sports programs, personal development initiatives, and ongoing youth exchanges between the two communities.

These and many other local projects continue to bring about tremendous change in people's lives as we come together for the good of others.

Implementation Strategy, Schedule and Funding:

The commemorative garden is proposed to be a cooperation between local private and public partners. A preliminary fundraising feasibility study has been conducted with community members representing a wide cross section of interests, businesses, individuals and community organizations. There is significant interest, as well as financial and logistical support established for the execution and long term maintenance of the project.

The base project construction cost is estimated at \$514, 000 with an additional \$50, 000 to establish an ongoing maintenance endowment. All funds will be administered through the Community Foundation which has established a partnership with the 4 organizing and founding partners of the park project. (See memorandum of understanding and other general project documents)

The project will take approximately 3 years to complete. Official fundraising will take place from December 2015- April of 2016. Construction groundbreaking will begin in the Spring/Summer of 2016, with an official opening and commemoration in the Summer of 2017.

Features of Site

- Central location on main pedestrian park access
- Beautiful river connection
- Separated/protected from bandstand viewing area
- Excellent visibility and walkability through park
- Close to all amenities, and gallery
- On Green Circle Trail
- Project will stimulate necessary improvements of pedestrian access to the riverfront from Crosby and Center Point Dr.

GIS Photo: NOT TO SCALE



Existing Site Photos



View East to Town.

Note: Memorial trees have been identified on plans and will remain.

Existing Site Photos

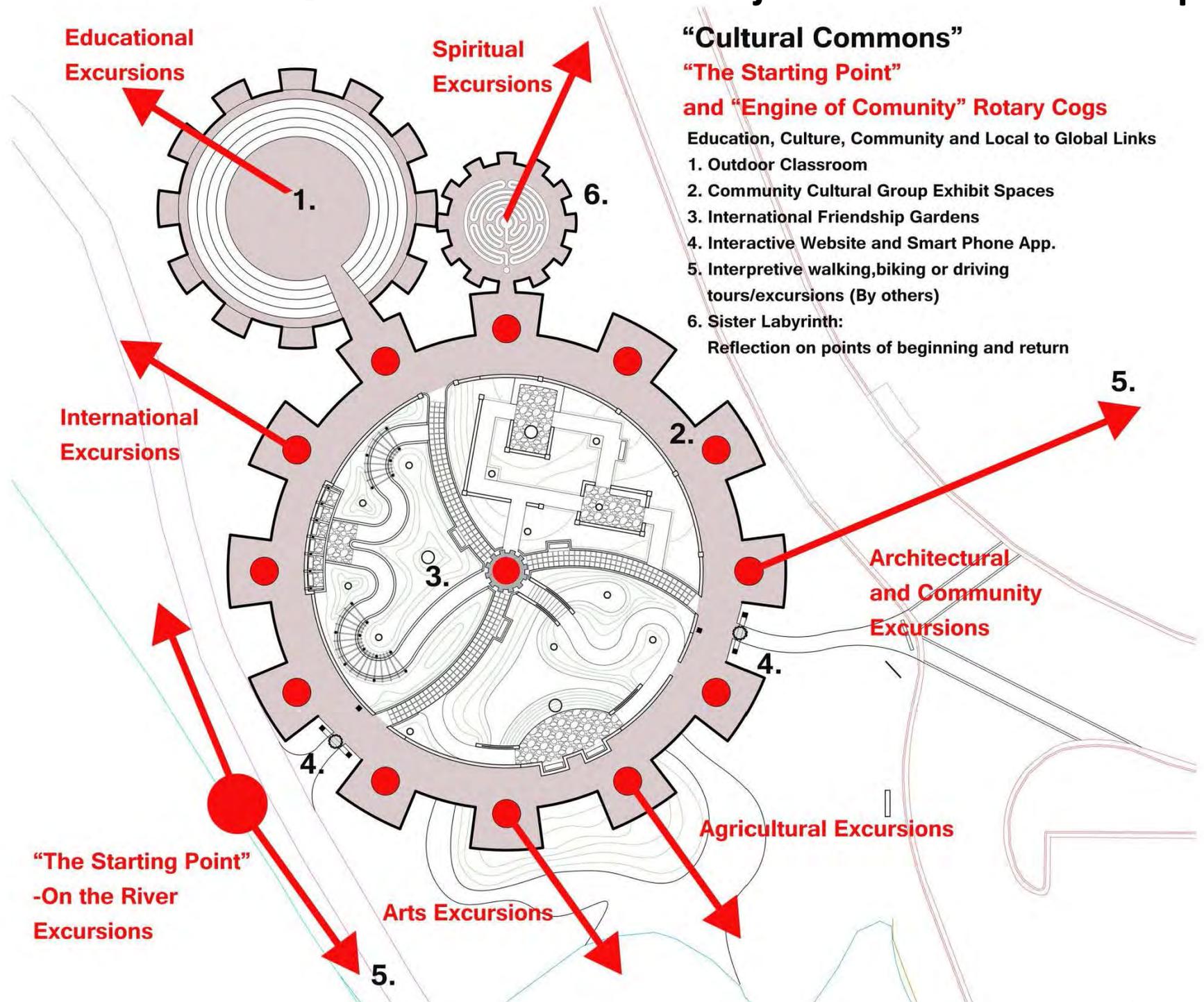


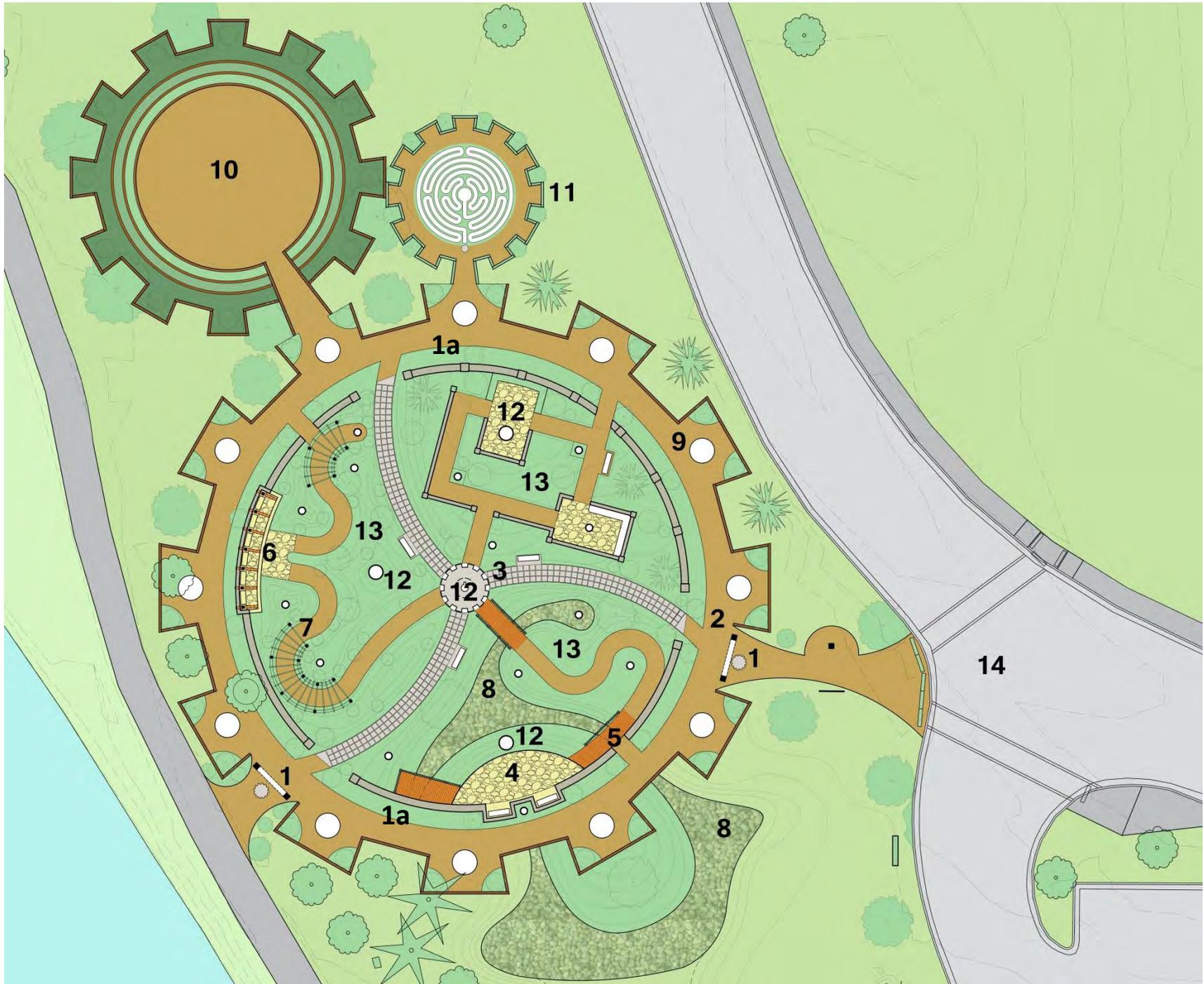
View West to River

Note: Memorial trees have been identified on plans and will remain

The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features – Info Graphic



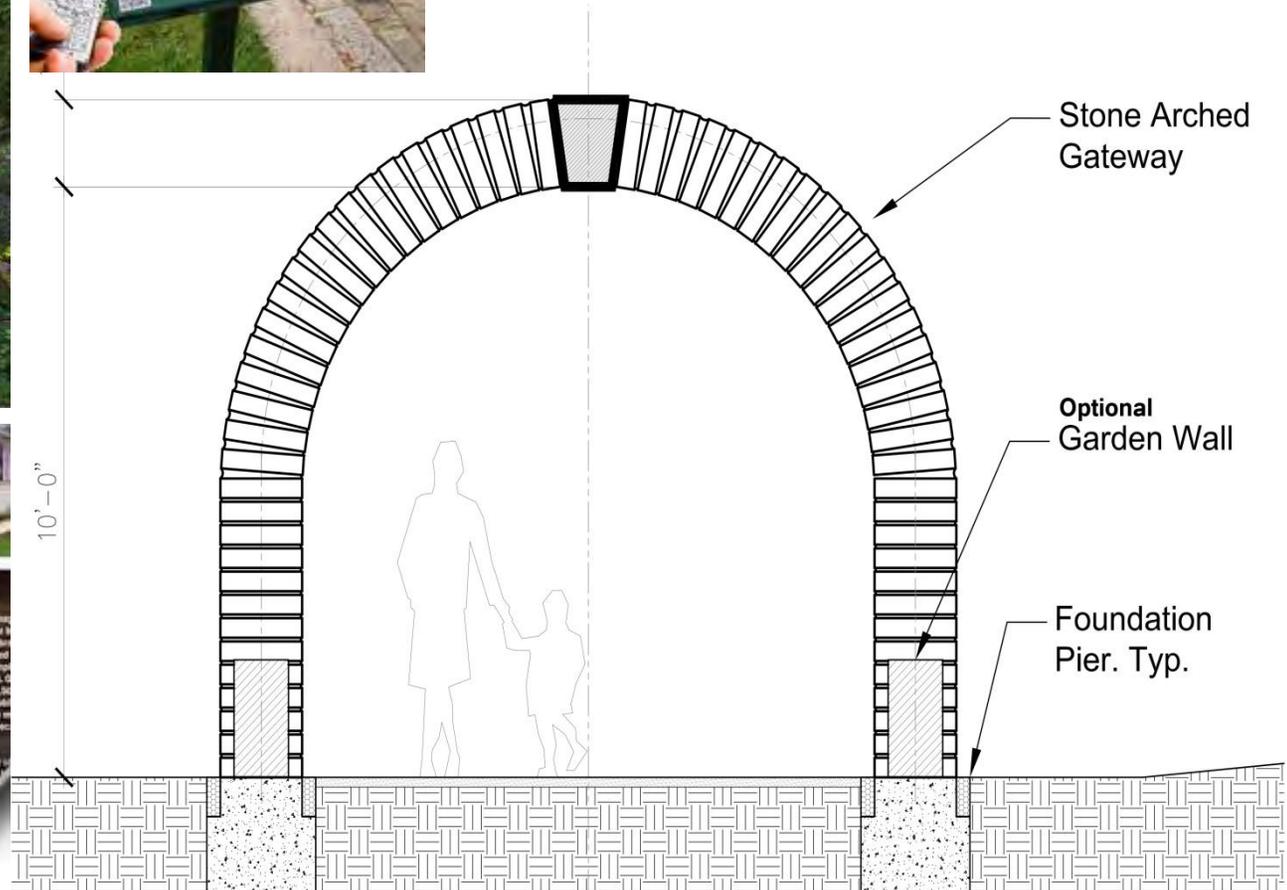


The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

1: Entry Gateway: Stone Masonry Arch with Rotary inscribed key stone. Local/regional stone to be used with mortar and rebar core. Entry Kiosk will link to smart phone app and cultural gardens information.



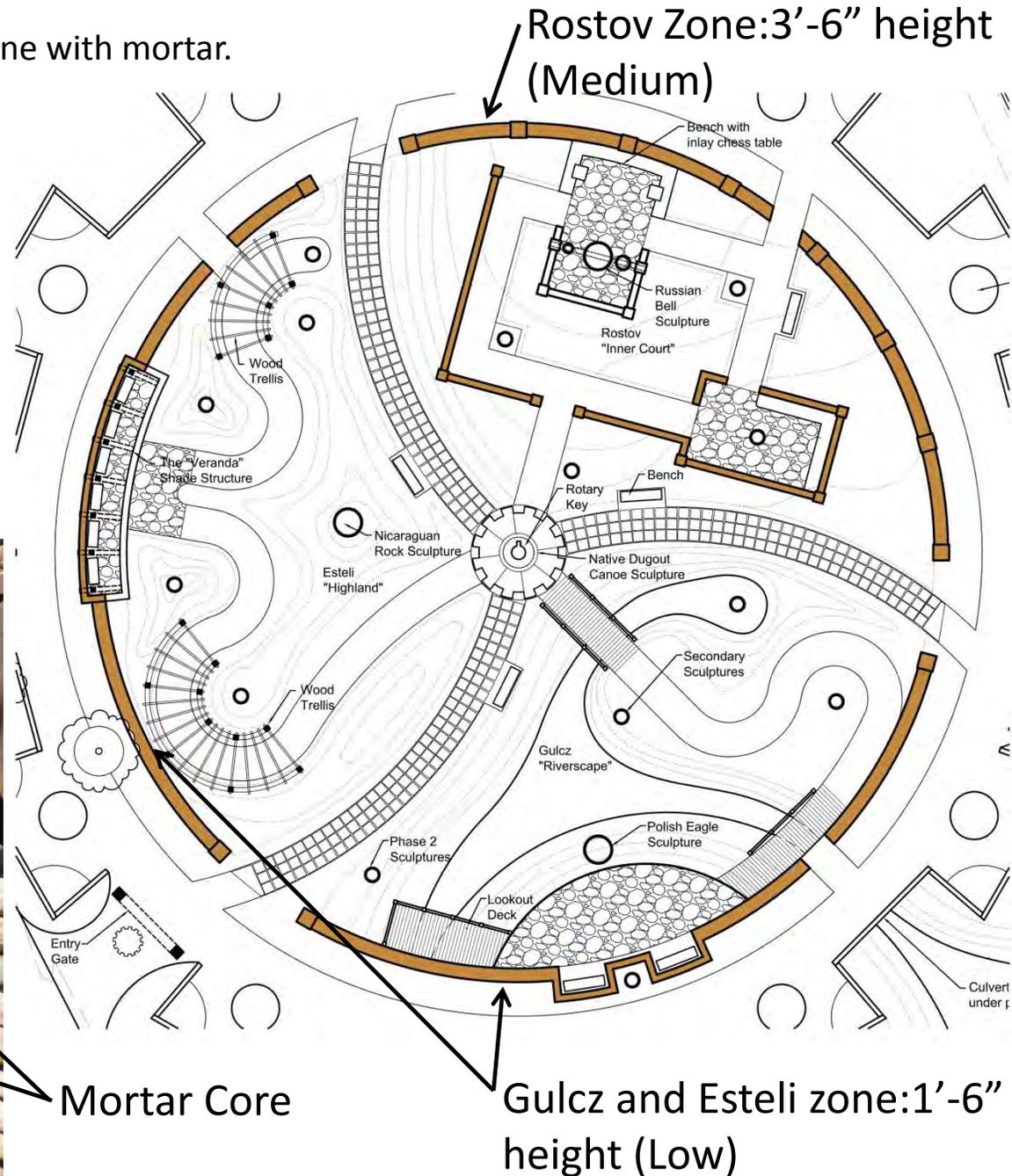
The Cultural Commons: Design Information

See Exhibit A "Drawings" for Cross Reference

1a: Garden Walls: Local farm granite field stone with mortar.



Project Features



The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

2: Surface A: Hard-pack gravel paving of crushed stone and road base per typical city specifications. Compact path for ease of wheelchair accessibility.



3: Surface B: 12 - 18” Donor pavers of granite or other cut paving stone. Approximately 1” thick, set on a base course of free draining sand/crushed stone.



The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

4: Surface C: Natural 2” flagstone pavers set on a bed of crushed stone and sand. Stone dust to be mixed with mortar and set in joints.



5: Wood decking/bridge: Pressure treated wood decking set on piers/anchors. Wood railing along sides where slopes are greater than 18.” (drainage culvert and rip rap below)

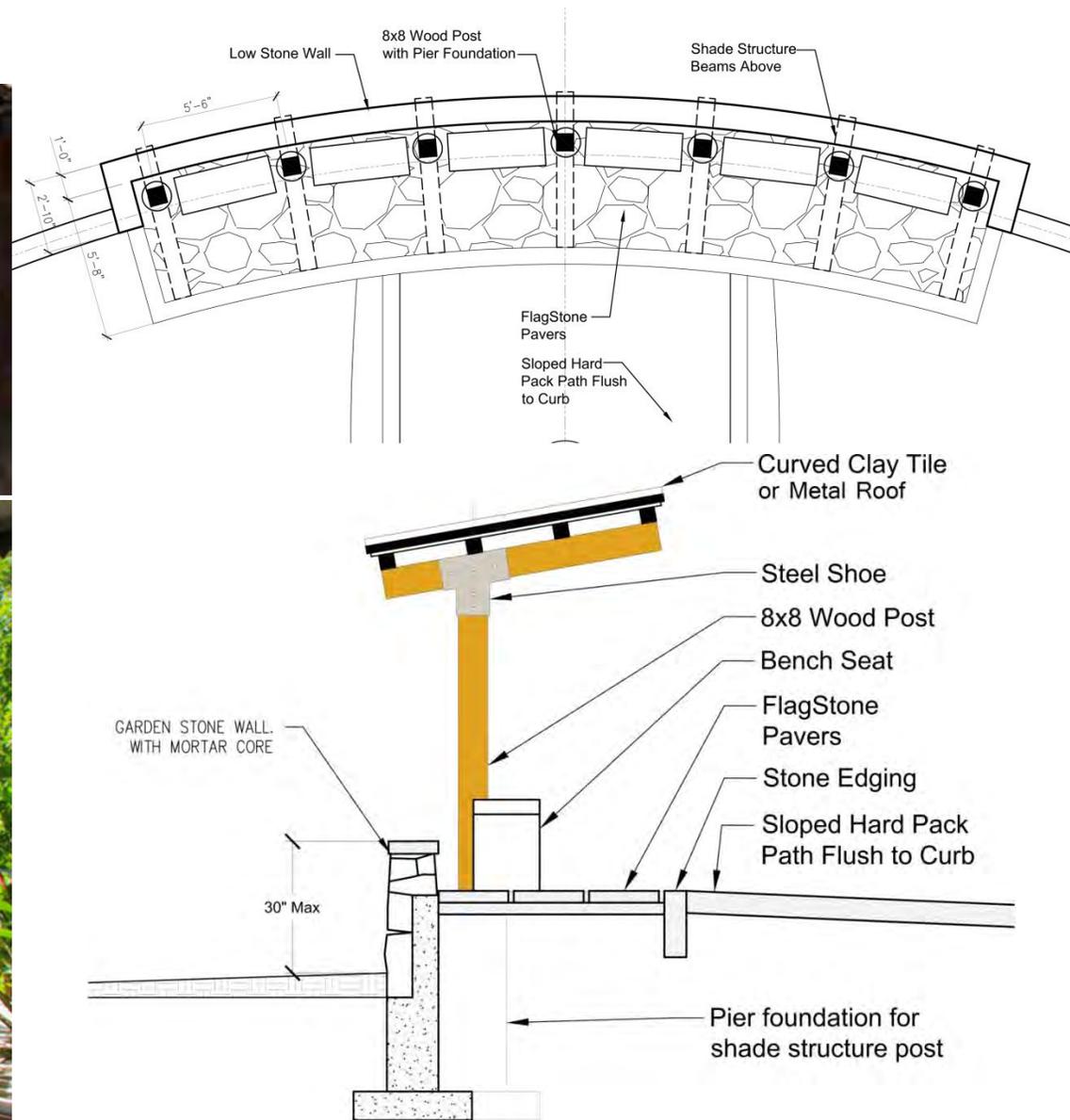


The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

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6: Esteli “Veranda” Shade Structure: 8” wood timber frame (Rot resistant Locust or pressure treated) with stainless steel shoe joints. Clay tile or metal roof and decking over frame.

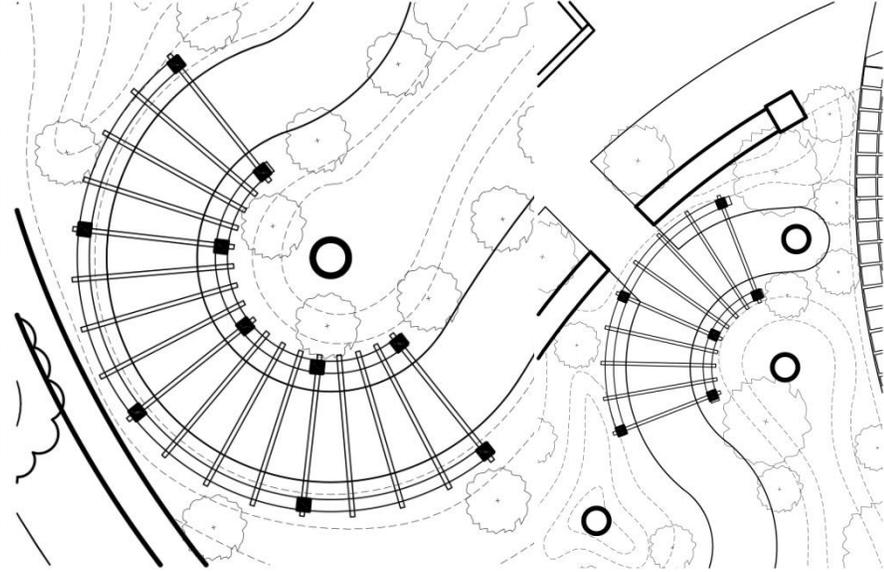


The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

7: Esteli Pergola: Pressure treated wood pergola with Wisteria, Climbing Rose and Clematis.



The Cultural Commons: Design Information

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

Project Features

8: Rain Garden “River-scape”: slopes planted with soft rush, Blue Flag Iris and Joe-Pye, Smooth Stone Rip-Rap (for stabilization). Areas are for drainage and catchment and possible future lagoon/river connection water feature. See landscape planting schedule # 13.



The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

9: Community Organization Exhibit Space: Space for temporary informational kiosks, rotating sculptures, exhibit structures, or festival booths. Spaces to be allotted to groups based on cultural and community identity per the theme of “Cultural Diversity” and “Heritage” as well as significant community based interests and industries. Note: Design of structures are to be removable/temporary by individual organizations and are not part of the current project scope of work or budget.

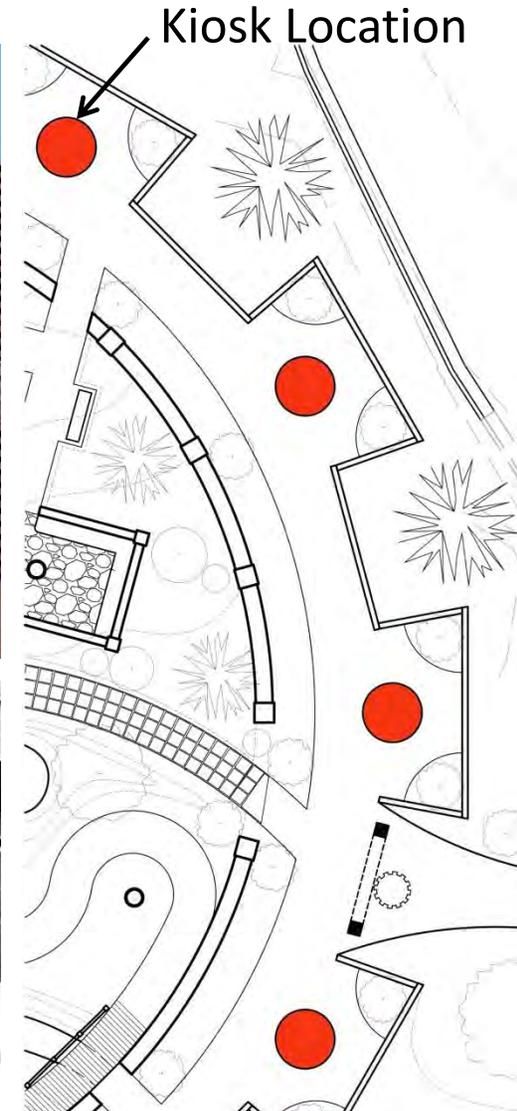
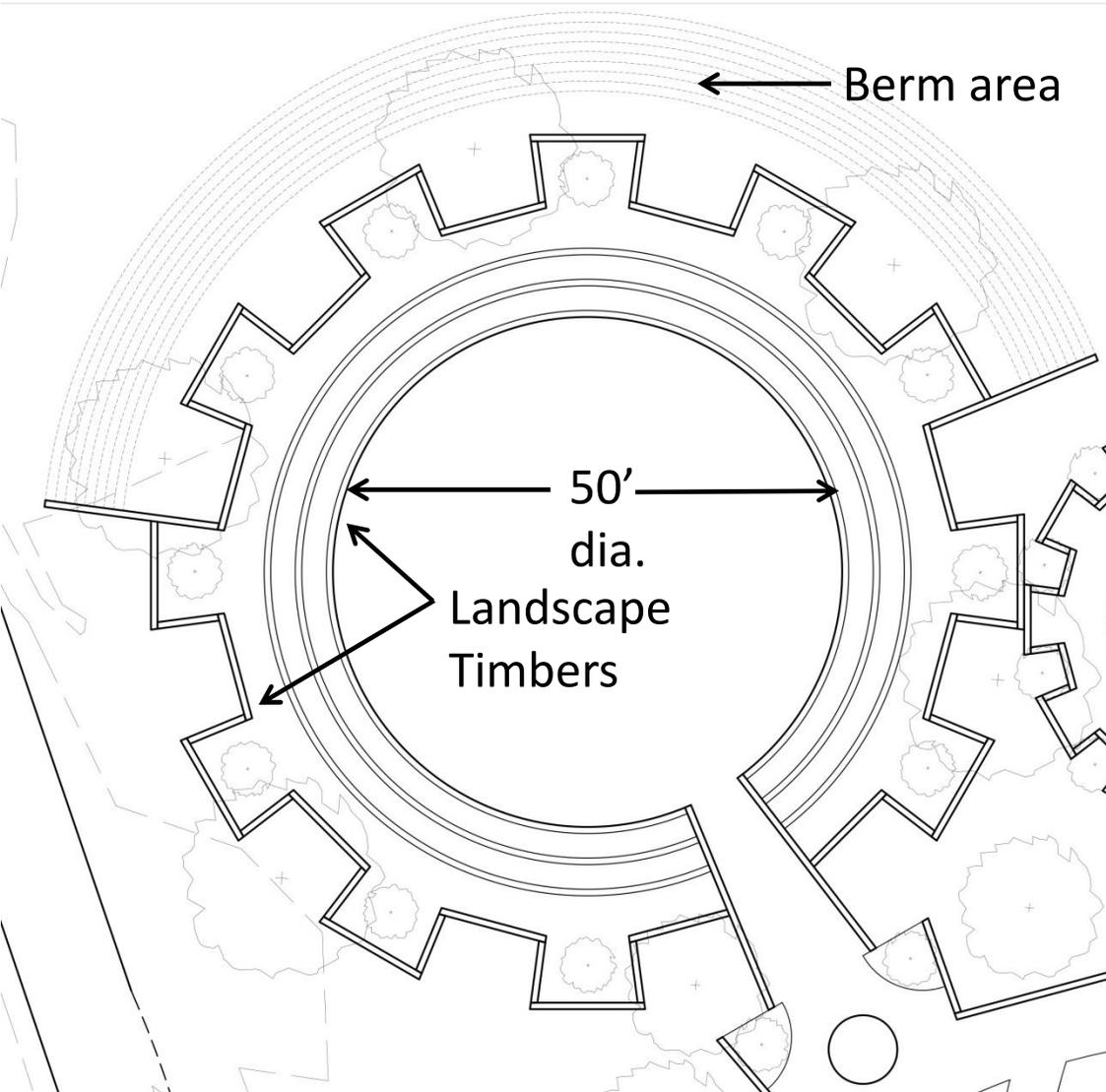


Exhibit B: Project Introduction and Features Descriptions

The Cultural Commons: Design Information

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

10: Outdoor Classroom: Outdoor classroom space made of 3 tiers of landscape timbers with earth bermed outer ring in the shape of the Rotary Gear Cog.



Project Features



The Cultural Commons: Design Information

11: Labyrinth Feature:

- Concrete Pavers and Ground Cover Surround.

The proposed labyrinth pattern for this site is a medieval-type design with seven circuits. Walkers following the path of this labyrinth will meander through four “quadrants” of the pattern as they navigate towards the central area. This allows for a walking experience that will offer a diverse array of views to points beyond the labyrinth area. This is a nice option given the variety of views afforded by this setting.

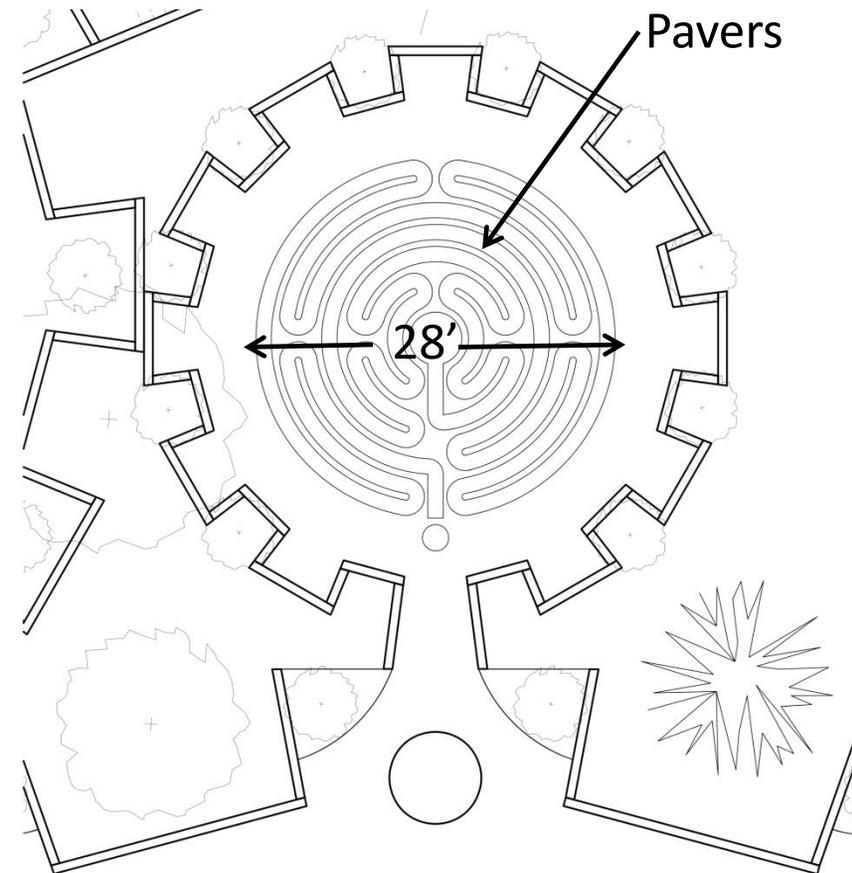
The labyrinth’s entrance is marked by a separate circular paver designating a place to pause before entering the labyrinth. This paver could also incorporate written text or meaningful inlaid objects. The orientation of the labyrinth places the entrance near the North side of the garden. The pathway of this labyrinth can be inlaid with unique meaningful objects from all four cultures/cities represented in the garden. Text can also be incorporated with the pathway pavers.

The center of the labyrinth provides a space for pause and reflection.

The width of the pathway in this proposed design is 14” wide; a nice dimension for walking yet not too large. The overall width of the labyrinth pattern is 27’-4” in this proposed design. The spacing between the pathways is roughly 6” wide.

Turf or groundcover is a nice material choice for the spacing between the pavers. If installed as a turf paver, grass will grow inside a rigid framework that offers a supportive surface for wheelchair users or others who step off the labyrinth pathway. This framework is invisible when the grass is grown and allows rainwater to be gradually filtered back into the soil. This provides easier maintenance by helping to control soil erosion and offering a rigid surface for mowers. Ground cover is a no-mow option, such as Thyme.

Project Features



Labyrinth Layout and Specifications
by Katja Marquart



Town Square Park, Durbuy, Belgium

October 25, 2015

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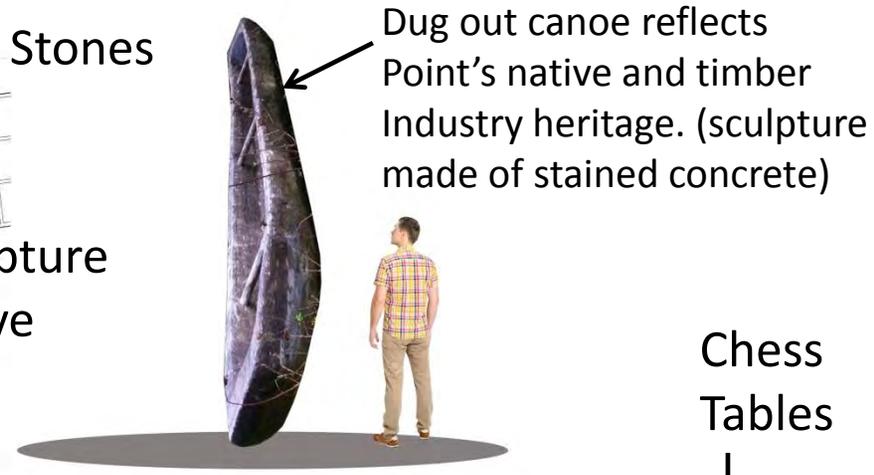
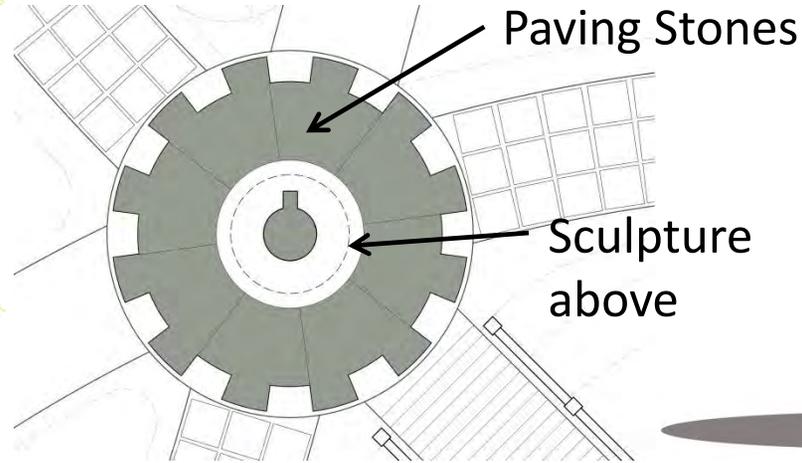
The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

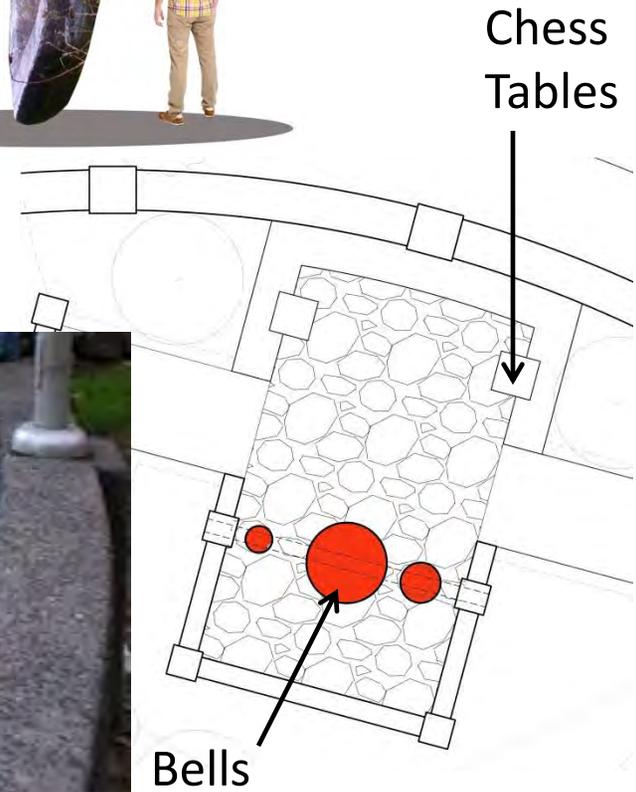
See Exhibit A "Drawings" for Cross Reference

12: Signature Sculptures:

A. Center Sculptures: Rotary Cog paving stones at entry gate and center of gardens. Perimeter of park is also in the shape of a gear and is made of landscape timbers.



B. Russian Bells: Cast bronze bells set on a timber structure and Chess Tables



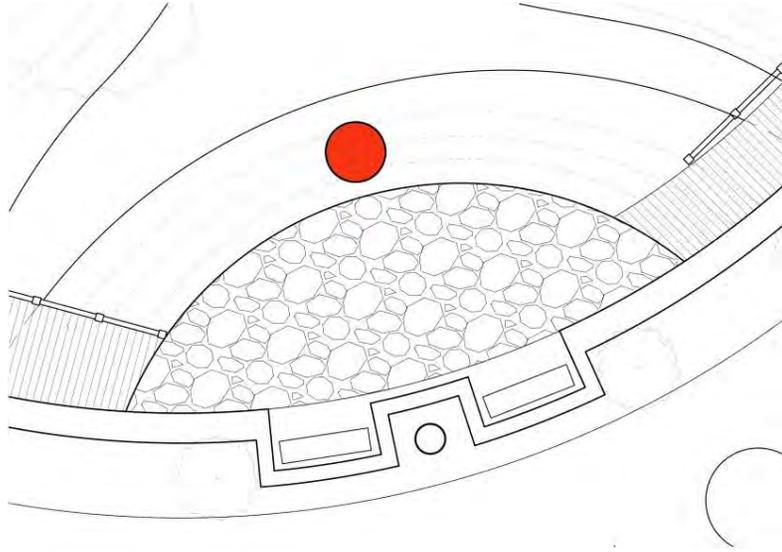
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Project Features

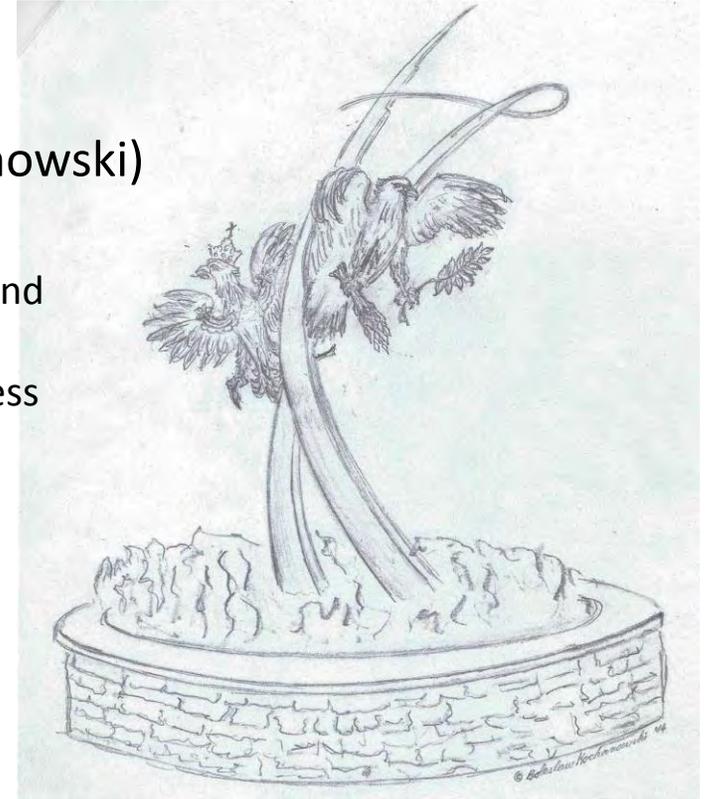
See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

12: Signature Sculptures:

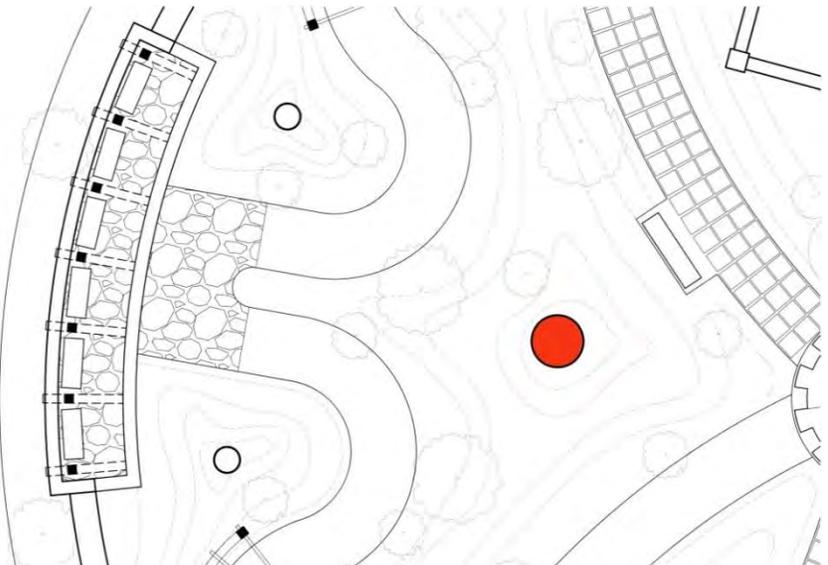
C. Polish Metal Sculptures: (Designs by Boleslaw Kochanowski)



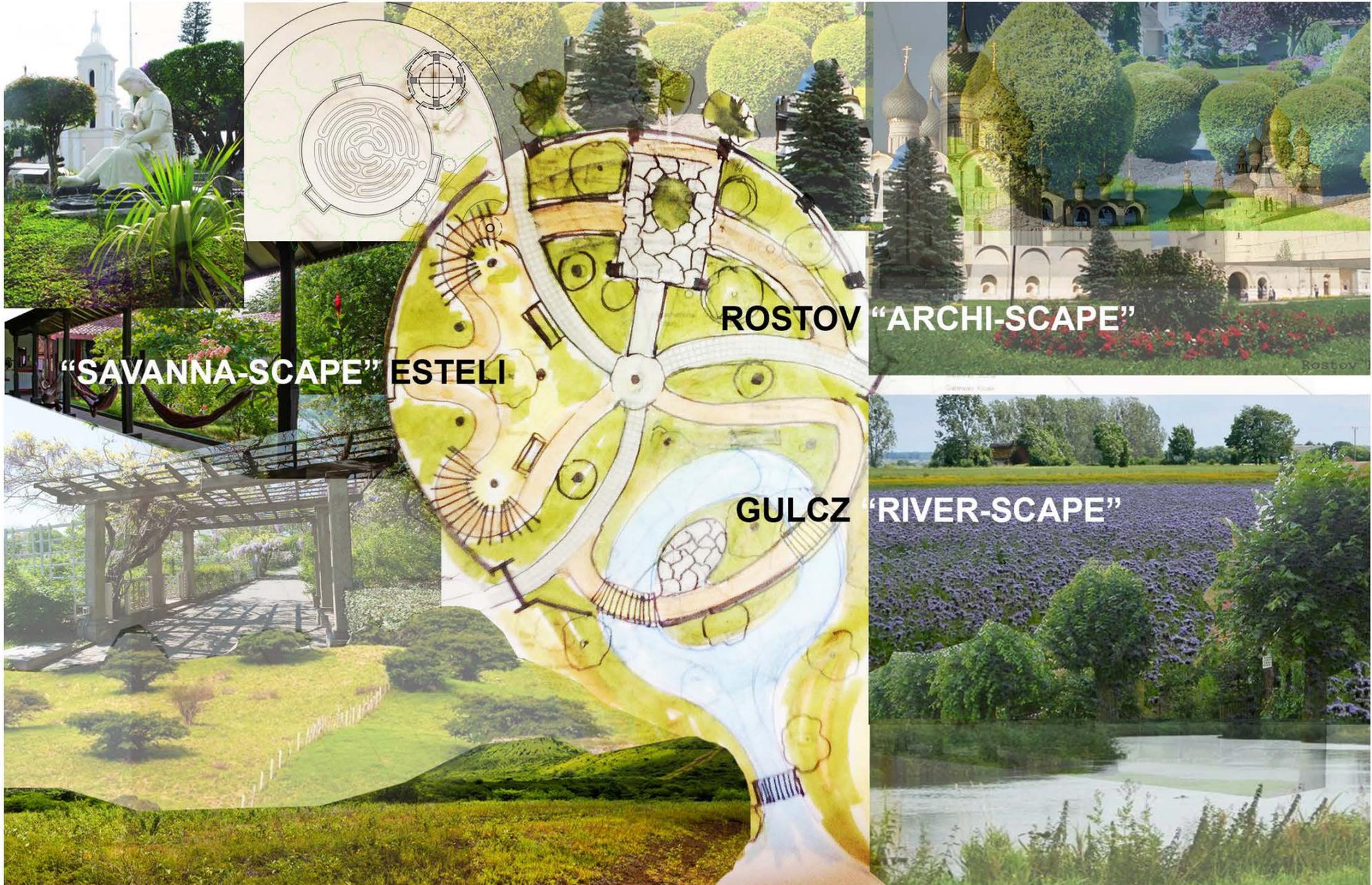
Eagles and Spires symbolizing the Polish and American national symbols and togetherness



D. Nicaraguan Rock Sculpture amidst a rock garden.



Conceptual Landscape Visualization Sketch



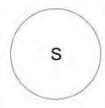
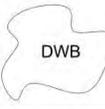
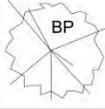
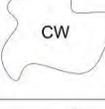
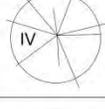
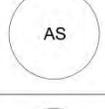
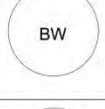
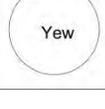
The Cultural Commons: Design Information

See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

13: Rostov Garden Plantings:



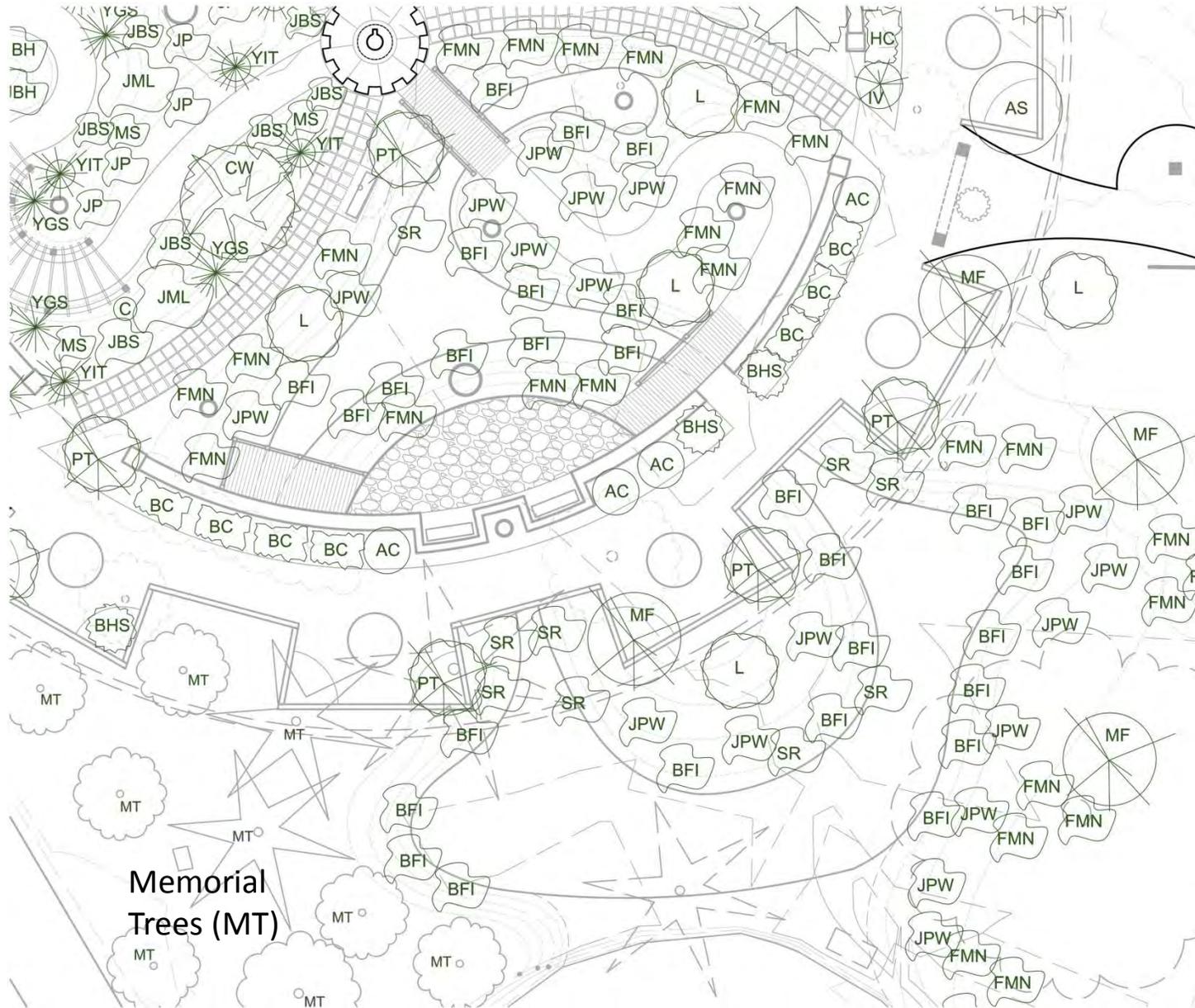
Project Features

Rostov Garden Zone	Russian Sage <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>		
	Dwarf birch (<i>Betula nana</i>)		
	<i>Betula papyrifera</i> (paper birch)		
	Norway Spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>)		
	Weeping Siberian Pea Shrub <i>Caragana arborescens</i> Walkeri		
	Hedge Cotoneaster (<i>Cotoneaster lucidus</i> or <i>Francetii</i>)		
	Creeping Willow (<i>Salix repens</i> 'var. <i>argentea</i> ')		
	Winterberry (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>)		
	Apple Serviceberry, (<i>Amelanchier lamarckii</i>)		
	Littleleaf Boxwood (<i>Buxus microphylla</i> var. <i>koreana</i>)		
	Yew Hedge (<i>Taxus x media</i>)		

The Cultural Commons: Design Information

See Exhibit A "Drawings" for Cross Reference

13: Gulcz Garden Plantings:



Project Features

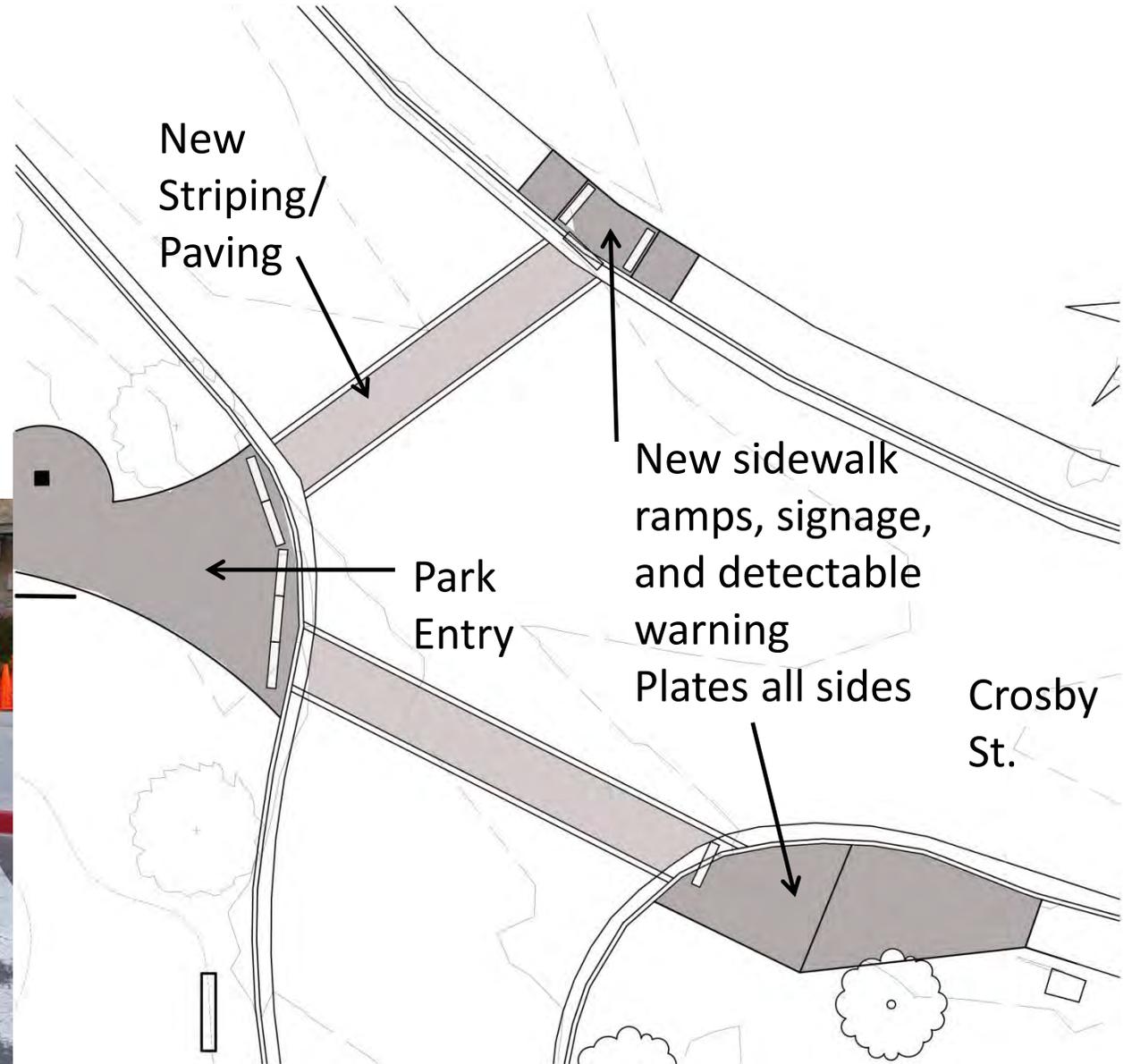
Gulcz Garden Zone	American Black Currant, Clove Currant (<i>Ribes odoratum</i>)-		BC
	Butterfly Bush Honey Suckle (<i>Diervilla sessilifolia</i> 'Butterfly')		BHS
	American Cranberry Bush Viburnum TRILOBUM 'ALFREDO' (ALFREDO COMPACT)		AC
	Old Fashion Lilac (<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>)		L
	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i> "Blue Sylva" (Forget me nots)		FMN
	Blue flag iris (<i>Iris versicolor</i>)		BFI
	Soft Rush <i>Juncus effusus</i>		SR
	Joe Pye (<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>)		JPW
	Meadowlark Forsythia (<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>)		MF
	Pollarded Tree		PT

The Cultural Commons: Design Information

Project Features

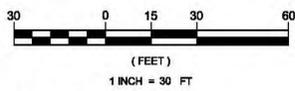
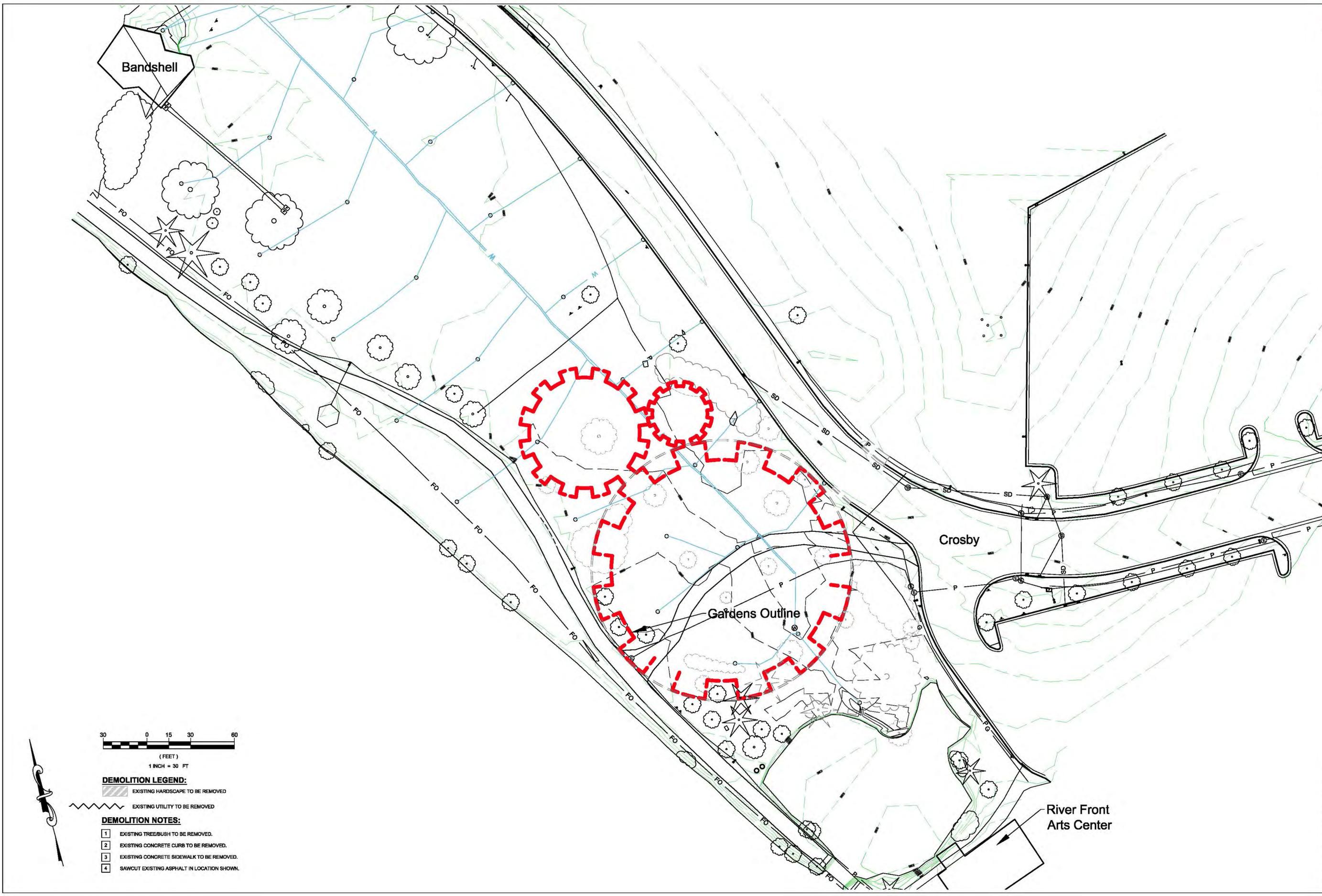
See Exhibit A “Drawings” for Cross Reference

14: Improved Pedestrian Access: Improve Cross-Walk access and ADA accessibility to park gateway on Crosby Street. New striping, curbing turndowns and metal detectable warning strips.



PIFFNER PARK

REV 5	△	--
REV 4	△	--
REV 3	△	--
REV 2	△	--
REV 1	△	--
SIZE	ANSI D	SHEET



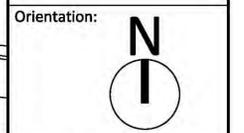
DEMOLITION LEGEND:
 EXISTING HARDSCAPE TO BE REMOVED
 EXISTING UTILITY TO BE REMOVED

- DEMOLITION NOTES:**
- 1 EXISTING TREE/BUSH TO BE REMOVED.
 - 2 EXISTING CONCRETE CURB TO BE REMOVED.
 - 3 EXISTING CONCRETE SIDEWALK TO BE REMOVED.
 - 4 SAWCUT EXISTING ASPHALT IN LOCATION SHOWN.

Project Name: **Stevens Point WI**

Cultural Commons PARK

OAK- Architecture
Office of Aaron Kadoch, AIA

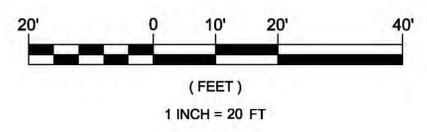
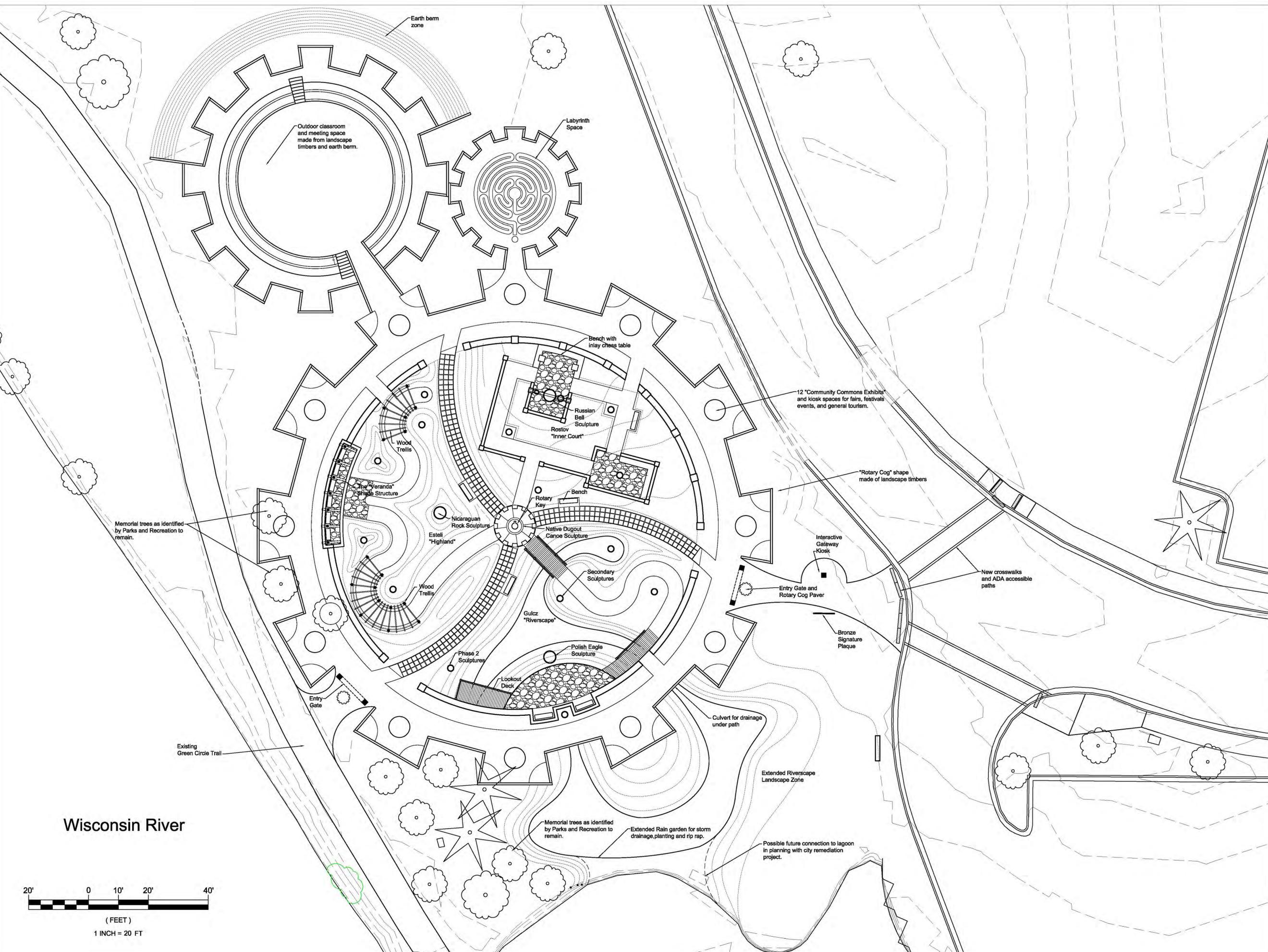


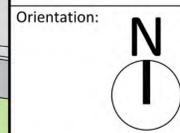
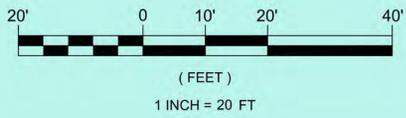
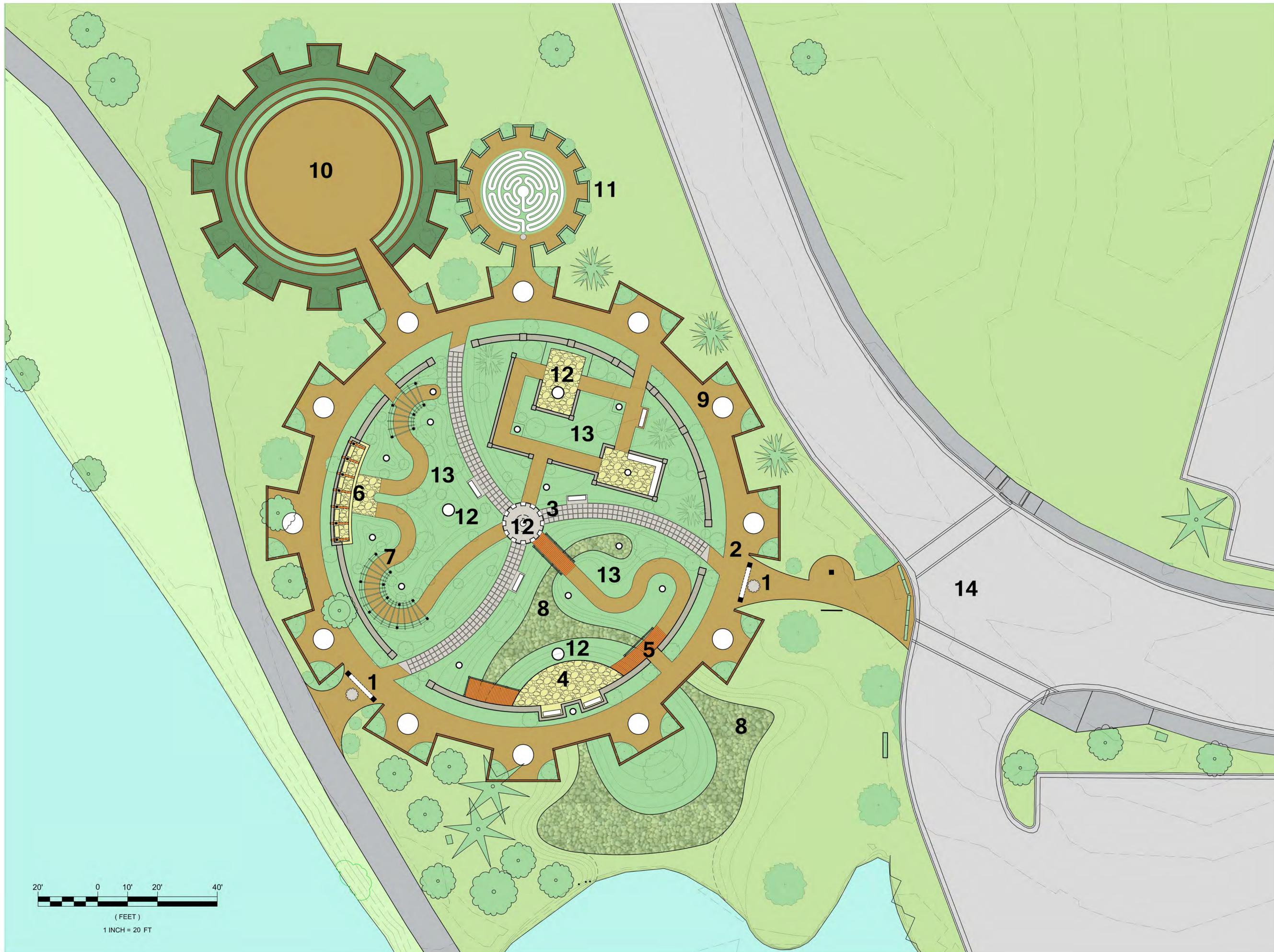
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Proposed Site Plan

Sheet Number:
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09.17.15

Sheet Title:
Proposed Site Plan

Sheet Number:
S-1.1

Rotary

Club of Stevens Point

TO: City of Stevens Point Common Council

FR: Rotary Club of Stevens Point

RE: Cultural Commons

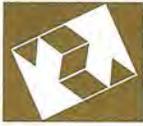
This letter indicates our support of the plans for the Cultural Commons to be constructed on the Wisconsin River waterfront north of the Annette & Dale Schuh Riverfront Arts Center. Four local organizations are joining together to create the Cultural Commons in Piffner Pioneer Park in Stevens Point. These include the Rotary Club of Stevens Point and the three partner/sister city organizations which work to grow relationships between our city and Esteli, Nicaragua; Gulcz, Poland; and Rostov Veliky, Russia. The target date for dedication of these gardens is spring of 2017, marking the 100th anniversary of Rotary in Stevens Point.

The three partner/sister cities also have a long history in Stevens Point. Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners has existed since the 1960s, and the Polish and Russian Sister Cities have been conducting exchanges for the last 30 years. The Cultural Commons will create a beautiful space along the Wisconsin River to celebrate our citizens' connections with peoples and cultures which reach well beyond our city's borders.

We have been planning this project with a representative committee and would now like to seek approval and move forward with fundraising efforts. The four partners in this project are excited about the design and appreciate the opportunity to share the project and to speak with you about the possibilities.

Motion for support approved Sept. 3, 2015 via e-mail.

Thank you for your consideration.



WISCONSIN/NICARAGUA

Partners of the Americas, Inc.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee
Dr. Brad Martin, Pres.
Whitehall

Linda Weber, V. Pres.
Appleton

Lorraine Danczyk, Sec.
Stevens Point

Keith Roeske, Treas.
Stevens Point

Tom Ordens
Stevens Point

Board Members
Willard Davidson
Eau Claire

Jim Krohelski
Mosinee

Betty Pionek
Stevens Point

Dixie Thoyre
Appleton

Dennis Tlachac
Stevens Point

September 28, 2015

Working Together, We make a Difference!

Dear Stevens Point Mayor Mike Wiza and City Officials,

Through this letter, we would like to express that the Stevens Point/Estelí Partner City group, formed under the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners chapter (W/NP) has been and will continue to participate and work with the local Polish and Russian Sister City groups and the Rotary Club of Stevens Point on the proposed Cultural Commons project.

During the 1960's, President Kennedy had the vision of people in the Americas working together, his ideas formed what is known today as Partners of the Americas. In 2015 W/NP will celebrate 50 years of people-to-people activities, proudly noting JFK's vision continues to be a reality. The Cultural Commons project is yet another example of people in the community coming together and creating plans for the benefit of others. The primary beneficiaries of the Stevens Point/Estelí Partner City projects are the people of Nicaragua, while a parallel impact occurs in Stevens Point as volunteers through participation in program development and collaborative efforts support the programs and acquire an appreciation for the value of helping and educating others. A vital mutual, and reciprocal relationship exists between Stevens Point and Estelí, Nicaragua, where people come to realize we need each other to achieve the outcomes that will ultimately affect thousands of people in need.

Providing continuing educational opportunities for youth and adults is a major component of our programs, and we are excited Stevens Point will have a physical place where people of all ages are welcome to learn about other cultures while experiencing an increased appreciation of their own local culture and heritage. Building cultural awareness among our youth is a worthy investment. For local students seeking to complement their education with international involvement, the park will provide a variety of avenues that can be further explored according to interest. The Cultural Commons garden incorporates experience and education across a broad spectrum bringing a fresh perspective to the emphasis of volunteering, taking action and being involved in one's community.

We believe the project has important and useful objectives for the continued development of our communities, we are fully committed to working with the community and collaborators for its implementation, and we firmly support the mission to inspire, encourage and acknowledge the growth of international relationships and opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brad Martin, W/NP President

Mary Vils, Chairperson, Stevens Point/Estelí Partner City

Amy L. Wiza, Executive Director, W/NP

September 23, 2015

Dear Mayor Mike Wiza and Stevens Point City Officials,

The Polish Heritage Awareness Society of Central Wisconsin, Inc. and Heritage of Portage County, Inc. support the design, building and maintenance of the Cultural Commons and Gardens along the Wisconsin River in Pfiffner Park.

Since 1993, our organization has continued to maintain and promote our Polish heritage and culture. Our participation in the Portage County Cultural Festival since its inception and our own celebration of Polish Heritage at the Dozynki Harvest Festival event promotes our ongoing dedication to our roots. In the same year, members of our organization redeveloped a relationship with the village of Gulcz, Poland. It is a town that a segment of our population was well acquainted with through virtue of our immigration. We've each dedicated a stone, plaque, and linden tree in our respective parks, but more than that, we've reconnected with our past by working together in the future through continued visits between our sister cities.

We see the Cultural Commons and Gardens as a mutual benefit with our Polish Sister City as well as with the relationships of the Russian Sister City Project, the Nicaraguan Partnership and the Rotary Club. We realize the contributions of our founders, our history, our cooperation with all who have made Stevens Point home and who have made their mark on our city. The Cultural Commons and Gardens will reconnect us with our past, but look to the future where we celebrate peace, understanding and friendship.

Respectfully yours,

Gayle Phillip
Polish Heritage Awareness Society
of Central Wisconsin, Inc.

Leon Ostrowski
Heritage of Portage County, Inc.

THE SISTER CITY PROJECT

Stevens Point,
Wisconsin, U.S.A



Rostov Veliky,
Yaroslavl Oblast
Russia

18 September 2015

Dear Mayor Mike Wiza and Stevens Point City Officials,

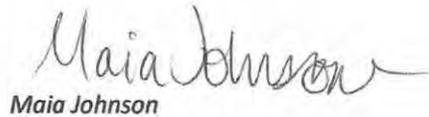
The Russian Sister City Project supports the construction and maintenance of the Cultural Commons and Gardens along the Wisconsin River in Pfiffner Park. We have been working hand-in-hand for two years with the Nicaragua Partners, the Polish Sister City, the Rotary Club of Stevens Point, and Aaron Kadoch, UWSP Assistant Professor of Interior Architecture, to envision and define this project. What our four groups have in common is our dedication to the importance of international relationships in bringing about increased understanding of our fellow humankind. The Cultural Commons' gardens, mini-amphitheater and labyrinth will celebrate and broaden our past efforts and be a visible sign throughout our community of our mission of international understanding, peace and friendship.

The Russian Sister City Project has a long history in Stevens Point. Since 1983 it has sought to encourage and deepen Stevens Point's connections to Rostov Veliky, Russia. Since then we have welcomed many Russian citizens in our community – mayors, students, teachers, tourists, artists, and medical doctors. In like manner, Rostov Veliky has reached out to warmly host individuals and groups visiting from Stevens Point. The last visit in 2012 involved an 11-member delegation to attend Rostov Veliky's 1,150th anniversary of its founding. This fall 2015, our city will host our 4th Open World delegation from Rostov Veliky to study together environmental problems common to all. Open World is an agency funded by Congress through the US Library of Congress.

People-to-people, we seek to engage in dialogue and activities around important issues of our time – our environment, medical systems, education, the arts. Established during the Cold War, it was and continues to be our mission to seek to understand each other across cultural differences. The Cultural Commons' gardens, mini-amphitheater and labyrinth will celebrate and broaden our past efforts and be a visible sign throughout our community of our mission of international understanding, peace and friendship.

Sincerely,


Susan Zach


Maia Johnson

Co-chairs of the Russian Sister City Project

[facebook.com/sistercityfriends](https://www.facebook.com/sistercityfriends)

The Sister City Project



LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Between
NOON ROTARY CLUB OF STEVENS POINT
and
CITY OF STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN

THIS LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”), made as of the ___ day of _____, 2015, is by and between ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER PORTAGE COUNTY (STEVENS POINT) FOUNDATION, INC., having a notice and mailing address of 1257 Main Street, P.O. Box 228, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481 (“Licensee”), and the CITY OF STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN (“City”), a municipal body organized and existing under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, having a notice and mailing address of 1515 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481.

WITNESSETH:

1. Purpose:

The purpose of this Agreement is for the City to provide the Licensee a license to enter upon the Premises and construct on the same the Landscaping Improvements. In exchange for such License, Licensee agrees to maintain such Landscaping Improvements in the manner described below.

2. Definitions:

- A. “Premises” shall mean that area of real estate as generally described on the attached Exhibit A.
- B. “Landscaping Improvements” shall mean the landscaping features depicted on the attached Exhibit B.

3. Terms of License

- A. In exchange for Licensee’s commitment to perform the landscape maintenance described in Section 4 of this Agreement, the City shall grant to Licensee a revocable license to enter upon the Premises for purposes of installing and maintaining the Landscaping Improvements.

4. Maintenance Procedures and Standards

Licensee shall perform landscape maintenance according to the following guidelines:

- A. The landscape will be maintained in general appearance to the standards maintained by the Stevens Point Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department.
- B. The landscape will be maintained all months of the year as needed.
- C. Organic materials such as leaves may be chopped or shredded and left at the base of shrubs and ground cover plants as mulch/compost.
- D. Weed removal will be done as needed.
- E. Various varieties of mulch will be added as needed.
- F. Plants will be pruned, cut, and rejuvenated using established sustainable landscape maintenance methods, not gardening methods.
- G. Some ornamental/native grasses and perennial plant seed heads may be left in place for winter aesthetics and for the purpose of feeding migratory birds.
- H. Tree pruning will be done by city forestry personnel. Vandalized trees/destroyed trees will be reported to the city forestry department promptly, and will be taken care of by city forestry personnel.
- I. Pesticide applications shall comply with all applicable laws.
- J. In the event of damages to the landscape caused by severe weather, vandals, accidents, or other third party actions, any funds that are received by the City as a result of restitution, insurance claims, or by other means shall be proportioned back to the Licensee for the purpose of repairing and replacing the landscape.

5. Term of Agreement

- A. This Agreement shall be in effect for an initial period of ten (15) years and shall be renewed every five (7) years thereafter.

6. Default

- A. In the event that the City determines by majority vote of its members that the Licensee has failed to carry out its responsibilities under Section 4 of this Agreement, the City shall inform Licensee of such failure via first class mail and afford Licensee thirty (30) days to remedy its failure to abide by the terms of Section 4. If an item is placed upon any City agenda to address such determination, Licensee shall be

provided a copy of such agenda by first class mail a reasonable amount of time in advance of the date identified in such agenda. If after such thirty (30) day period Licensee has not performed all landscape maintenance actions required under Section 4 as of the day upon which said thirty (30) day period ends, such failure to perform shall constitute default by the Licensee.

- B. In the event that Licensee is in default under Section 6A. of this Agreement, the City may arrange for the performance of Licensee's obligations under Section 4 of this Agreement by a third party. Following the performance of said obligations by a third party, the City shall notify Licensee of the actual costs of the same. Such costs shall not be unreasonable for the type and extent of work performed by the selected third party. By executing this Agreement, Licensee agrees to pay to City such costs.

7. Resolution of Disputes

The parties shall settle any claim, controversy, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement by first submitting the matter to the City of Stevens Point Common Council for review and consideration. If such matter cannot be resolved by the City of Stevens Point Common Council, such matter shall then be submitted to mediation before a mediator mutually agreeable to both parties. If the dispute cannot be resolved via mediation, it shall be submitted to the Circuit Court for Portage County, Wisconsin, or another mutually agreeable agency.

8. Miscellaneous

- A. *Notices.* All notices, requests, demands, instructions, or other communications required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be considered given upon personal delivery or upon three (3) business days after deposit in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested or upon three business days after deposit with a commercial delivery system, with charges prepaid, to the addresses set forth on the first page of this Agreement. Either party may change the address to which notices are to be given under this Agreement by giving notice in the manner provided in this Section.
- B. *Amendment.* This Agreement may not be altered, waived, amended, supplemented, or extended, except by a written agreement signed by City and Licensee.
- C. *Severability.* If any clause or provision of this Agreement is illegal, invalid, or unenforceable under any present or future Law, the remainder of this Agreement will not be affected thereby.
- D. *Binding Effect.* The provisions of this Agreement will be binding on and inure to the benefit of RA and Licensee and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

- E. *Governing Law.* This Agreement will be construed and enforced according to the Laws of the State of Wisconsin.
- F. *Consent to Breach.* Any assent, waiver, or consent, express or implied, to any breach of any covenant in this Agreement shall operate as such only in the specific instance and shall not be construed as an assent, waiver, or consent of any condition or covenant generally, nor be applicable to any subsequent breach.
- G. *Remedies Cumulative.* The various rights, powers, elections, and remedies of the parties are cumulative, and not one of them is exclusive of the others or exclusive of any right or remedy permitted by law.
- H. *Entire Agreement.* This Agreement, along with any exhibits hereto, encompasses the entire agreement of the parties, and supersedes all previous understandings and agreements between the parties, whether oral or written. The parties hereby acknowledge and represent, by affixing their signatures hereto, that said parties have not relied on any representation, assertion, guarantee, warranty, collateral contract or other assurance, except those set out in this Agreement, made by or on behalf of any other party or any other person or entity whatsoever, prior to the execution of this Agreement. The parties hereby waive all rights and remedies, at law or in equity, arising or which may arise as the result of a party's reliance on such representation, assertion, guarantee, warranty, collateral contract or other assurance, provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed as a restriction or limitation of said party's right to remedies associated with the gross negligence, willful misconduct or fraud of any person or party taking place prior to, or contemporaneously with, the execution of this Agreement.

CITY OF STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN

BY: _____
Mike Wiza, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John V. Moe, City Clerk

NOON ROTARY CLUB STEVENS POINT

BY: _____
President Noon Rotary Club Stevens Point