

**City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board
Tuesday, January 17th, 2012
Conference Room, City Hall
6:00 p.m.**



Minutes

Board Members Present: Liz Cuneo, Sue Bish, Chad Hunter, Gigi Bullman, Julie Ray, Lisa Thomas, Amy Goddard Robison, Rose Berry, Pat Cross, Tom Irby, Karen Lawler and Ray Lewis.

Board Members Absent: Carol Umstaedter, Joe Hackett, and Councilwoman Ronica Ondocsin.

Invited Guests: Lee McBride and Alice Tucker

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Liz Cuneo.

Finance report was provided by Sue Bish, Treasurer:

- \$ 17,239.99 (Beautification Board)
- \$ 6,268.80 (Tree Board)

Tree Board Updates:

Poster Contest:

Amy Goddard Robison and Lisa Thomas have coordinated with three Madison schools, St John's Elementary, Columbia Elementary and Madison Elementary to conduct the annual Poster Contest with the theme "Trees are Terrific and Forests are Too". A total of 238 posters were submitted for judging, scheduled to take place on January 20th at Dublin Park. Alice Tucker, Tom Irby, Jeanne Steadman and Rose Berry will perform the judging. Monetary prizes of \$50, \$30 and \$20 will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for each school. The winning 1st place posters will be displayed in the display case at the Madison Public Library. In addition, the 1st place winning posters for each school will be submitted to the Anniston Office for state judging.

***Post Judging Update: The judging at Dublin Park went smoothly and quickly. Three outstanding posters were selected and sent on to Anniston for state judging. Liz Cuneo took pictures and uploaded them to the Madison BTB Facebook page and submitted a picture of the judging to the local papers.*

Arbor Day Tree Planting Update:

The fall planting of the 2012 Arbor Day took place November 8, at Dublin Park. Mayor Finley, Councilwoman Ondocsin and Councilman Tim Holcomb assisted in the planting. Twenty young trees, donated by board member Joe Hackett, were planted around the soccer fields. The Parks & Recreation Department provided tremendous support for the project.

Madison Arbor Week Workshop at Dublin Park:

The Madison Arbor Week Workshop is scheduled for February 23rd, 6:00pm, at Dublin Park. Several individuals will be speaking, including Carol Umstaedter, Ken Creel and Lee McBride. Topics are being confirmed and additional information will be provided at the February board meeting.

Additional Notes:

- Arbor Week is February 19th-25th. The Madison City Council will read the Arbor Week Proclamation at the Council meeting on the 13th of February. All Board members are encouraged to attend.
- The annual Florence Tree Workshop has not yet been scheduled, and there is no information to indicate that it has been scheduled for 2012. *Carol has received information that it will take place. Information is being provided to participants. Carol, Gigi Bullman, and Sue Bish will attend.
- Tom Irby provided information on the infestation of wild pear trees in the area. Tom provided a list of corrective actions that could be taken. In addition, it was suggested that funding to help with removal could possibly be obtained via a grant application.

Beautification Board Updates:

Pride of Madison:

Ray Lewis drove all of the miles for the 17 organizations that are participating in the Pride of Madison program. Currently there are 12 missing signs. Ray will be contacting all current participants to confirm continued support in the program - prior to replacing the missing signs.

Madison Trash Receptacle:

Sue Bish reported that a second Signature Trash Receptacle has been ordered by the Board. This second receptacle is scheduled for completion in January and it will also be placed in front of Madison City Hall in a complementary location to the existing benches and receptacle.

Sue also reported that Mayor Finley is very supportive of the Signature Bench and Trash Receptacle Program and the Adopt-A-Bench Program. The Mayor has asked the City of Madison Planning Department to develop an informative brochure documenting said programs that will be provided to appropriate city hall departments and the Chamber of Commerce. In addition, the Mayor has asked for, and has been provided by Liz and Sue, a list of 10 city locations each for both the signature bench

and trash receptacles. He will work to find businesses, organizations and private citizens to fund their placement.

Additional Notes:

- The landscaping around the Signature Bench in front of the Madison City Police Department has been completed. The landscaping mimics the landscaping in front of Madison City Hall.
- Liz Cuneo covered all items on the MBTB Calendar and Programs/Projects List in detail.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Minutes submitted by Julie Ray