

**City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board
Monday, April 16, 2012
Conference Room, City Hall
6:00 p.m.**



Minutes

Board Members Present: Gigi Bullman, Pat Cross, Liz Cuneo, Amy Goddard Robison, Sue Bish, Karen Lawler, Tom Irby, Alice Tucker, Rose Berry, Joe Hackett, Carol Umstaedter, Julie Ray and Ray Lewis.

Board Members Absent: Lisa Thomas, Chad Hunter and Councilwoman Ronica Ondocsin.

Proceedings:

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

Finance report was provided by Sue Bish:

- \$ 16,216.36 (Beautification Board)
- \$ 5,901.30 (Tree Board)

Tree Board Updates:

The Catbird Seat Garden Center has donated an Evergreen Japanese Oak tree to the Board. With coordination, the board is considering having it planted behind the bench in front of the main Madison Police Station to give that area much needed shade.

Beautification Board Updates:

Pat Cross brought the board up to date on the awards judging. Karen Lawler has completed mailing of letters and application forms to all previous award winners, properties who applied last year but did not win, newly identified properties and landscapers. Some letters have been returned and Pat and Karen are working to either obtain new addresses or deliver personally to the properties. As of the date of the Board meeting, 21 nominations have been received, 16 of those received awards in 2011, and 5 are new participants. Karen will continue to mail letters as additional properties are identified.

Liz stated that an information slide on the judging has been placed on Channel 42, the web site has been updated by the city's IT department, a flyer has been placed at the city clerk's office

and the flyer has been posted to the board's Facebook page. Pat announced that unfortunately the power point presentation of the award properties from last year will not be able to be placed Channel 42. An article covering the event has been provided to the newspapers and has been published.

Ray Lewis briefed the board on the Pride of Madison program. The new sign prepared for the Zeta Phi Beta PAZ Chapter is still in the process of being finalized as a name change to the sign has been requested by the alumni association. Ray coordinated with Karen Lawler on the sign for Mississippi State Alumni and their sign will be installed shortly. Liz will meet with Karen and the alumni president and take a photograph which will be submitted with a prepared article to the local papers. It is hoped that this will spur more alumni associations to adopt a mile. Chad Hunter will work with Ray to adopt a mile near his business and Lisa Thomas will work with Ray to hopefully include her bank in the program as well.

Chad Hunter and Rose Berry purchased two additional hanging baskets and coco liners and have completed the planting of the baskets. The baskets have been put in place and will be an attractive addition in time for the Run Through the Roses race on May 5, 2012. In addition, Chad and Rose will fill the two planters outside of City Hall main doors prior to the race.

Gigi Bullman discussed the results of the first Rose Rosette Disease survey of the city roses for the year. Gigi reported that there were two cases of the disease found in the roses at City Hall, two cases at Dublin Park on Bill's Hill, two cases at the Madison entrance on Hughes and Madison Blvd., and one case on Gillespie Road. Liz will work with the appropriate agencies to insure removal. Gigi plans on conducting a follow-up survey in the June timeframe. Gigi also noted that there is a stretch of roses at Madison Elementary that are not well. She has taken photographs and will be consulting with Dr. Jacobi to help identify the problem. *UPDATE: Dr. Jacobi indicates that he believes the areas of concern Gigi noticed are herbicide damage, not RRD. Liz will work with North Alabama Lawn Care to have the damaged areas pruned.*

Julie Ray reported on the status of the Yard of the Roses award. An article has been submitted to the newspapers and has been published. The award sign is ready. The judges have been notified and the judging and award will take place on Friday May 4th, prior to the Run Through the Roses race on May 5, 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Ray
Secretary