

**City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board
Monday, June 18th, 2012
Conference Room, City Hall
6:00 p.m.**



Minutes

Board Members Present: Liz Cuneo, Chad Hunter, Karen Lawler, Rose Berry, Gigi Bullman, Tom Irby, Alice Tucker, Amy Goddard Robison, Joe Hackett, Sue Bish, and Julie Ray. Guest: Dorothy Thomas

Board Members Absent: Pat Cross, Lisa Thomas, Ray Lewis 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:

- \$ 14,805.46 (Beautification Board)
- \$ 5,901.30 (Tree Board)

Tree Board Updates:

Tree Ordinance Update – Tom Irby

Tom Irby has continued to meet and work with Sherri Blair of the Madison City Planning Department. Sherri had requested a list of plants and trees that are suitable for this area and could be provided to builders as a recommendation. Tom developed an initial list based on input from board members and it has been provided to Sherri. Tom is also working with Sherri to help put in place a process for requesting exceptions, as well as a process for maintaining and updating the list once it is finalized.

Beautification Board Updates:

Beautification Awards and Judging Wrap-up – Karen Lawler

The date for assessing all properties was May 31st. Four driving routes with nine independent judges completed the judging panel. The judges were provided with lunch at the Main Street Café. Photographs of the winning properties were taken to be shown during the Awards Luncheon. Of all properties nominated, 73 properties will be awarded the Beautification Award, there were 14 winners of the Excellence Award which is given to properties with a score of '100', and the 'Knock Out' Award will be given to the property with the most outstanding use of 'Knock Out' Roses. Detailed comments were captured for each property, and the comments

are provided to all winning and losing properties so that the property owners will be aware of needed improvements or examples of excellence in their landscaping

Awards Luncheon – Liz Cuneo/Sue Bish

The Awards Luncheon is scheduled for June 28th at the Inn of Madison. Chad Hunter will be designing and making the table arrangements for the Awards luncheon. He is planning on 14 arrangements, and will be accessing board members' gardens as well as supplementing with any additional plants required. At the end of the luncheon, table arrangements will be given to attendees as door prizes. Chad will act as the emcee during the Awards Luncheon. Programs, certificates and photographs of the properties are all ready for the Luncheon.

Pride of Madison – Ray Lewis

The signs for Mississippi State Alumni have been posted, and the Madison Record printed the article and photograph. Chad Hunter has coordinated with Ray to adopt a mile near his business on Palmer Road and that is currently in-work as well. Ray is in the process of following up with all current Pride-of-Madison supporters, ensuring their signs are in place and answering any questions they may have concerning the program.

Yards of Madison – Rose Berry

Rose Berry has requested nominations from MBTB members for the current month and has received many responses. Mail out will be at the end of the month. Rose is coordinating with Madison publications for a photograph of one of the yards each month to be included as a way to continue to promote this program. Once a month, there will be a drawing for the picture of the Yard of the Month to be displayed in City Hall. Rose also reported that "Madison Living" magazine will be doing a feature article on the Yards of Madison program. In addition, Rose is looking into setting up a contest for a drawing towards the end of summer for one of the winners to receive a gift certificate – maybe to a Madison nursery. Rose will check with local nursery's first to determine if they are willing to donate a gift certificate.

Hanging Baskets – Liz Cuneo

Liz Cuneo reported that the mowers continue to mow over the watering lines to the hanging baskets around City Hall and most of the plants in the baskets have died. After Liz's report, the Board decided to have the baskets with dead foliage taken down and the baskets stored in the Board's storage building. Liz will follow up on the issue.

Huntsville Utilities Point-of-Contact (POC) Request – Liz Cuneo

The MBTB received a request from Huntsville Utilities to provide a POC for any tree/landscaping questions that may arise from utilities work conducted in the city of Madison. Rose Berry agreed to be the POC for the MBTB. Liz will call Huntsville Utilities and give them Rose's name and phone number.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Ray
Secretary