

**City of Madison  
Beautification and Tree Board  
Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Conference Room, City Hall  
5:30 p.m.**



**Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Karen Lawler, Lisa Thomas, Julie Ray, Karen Forsyth, Alice Tucker, Tom Irby, Meredith Kilby, Dorothy Thomas, Linda Kinney, Ray Lewis and Councilman Gerald Clark.

**Board Members Absent:** Rose Berry.

**Proceedings:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by President Karen Lawler.

The minutes from the meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> were provided for review and approval via email after the meeting.

***2014 Budget Submission***

Budget submission for 2014 was discussed by Karen Lawler. Karen confirmed with Councilman Gerald Clark that budget submissions for the Board are due in September. Karen took an action to provide the budget to the City Clerk for consideration.

***Treasurer's Report***

Treasurer's report was provided by Lisa Thomas, Treasurer. Lisa reported that the funds in the Tree Board account, amounting to \$7,505.13, had been transferred to the Beautification and Tree Board account. The Tree Board account has been closed. The combined balance in the Beautification and Tree Board account is: \$20,574.26. Lisa noted that several checks from the Arbor Day Poster Contest have still not been cashed by the recipients. Lisa is following-up with the schools.

***Library Book Donation***

Karen Lawler reminded the Board that it was time for the annual Library Book Donation to the Madison Public Library. The Board agreed that Gigi Bullman should be contacted for recommendations and Karen agreed to work this with Gigi.

### ***Logo Approval***

The final update to the new logo was provided by Meredith Kilby. The new logo utilizes fonts and lettering provided by the city of Madison, and features the large “M” as well as the signature rose. A motion was made to adopt the new logo, and the Board voted to accept. Meredith will provide copies of the finished logo to all Board members.

### ***Nominating Committee***

It is now time to elect or re-elect MBTB officers for 2014. Julie Ray took an action to determine how this has been done in previous years and to report this during the October meeting.

### ***Joint Meeting with Huntsville Beautification Board***

Karen Lawler noted that if the MBTB is to meet with the Huntsville Beautification Board (HBB), now is the time. Karen took an action to contact the HBB to determine their desire and availability for this activity.

### **Tree Board**

#### ***Arbor Week Workshop***

Dorothy Thomas is in the initial stages of planning for the workshop and requested that the Board consider hiring a featured speaker for next year’s workshop. Dorothy suggested that Don Shadow be considered and the Board agreed this was an excellent idea to pursue. Dorothy took an action to contact Don and will report back on his availability. The Arbor Week Workshop is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at Dublin Recreation Center. While on this topic, it was also agreed that Tom Irby will check with the Mayor’s office to determine the Mayor’s availability for the Arbor Day Tree Planting.

The Board also decided that it was important to recognize Joe Hackett’s contributions and support during the time he was a Board member. The Board decided to install a plaque honoring his memory during the Arbor Day Tree Planting. Julie Ray took an action to find an appropriate plaque and coordinate with Parks & Recreation for details on installation.

#### ***Arbor Day Poster Contest***

Alice Tucker stated that the guidelines for this year’s poster contest have been posted by the Arbor Day Foundation. The package is ready to submit to the schools, but is waiting on the “ok” from Dennis James, Director of Student Services for Madison Schools. Lisa Thomas took an action to acquire James’ approval to begin working with the grade schools in Madison. Tom Irby took an action to develop the calendar and schedule of events needed to support this activity.

### ***PTA Tree Donation, Bench Placement***

Tom Irby reported that the water for the donated tree had again been turned off. Tom had again replaced the hose, sprinkler and timer to ensure that the tree would continue to receive needed water in order to survive. Tom volunteered to contact the PTA to determine a date for pouring the slab for the bench. The bench has been received and is currently in storage until the site is ready.

### **Beautification Board**

#### ***Madison Cemetery Plan***

Karen Lawler reported that the list of plants for the Cemetery improvement plan had been provided to the two Madison nurseries for bid. Each nursery was requested to provide their bids by September 20<sup>th</sup>. A working meeting to evaluate the bids was scheduled for the week of September 23<sup>rd</sup> in order to meet the invoicing deadline of September 30<sup>th</sup>. Gerald Clark reported that the Bradford Pear trees have been removed from the cemetery. One of the brick pillars has been removed in order to widen the entrance on the north side, and the parking lot has been completed. Karen and Gerald will report on the results at the next Board Meeting.

#### ***Veteran's Park***

The Board discussed Veteran's Park and possible improvements that the Board would like to make, including addition of more benches and trash receptacles. It was decided that further discussion on this topic would be scheduled for the October meeting.

#### ***Rose Rosette Checkup***

Karen Lawler reported that Rose Berry volunteered to organize the Rose Rosette Checkup for Fall 2013. Rose would be contacting Board members to determine their availability and to set the date for the activity.

#### ***Pride of Madison***

Ray Lewis reported that the signs for Fire Station #1 have been placed. He also reported that the signs for the Rainbow Homemakers have not been placed. Ray is still working this with Public Works. When asked if there are additional signs for future requests, Ray stated that if requests continue at the current level, there are enough signs in storage to last through January 2014.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm**

**Minutes submitted by Julie Ray**