

City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board
Tuesday, November 17, 2015
Council Chambers, City Hall
5:30 p.m.



Attendees:

Karen Lawler, Beth Agee, Meredith Kilby, Amber Braman, Marsha Harris, Hollye Raines, Julie Ray and volunteer, Liz Smith.

Absent:

Alice Tucker, Karen Forsyth, and Gerald Clark

Minutes

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Karen Lawler.

The minutes from the meeting held October 20, 2015 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Julie Ray reported that the current balance as \$18,391.34.

Gateway and Fire Station Island:

Karen Lawler reported that the new planting at the Gateway is complete. Thanks to Public Works for doing the planting and spreading the bark mulch. The planting at Fire Station Island has not started. The Board discussed various options for hiring a licensed landscaper for this task.

Honor Roll Signs:

Julie Ray reported that the Honor Roll signs had been ordered and were due for delivery the week of November 17th. Her goal was to have all Honor Roll signs installed by December 30th.

Cemetery Planting:

Per Gerald Clark's report at the previous meeting that the Cemetery Committee would like some shrub screens on the south side of the cemetery, Liz Smith brought several recommendations to the Board for consideration. Liz recommended shrubs such as Round Leaf Holly as a possibility for answering the request. Liz took an action to put together an estimate for the shrubs, and Karen Lawler too an action to coordinate with Parks and Recreation on planting the hollies. Karen will also coordinate with Gerald Clark on the removal of the Hackberry shrubs at the Cemetery.

Adopt-A-Mile:

Beth Agee reported that it is time to order additional signs. She brought an estimate and the Board approved the purchase of 14 new signs. Beth also suggested that the Board provide safety vests for the participants. The Board approved the purchase of 30 new safety vests, with the plan that each new participant will receive 2 “Pride of Madison” safety vests.

Arbor Day Poster Contest:

Marsha Harris reported that four schools are participating in this year’s Arbor Day Poster Contest and they are Columbia Elementary, Mill Creek Elementary, St. John Elementary and Rainbow Elementary. The theme for this year is Trees are Terrific. Judging for the contest is scheduled for January 28th at Dublin Park. The awards will be presented at the City Council Meeting scheduled for February 22nd.

Arbor Day Workshop:

February 22-26 is Arbor Week. The MBTB is looking for speakers for the annual Arbor Day Workshop. Liz Smith noted several possible speakers that could cover relevant and interesting topics at the workshop. Liz took an action to contact the speakers and determine their availability. Also discussed was the possibility of combining the workshop effort with the Lunch & Learn activity sponsored by North Alabama Master Gardeners. The Board decided to continue with the evening workshop with the thought that an evening workshop would be more easily attended by the working public.

Arbor Day Tree Planting:

The Board will be planting a tree the last week of February. We will get on the Mayor’s calendar.

Nominating Committee for 2016:

The nominating committee, composed of Meredith Kilby, Beth Agee, and Julie Ray, provided the following names to fill the positions noted below. After a brief discussion, the Board voted to fill the positions with the recommended names from the Nominating Committee.

MBTB Officers for 2016

President	Karen Lawler
Vice President for Tree Board	Marsha Harris
Vice President for Beautification	Amber Braman
Secretary	Karen Forsyth
Treasurer	Julie Ray

Madison Mayor’s 2015 Christmas Tree Decorating Contest:

Hollye Raines brought forward an opportunity for the Board to participate in the 2015 Tree Decorating Contest in downtown Madison. After reviewing the details, the Board voted to participate. Hollye Raines will handle the details and schedule the Board member participation.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Prepared by Julie Ray