

City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board Minutes
Tuesday, November 20th, 2018
Conference Room, City Hall



Attendees:

Amber Braman, Chris Carpenter, Julie Ray, Mitzi Adams, Brandon Daugherty, Tenesha Thomas

Absent:

Gerald Clark, Lisa Thomas, Karen Lawler

I. Order of Business

- i. **Welcome:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m., all were welcomed by Amber Braman.
- ii. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted and the attendance was noted.
- iii. **Minutes Approval:** Minutes from the meeting held on September 18, 2018 and from the meeting held on October 16, 2018 were approved as written. Tenesha Thomas motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Amber Braman. Minutes were approved by the majority.
- iv. **Treasurer's Report:** It was reported that the current balance was \$9,808.09. Brief discussion followed concerning an additional contribution of \$2500.00 from the Mayor to help with replacement plantings and for the obligations in supporting the 150/200 Celebration. It was determined that updates to the Board's 2019 budget would be discussed during the meeting in January (2019).

II. Old Business

- i. **Board Appointments:** After discussion, the board decided that the responsibilities for the First Vice Chairman and a Second Vice Chairman would be documented and emailed to the Board members, with the goal being that a decision would be made at the January meeting as to which members would be nominated to assume those positions. Amber Braman took the action to initially document and distribute to the Board.

- ii. ***Bylaws Update:*** The current bylaws were discussed briefly, and the discussion was tabled for a later date. Julie Ray took an action to distribute a copy of the bylaws in an editable format to aid in the review by the Board members.
- iii. ***Poster Contest:*** Nothing to report. The topic was deferred to the January meeting.
- iv. ***Tree Report:*** The annual tree report is in development to meet the yearly obligation to the City of Madison. It is being worked by Tenesha Thomas and Brandon Daugherty, with inputs from Amber Braman and others as available. The plan is to complete the report in December, obtain Board approval in January followed by delivery to the City of Madison.

III. New Business

- i. ***Arbor Day Tree Workshop:*** Amber Braman reported that Liz Smith had arranged for two speakers to support the annual Arbor Day Workshop. Tenesha Thomas suggested that in case there was an unforeseen scheduling problem, that the Board should have a backup plan. The Board took this under advisement and will discuss at the January meeting.
- ii. ***Beautification Awards Luncheon:*** Amber Braman stated that the Board may want to consider an alternate location for the Awards Luncheon in 2019 based on the size restrictions of the previous location. Amber suggested that the new Madison Public Library had a room that would be large enough to accommodate an ever-increasing number of attendees. The Board decided to reserve the new location in the library for June 20, 2019 from 10:00-3:00pm. A motion was made by Julie Ray to confirm and it was seconded by Mitzi Adams with the Board approving. As the new location requires that a caterer bring food/refreshments to the site, Tenesha Thomas and Mitzi Adams took an action to provide catering information to Amber Braman.
- iii. ***Beautification Awards Judging Standards:*** Amber Braman reported that in previous years, there has been great variation in how various sites were being judged, i.e., some judges ignored a few weeds while others would take off several points. She also suggested that there be different standards for commercial sites vs. those for large campuses or residential subdivision entrances. She pointed out that the Board could coordinate with other communities to determine if there were ways that the existing judging standards could be made less subjective. In addition, she suggested that there be three judges for each site instead of two, in an effort to ensure a more reliable average for the final score for each property. The Board thought these were all good ideas, but no decisions were made and the discussion was tabled for a later date.
- iv. ***Park Cleanup:*** Mitzi Adams suggested that a work day activity be coordinated within the city where the Board would request volunteers to help clean up a local park. She suggested that the Board could advertise within the city, and also provide T-shirts to the attending volunteers. The Board thought this was a good way to engage the

community. The Board will be checking with the city to determine if there are any legal or liability issues before proceeding.

- v. ***Adopt-A-Mile (Pride of Madison)***: Brandon Dougherty reported that he had been contacted by two different organizations to establish new Adopt-A-Mile routes. Brandon stated he would coordinate the new additions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm