

City of Madison
Beautification and Tree Board Minutes
Tuesday, November 19th, 2019
Conference Room, City Hall



Attendees: Amber Braman, Karen Lawler, Julie Ray, Mitzi Adams, Chris Carpenter, Tenesha Thomas, Lisa Thomas, Liz Smith

Guest: Cynthia Allen

Absent: Gerald Clark

I. Order of Business

- i. **Welcome:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m.
- ii. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted and the attendance was noted.
- iii. **Minutes Approval:** Minutes for October were approved.
- iv. **Treasurer's Report:** Karen Lawler reported that the current balance is \$16,686.63

II. New Business

- i. **Beautification Sign Installment:** Chris Carpenter reported that placement locations for all new signs had been marked to aid Public Works with installation. Chris also reported that he had provided a detailed list of all signs that needed to be installed and pulled had been provided to Public Works and they were preparing for all installations. During the process of working the installation of the new signs, it was discovered that some of the extra signs that had been ordered in 2018 were missing. New signs were ordered, and the Board voted to approve reimbursing Amber Braman \$764.00 for the new signs.
- ii. **December Invasive Plant Workshop:** Mitzi Adams reported that the flyers for the workshop had been emailed to all Board members, and requested that Board members help with the distribution. The workshop is scheduled for December 7th at Horizon Elementary School, from 10:00-12:00pm, and will be led by Soos Weber, local ecologist and active member of the Alabama Invasive Plant Council. The first hour of the workshop will be class room orientation on what plants are considered invasive. The second hour of the workshop will be outdoors, picking up trash and removing privet and other invasive plants from the landscape.

- iii. ***Arbor Day Poster Contest:*** Lisa Thomas reported that the poster boards had been delivered to all schools that had indicated a desire to participate. It appears that 902 students will be participating, which is 50 more than the number that participated in last year's contest. She has coordinated with the schools to pick up the posters the week of January 13th, and the judging will be set up for later that week or the following week. As a reminder, Lisa mentioned that the first place posters must be in Anniston no later than February 10th, 2020. Lisa also brought forward a request to purchase new easels for displaying the posters. After discussion, the Board voted to fund the purchase of new easels, certificates, prize money and other items up to \$1200 as documented in the budget.

- iv. ***Arbor Day Workshop:*** The Board discussed potential speakers for the Arbor Day Workshop. It was decided that the Board needed to use local speakers from Alabama A&M, the botanical gardens, UAH, etc., in order to take advantage of name recognition to help with attendance. Several potential topics were suggested, along with names of known local experts. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for February 25th. The Board will discuss in more detail at the January meeting.

- v. ***Arbor Day Tree Planting:*** At the October meeting, the Board voted to approve the purchase of 8 Hollies based on size and the year-round color they would provide, and that the Hollies would be placed in the 8 "box" gardens in front of the municipal building. It was decided at the November meeting that the 8 Hollies would be the trees that would be planted for the Arbor Day Tree Planting.

- vi. ***Appropriations Presentation:*** Amber reported that at the upcoming City Council meeting on December 9th, she would be presenting the request for the annual budget for the Beautification and Tree Board. Amber urged all interested Board members to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm