

**City of Madison**  
**Beautification and Tree Board Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020**  
**Conference Room, City Hall**



**Attendees:** Amber Braman, Karen Lawler, Julie Ray, Chris Carpenter, Tenesha Thomas, Lisa Thomas, Gerald Clark

**Absent:** Mitzi Adams, Liz Smith

**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 November 2019 were approved.
- iv. **Treasurer's Report:** Karen Lawler reported;
  - a. Year 2019 Ending Balance: \$15,451.60
  - b. Year 2020 Starting Balance: \$26,264.12

**II. New Business**

- i. **Appropriation Follow-up:** Amber Braman stated that she presented the Beautification & Tree Board annual budget to the city council at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Board was approved to receive \$10,000 for the 2020 budget year, and that is reflected in the "Year 2020 Starting Balance" noted in the Treasurer's Report.
- ii. **Pride of Madison Signs Update:** Amber reported that 4 new Pride of Madison signs had been posted. Those signs are allocated to the following Madison businesses and organizations:
  - a. Oasis MedSpa
  - b. Planet Smoothie
  - c. Madison Friends of the Library
  - d. Maura Wroblewski, District 1In addition, Amber will be asking for a quote on purchasing bags/pencils/stickers/etc. as promotional handouts for the Beautification & Tree Board.
- iii. **Beautification Sign Installment:** Chris Carpenter reported that one of the signs for Colonial Grand had not been installed. Chris coordinated with Public works in order to add the Honor Roll sign to the Madison Boulevard entrance, and add a new regular

sign to the Hughes Road entrance. Chris stated that all other signs had been installed and that there were no further outstanding sign or installation issues noted.

- iv. ***December Invasive Plant Workshop and Cleanup Follow-up and Future Keep Alabama Beautiful Cleanup Day activities:*** Amber provided this status via an email from Mitzi Adams. The workshop took place at Horizon Elementary and was attended by 20 residents, including 3 Board members. During the first hour, the presenter, Soos Weber, gave a presentation and also brought examples of the invasive plants under discussion. During the second hour, Soos led the participants in an outdoor cleanup activity surrounding the school, picking up trash and removing privet and other invasive plants from the landscape. Amber reported that the workshop was well-received by all attendees. It was noted that conducting this type of cleanup activity surrounding various Madison schools would promote good will toward the Board and its activities, and that Madison schools should be considered as first as potential sites for conducting future Keep Alabama Beautiful cleanup activities.
- v. ***Arbor Day Poster Contest:*** Lisa Thomas reported that the poster judging activity that was conducted the week of January 13<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Master Gardeners of North Alabama participated as judges. All Madison elementary schools participated in the contest, and the awards for the winners is scheduled for the February 24<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Lisa is continuing to prepare for the awards activity by obtaining easels for displaying the posters, as well as preparing the winner's certificates and gift bags. In addition, Lisa is coordinating the delivery of the 1<sup>st</sup> Place winning posters to be sent to Anniston for participation in the state-wide contest.
- vi. ***Arbor Day Tree Planting and Workshop Update:*** The Arbor Day Workshop is scheduled for February 25. The day will start with a tree planting activity in front of City Hall, start time is being coordinated with the Mayor's office. The evening session will begin at 5:30pm at the Madison Public library. Even though the potential topics have not been finalized, the current plan is to have presentations on: Water Conservation for Trees, Raised Bed Gardening, and Urban & Community Forestry. The Board will be utilizing local speakers from in order to take advantage of name recognition to help with attendance.
- vii. ***Board Officer Appointments:*** After a brief discussion on this topic, it was noted that all officer positions are open, and the individuals listed below have volunteered for the positions noted here. This will be discussed and voted on at the next Board meeting.
- Chairman: Karen Lawler
  - First Vice-Chairman: Mitzi Adams
  - Second Vice-Chairman: Chris Stapleton
  - Treasurer: Open
  - Secretary: Open

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm