

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on April 18th with 28 members attending.

President Penny Yunker introduced Chris Enroth, the Horticulture Educator from the U of I Extension Service, who spoke on "Pesticides: Organic versus Synthetic". Organic is defined as a molecule that contains carbon which can encompass many products. The USDA specifies what can be certified as organic. Sir Albert Howard, J.R. Rodale, and Rachel Carson all pioneered the early organic movement. The Environmental Impact Quotient (EIQ) is used to identify pesticide's risk to applicator, consumer, and the environment. A chart may be found at <https://nysipm.cornell.edu/eiq/list-pesticide-active-ingredient-eiq-values>. Any EIQ number under 20 is an acceptable risk factor. Organic alternatives to pesticides include traps and barriers, milky spore disease, Bt, Capsaicin, Neem, Nicotine (NOT safe), Oils (hazardous), Pyrethrum, Rotenone (dangerous), Ryania (high EIQ), Spiosad, soaps, Kaolin, and garlic. Synthetics on the market include Sevin (doesn't discriminate), DDT (stable so persists in the environment), Imidacloprid (negatively impacts pollinators), Organophosphates (Malathion originally used by Hitler), and Pyrethroids. The very best way to control insects is good soil and plant culture management.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the March meeting. Morris Vos moved to approve and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Madena Chuvala presented the treasurer's report which shows a current cash balance of \$5,711.74. She is accepting membership dues for 2018. The budget for 2018 was presented and an invitation was made for suggestions of projects that would need funding.

John Looman requested \$150-\$200 to replace and add some plants to the Macomb Library. Dennis Danowski made a motion to authorize those funds, Sharon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Rosemary Aten told us that long-time MBA member Roger Barclay recently passed away. A small garden on the intersection of Lafayette Street and University Drive was tended through the years by Roger and she would like to propose we allocate funds to upgrade that space and perhaps place a sign there. Those in attendance agreed with that proposal. Tim Howe also shared some memories of Roger's dedication to the trees in Chandler Park. He donated a Chinquapin and a burr oak tree in memory of loved ones. Rosemary made a motion to provide two plaques to be placed under those trees commemorating Roger's contributions. Sally Sallee seconded the motion and it carried. Contributions to Roger's memorial may be sent to Box 183, Macomb, IL 61455.

COMMITTEES:

Membership: Sue Marshall and Penny will head up this committee and are looking for one more person to help. Please contact Penny if you would be willing to assist them.

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl announced that a Card Party will be held at the Country Club on Thursday, June 7th at 1:00 p.m. There will be no Chinese Auction this time but a handmade quilt has been donated to auction. Please sign up with Sharon to host a table.

Train Station: Victoria Engnell has contacted West Prairie FFA and our plants are doing well and will be installed after Mother's Day. The greenhouse will be open Monday through Friday during school hours. Next month she will pass around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to water the window boxes during the summer and fall.

Illinois Bicentennial of Illinois: Morris Vos reported that the tree planting in Chandler Park on Tuesday was very well attended. John Hall was spoke on the significance of the white oak to the community and Mayor Inman proclaimed it Macomb Beautiful Day in Macomb. Sharon Lindahl announced that another white oak tree will be planted in the park as a "sister" tree by the Macomb Women's Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Clean-up at Chandler Park will be Saturday, the 21st from 9-11. Volunteers should bring rakes and gloves. Also, the Macomb FFA will be assisting us with placing new mulch around the Courthouse landscaping.
2. Penny has had a large box of seed packets donated to MBA and she is looking for a way to distribute them.
3. We will continue to maintain the garden across from Magnolia's. The Orphanage located on East Jefferson is developing a new garden and has interest in acquiring some input from MBA.
4. Penny handed out an MBA priorities sheet. She would like input from the membership in the direction MBA wants to go into the future.
5. We may plan a road trip this summer to the Luthy Botanical Gardens in Peoria.

Marilyn Pastorelli won the free lunch!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on June 20th with 27 members present.

President Penny Yunker introduced Bob Streitmatter, who is the manager of the Luthy Botanical Gardens. This six-acre property belongs to the park district in Peoria, IL. The Peoria Park District is the oldest and largest in the state of Illinois and at its conception was funded by tax money from the alcohol tax from the many breweries existing at that time. Peoria had all the elements for producing spirits-spring water, a rail and water transportation system, a large amount of grain, oak for barrels, and coal to power the brewing and distillery operations. Luthy Gardens was built in 1951, and offers over a dozen theme gardens, a Conservatory, a garden gift shop, educational programming, numerous events, a rotating sculpture exhibit and magnificent floral displays. Floral shows include a Spring Show, Orchid Show, Chrysanthemum Show and Poinsettia Show.

The Luthy Gardens is developing a long term plan to increase more native plants, to attract more insects, and to make for more cohesive and easily maintained mass plantings. They are continuing to work on the aesthetics of more consistent facility structure and the use of strong circular paths and plantings. Much of their work and programs offered center around education for individuals of all ages and include tours, floral shows, self-guided tours, cooking shows, various classes, and partnering with other different organizations around the city.

BUSINESS MEETING: (abbreviated due to time constraints)

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the April meeting. Marilyn Saliarez made a motion to approve, David Self seconded, and motion carried. A thank you note from Sarah Looman Gibson thanking us for the wedding gift card was read. A donation of \$500.00 to MBA was received from the family of Roger Barclay to plant a tree in his memory.

Treasurer: Treasurer Madena Chuvala presented the treasurer's report with a cash balance of \$6,068.18. Wilma Wilson made a motion to approve, Marilyn seconded, and the motion carried.

Membership: Penny reported that reminders for membership dues were mailed to our business members. The correspondence offered a one, two, or three year membership which was well received. Sara will promote on our Facebook page the names of businesses who have renewed their membership.

Tree Planting Program: Penny Yunker reported that she had been contacted by Midwest Grass and Forage regarding the MBA tree support program. Penny assured them that they could plant a tree at their new building site on East University Drive and submit a receipt for reimbursement of half the price up to a maximum of \$50. Penny did not realize that the tree planting policy applies only to trees planted on private properties. Penny recommended that we honor her commitment to Midwest Grass and Forage and apologized for not checking the policy prior to making the commitment. Penny also offered to pay the \$50 herself.

Gardens & Train Station: All of the plantings are doing well and ready for Heritage Days and the 4th of July.

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl reported that the Card Party cleared \$879.00. The Fall Card Party will be held Thursday, November 8th at the Country Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The **Beautification Awards Reception** will be held **September 13th at 5 p.m.** at the WCIAC with punch, wine, and appetizers.
2. Marian Swisher told about her bottle brush tree which is doing very well and she highly recommended it as an addition to your landscape.

The 2018 dates to remember:

Beautification Awards	Thursday	September 13	5:00 p.m.	WCIAC
Meeting	Wednesday	September 19	11:30 a.m.	Old Dairy
Meeting	Wednesday	October 17	11.30 a.m.	Old Dairy
Card Party	Thursday	November 8	1:00 p.m.	Country Club
Meeting	Thursday	November 15	11:00 a.m.	Old Dairy
TBA		Road Trip to Luthy Gardens (rescheduled)		

Holly Head won the free lunch!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on March 21st with 20 members, one guest, and one new member, Marilyn Hopper present.

President Penny Yunker introduced Paul Rosenbohm from Better Earth Compost, a company located 1 ½ mile south of Rte. 116 by the airport in Peoria, IL. Better Earth is one of the first EPA approved compost companies in Illinois. They use compostable material from local farms, city yard waste, Seneca Foods, and Libby's among others to produce an odorless and organic amendment to the soil. Those who dump this material pay a tipping fee which pays for the massive equipment necessary to produce the compost. Better Earth also produces different landscape mulches and topsoil besides the organic compost. Their products can be purchased locally at Hart's Nursery in Bushnell and Boehm's Nursery in Rushville.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the November meeting. Morris Vos moved to approve and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Madena Chuvala presented the treasurers report which shows a current balance of \$5,596.52. Last year's total deposits and expenditures were presented.

Committees:

Penny handed out the list of committees with those who had served last year and those who had volunteered this year. It was suggested that a **Membership** committee be formed to gather dues of members and businesses. We are actively seeking members to volunteer for that position. We also need someone to chair the **Courthouse Plantings** committee and on the **Fundraising Committee** we need someone to chair the Scone Sale if we are to continue it. The MBA will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2022 and we are looking ahead for suggestions and interest from our membership as to how we will celebrate that occasion.

Bicentennial of Illinois: Penny, Morris, Tim Howe, and Maureen Marx volunteered to serve on a committee to commemorate the Bicentennial of Illinois which will take place on December 3, 2018. This committee decided to plant a tree and needed to act quickly to plant it during the optimum time frame. Permission was granted and welcomed by the city. The MBA will donate a 1¼" white oak tree to the City of Macomb in Chandler Park. This is the state tree and will be planted on April 17th at 10:00 a.m. which will be proclaimed Macomb Beautiful Day. All members of MBA are encouraged to attend.

Train Station: We have been in contact with West Prairie FFA and the plants for our window boxes at the train station have been started along with the canna bulbs we purchased last year for the planters around the Square.

Clean-Up Day: The date for clean-up of Chandler Park, the train station, and around the Courthouse has been set for April 21st with a rain date of April 28th. The FFA from Macomb High and a 4-H Club will be helping with our efforts. We are acquiring wood mulch for a generously discounted price from Wally Elsner for the Courthouse. Volunteers are encouraged to bring wheelbarrows and grain shovels to scatter the mulch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. A new sign will be erected in Oakwood Cemetery in recognition of its award as a Historical Marker by the Illinois State Historical Society. We have been asked to provide flowers for the landscaping around this marker whose specific location has yet to be determined. We will not be required to attend to watering or upkeep.
2. The unsightly planters around the Square will be replaced in two years when the final phase of the downtown revitalization is completed.

The free lunch was won by Peggy Ma!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary

FUTURE EVENTS AND DATES

APRIL		MAY	
7 th	Gardeners Day-U of I Extension	5 th	Preparing for the Summer Garden U of I Extension
17 th	Dedication of Oak tree in Chandler Park		
18 th	MBA at the Old Dairy with Chris Enroth, “Pesticides: Organic vs. Synthetic”	16 th	MBA at the Old Dairy-MFD representative, “Garden safety & rules re: burning leaves, yard waste and fields
21 st	Clean-Up Day in Chandler Park 9 to 11 am	19 th	Garden Sale U of I Extension
28 th	Rain Date for Clean-Up Day		

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on May 16th with 24 members present.

President Penny Yunker introduced Captain Adam Rhoades, Nate Livermore, Steve Welch, and Ryan Martin from the Macomb Fire Department. Adam first explained the staffing of the department and the new association with Lifeguard Ambulance and their sister company, Air Evac. Lifeguard pays rent for Fire Station 1 and 2 which has resulted in the department running financially in the black for the first time in recent years. Many aspects of the Fire Department have been streamlined for efficiency and aims to better serve the public. He also addressed the laws and regulations regarding burning in the city of Macomb. There is absolutely no burning within the downtown boundaries. In other parts of the city, fire pits and small sticks for a wiener roast are OK to burn. Most of their calls for burning are complaint driven and the department requests common sense from the public when burning. Ryan also talked of his commitment to Big Brothers & Big Sisters organization. Their recent annual plant sale was highly successful due in part to Pella paying for all of the plants so that all sales went to the group. MBA purchased the annuals recently planted in Chandler Park from the Big Brothers & Big Sisters organization.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the April meeting. Sharon Lindahl moved to approve and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Madena Chuvala presented the treasurer's report which shows a current cash balance of \$5,940.94. Donations total \$280 for the plaques commemorating the trees which Roger Barclay planted in Chandler Park. These will also honor his exemplary volunteerism in our community and will be dedicated this fall.

COMMITTEES:

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl said there are a four more openings for tables at the Card Party to be held June 7th at the Country Club. The Card Party in the fall has tentatively been set for November 16th.

Gardens:

Biagini Garden: Karen Schneider has cleaned this up for the season. Some of the roses there may need replaced.

Chandler Park: Barb said that annuals have been planted in the gardens and also in the planters on the southeast corner. All that is needed is new mulch to be put down and some of the roses need to be replaced.

Courthouse: The north side and south side have been weeded and mulched with the help of the Macomb High FFA. Wilma Wilson said that 50 annuals have been planted there and in the troughs.

Library: John Looman will continue to oversee the maintenance of the garden. Some additional plants may be added.

Train Station: Victoria Engnell reported that the window boxes from the West Prairie greenhouse will be installed after graduation. Victoria passed out a sign-up sheet for watering the window boxes during the rest of the season.

Unfortunately, mice ate the Canna Lilies at West Prairie but the replacements are coming along. These will be planted in the planters around the Square. There is a section on the southeast corner of the train station that has been left to weeds. It was our understanding that a tree was to be planted there.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

1. The flower pots around the Square and the Old Dairy have been planted with the help of the Scotland Clever Clovers 4-H Club.
2. Sara Looman, who manages our Facebook page, is getting married on June 2. We “passed the hat” to purchase a gift certificate from MBA.
3. Penny collected the Major Projects survey from members. This will show what projects are most important to our membership.
4. Tim Howe reported that the First Ladies Wildflower Project which began in 2002 is still going strong in Macomb. There is a bed located on the northwest corner of University Drive and Lafayette St. and also one across from State Police station. He also shared a pamphlet which he feels is the best reference for trees and their care in our area. Penny has copies of it and will bring some to the next meeting.
5. Penny noted that the Macomb Beautification Awards Reception will be held at WCIAC on September 13th from 5:00-6:30 p.m. There will be wine and appetizers following the ceremony. The rental fee is \$100.00.
6. Jerry Yocum donated several hundred seed packets to MBA. These have been distributed in various locations throughout Macomb.
7. We have planned a road trip to Luthy Botanical Gardens on June 26th, leaving the Old Dairy at 9:00 a.m. We will have lunch at Biaggi’s following the tour. Those interested may call Penny for reservations.

Joanne Findley won the free lunch and Sally Sallee won a free T Shirt!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on November 15th with 18 members present. Michael Franke was welcomed as a guest.

President Penny Yunker introduced Rachel Lenz Executive Director of the Macomb Park District who presented a program telling all we should know about the Macomb Park District. As director, she has implemented projects to improve existing facilities, enhance program events, encourage engagement with community, and continue community outreach and partnerships. Recent improvements of new concrete, painting, and fencing have been made to Downing Park. Some of the improvements to Veterans Park include fitness equipment, You are Fit trail signs, a remote control race track, expression swings, and new trees. New playground equipment was installed in Glenwood Park and Patton Park and the mini golf course at Ball Fore has had a face lift with new paint. New perennial flower beds were designed and planted in Everly Park and Glenwood Park with the assistance of MBA. Plans for future projects include park signage, flower beds, tree planting, lighting for youth baseball, shading for playgrounds and dugouts, overhead netting for ball diamonds, upgraded water fountains, multi-user trails, Bocce ball courts, and basketball courts. Members commended Rachel and the MPD for their outstanding efforts which have made Macomb an even more inviting place to live.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the October meeting. Miriam Satern made a motion to approve as corrected, Rosemary Aten seconded, and the motion carried. Two notes from Skip Bowles were read acknowledging our contribution to tree planting in the city and thanking us for our continued financial and volunteer support in his efforts as the city tree budget has been greatly diminished.

Treasurer's Report: Penny reported a cash balance of \$6,546.73 and total assets of \$35,752.31. Disbursements this month included \$1,500 to the city for Christmas trees and lights in Chandler Park and \$500.00 to support the Macomb Tree program. ~~for a tree from the Barclay family.~~

Nominating Committee: Rosemary Aten presented the slate of officers for 2019 as President-Barb Knox, 1st VP-John Looman, 2nd VP-Sharon Lindahl, Treasurer-Penny Yunker, and Co-Secretaries-Maureen Marx and Marilyn Pastorelli. Wilma Wilson made a motion to accept and Kay Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried. Rosemary then thanked Penny for her six year tenure as president. VP John Looman presented Penny with a plaque expressing our gratitude for her hard work and devotion to MBA.

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl reported that the Fall Card Party was the most successful fundraising event to date. Final tabulations amounted to \$1,185. She thanked her committee for their expertise and enthusiasm to make it a great event.

Membership: Penny said that several businesses have paid their dues in advance which is helpful. She will send out reminders **for 2019 dues** to members in January.

50th Anniversary: Maureen Marx reported that the committee has met to start planning the celebration in 2022. Many ideas have been tossed around and they are hoping for more input from members with ideas. Those mentioned were: 50 reasons to live in Macomb, 50 beautiful things about Macomb, a video presentation, a gift to the city, and an MBA Day proclamation. Maureen asked if anyone with ideas would please email her (m-marx@wiu.edu) so that the committee could start finalizing some plans.

Gardens, Train Station, Chandler Park: Clean-up day was very successful with many volunteers who finished the job quickly. Wilma reported that John Looman cut down two nearly dead bushes on the south side of the Courthouse, which improved the look there immensely. Sharon relayed that Ray Krey noted that there is a fatal disease that affects the Knock Out roses through the soil, so all of those roses in Chandler Park on the NW corner, the NE corner, and those around the Women's Memorial will need to be removed and replaced with something else.

Penny has set the date of Monday, November 26th as the day to decorate the boxes at the train station, the containers around the Square, and the containers at the Old Dairy and the Museum. Volunteers should meet at the Old Dairy at 9:00 to make bows and then meet on the **NW** corner of the Square at 10:00 to start placing the decorations.

Guest Michael Franke asked if there was anyone who was in charge of the plantings at Chandler Park. He revealed that he has been taking care of the plantings and flowers around the Veterans Memorial on his own. As incoming president, Barb said that one of her immediate goals was to determine who was taking care of which area in the park and to coordinate efforts to improve and enhance the current plantings. She will be facilitating a meeting after the first of the year with the city and others who are involved with the park. It was also noted that the food trucks in the park during Heritage Days are a detriment to the grass and plantings. As a member of the Heritage Days committee, Rachel Lenz said that there is a tentative plan to move the food trucks out of the park and onto pavement. She will let that committee know of our concerns. It was also suggested that members of the WIU Vets club may be interested in helping with the Veteran's Memorial. We will follow up with them after the meeting with the city when we will hopefully have a plan to coordinate all those groups.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

An MBA member made an \$85.00 donation to MBA to plant a tree at our discretion. Suggestions included Habitat for Humanity or Genesis Gardens. We will contact those groups to determine if there is a need for a tree.

The free lunch was won by Jean Waymack!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary

MBA SAVE THE DATE!

MEETING DATES and EVENTS

Wednesday, March 20	Old Dairy	12:00	TBA
Saturday, April 6	SRC Outreach	8:30-2:30	Gardener's Day
Wednesday, April 17	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker
Saturday, April 20	Chandler Park	9:00	Spring Clean-up Day
Wednesday, May 15	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker
Thursday, June 6	Country Club	1:00	Spring Card Party
Wednesday, June 19	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker
Thursday, September 12	WCIAC	5:00	Awards Reception
Wednesday, September 18	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker
Wednesday, October 16	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker
Wednesday, November 20	Old Dairy	12:00	Speaker

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on October 17th with 30 members and 3 guests present. We welcomed Ketra Wanamaker as a new member and Marilyn Billingsly, Meri Kieffer (a recent MBA Beautification award winner), and Deb McDaniel as guests.

President Penny Yunker introduced acclaimed local artists, Pat Hobbs and Nancy Smith Jones, whose work is currently on display at WCIAC. They presented a program on "Enjoying your flowers long after the growing season-tips for painting flowers". Each table in the room was adorned with vases of different flowers and members were shown how to use a pen for contour line drawing. After instruction and encouragement, members each made a drawing and shared their work.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the September meeting. They were approved as read. A note from Cassidy Depoy and the Macomb Park District was read thanking MBA for our support of their tree planting grant application.

Treasurer: Penny presented the treasurer's report which shows a cash balance of \$7,982.56. Expenses last month included plaques, programs, refreshments, and rental fee for the awards ceremony held at WCIAC and plaques honoring Roger Barclay's donations of trees to the city. Madena Chuvala made a motion to accept the report, Holly Head seconded, and the motion carried. Miriam Swisher was thanked for asking that contributions in memory of her son-in-law be given to MBA.

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl reported that the Card Party scheduled for Thursday, November 8th has 15 tables reserved. Door prizes will be awarded and it was decided to serve dessert during the middle of the event. There is room for five more tables.

Chandler Park, Courthouse, and Train Station: Penny said that a fall clean-up of Chandler Park and the Courthouse will be scheduled soon. Several volunteers recently cleared the containers around the Square, replaced evergreens, and placed fall decorations in them. The gardens in the Chandler Park and Courthouse have all looked good all summer. It was agreed to have the West Prairie FFA provide the geraniums for the train station again in 2019. They will have a brighter selection next year to show up better in the planter boxes. Sharon made a motion that MBA again donate \$1,500 to the city for Christmas trees and lights in Chandler Park. Rosemary Aten seconded and the motion carried.

Greta Hangelbroek won the free lunch!

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Knox, Secretary

REMAINING 2018 DATES:

November 8th (Thursday) Card Party Fundraiser-Macomb Country Club 1:00 p.m.

November 15 (Thursday) Last regular meeting of 2018-Rachel Lenz-Executive Director Macomb Park District, "**All you should know about the Macomb Park District**"

MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on September 19th with 27 members and two guests present. We welcomed a Teresa Kepple as a new member and also her business, beYoutiful Skin Care Studio, as a new business member. Deb McDaniel was welcomed as a guest.

President Penny Yunker introduced Jock Hedblade, the Director of Macomb Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. Jock is a native of Macomb who was drawn back here to live and work mainly due to the appeal of small town living. His vision is to promote Macomb and McDonough County as a tourist destination all year round and not only for special events. The Bureau is applying for "Looking for Lincoln" status which identifies historic sites that Lincoln visited and lived. He hopes to capitalize on Lincoln's time in Macomb especially during one such visit which shaped his position on slavery. Macomb was also the home of Lizzie Magie who invented the original Monopoly game. Ideas to promote that story include making the downtown square into a Monopoly game. This in turn would bring more foot traffic to the downtown businesses. For more information you may find their new updated website at makeitmacomb.com.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes: Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the April meeting. Marilyn Saliars made a motion to approve, Maureen Marx seconded, and the motion carried. Appreciation was extended to Sara Gibson for her excellent work promoting MBA on our Facebook page.

Treasurer: Penny presented the treasurer's report which shows a cash balance of \$8,965.52.

Membership: Penny thanked Janice Welsch, Kay Hill, Nancy Jones and Sara Gibson for their help on the membership committee collecting dues from members and businesses. To date we have 79 paid memberships of individuals and families, 94 paid business memberships, and extra cash contributions which total \$2,790.

Nominating Committee: Rosemary Aten presented the slate of officers for 2019. They are: President- Barb Knox, 1st VP-John Looman, 2nd VP-Sharon Lindahl, Treasurer, Penny Yunker, and Co-Secretaries- Marilyn Pastorelli and Maureen Marx.

Fundraising: Sharon Lindahl announced that the Fall Card Party will be held Thursday, November 8th at 1:00 p.m. at the Macomb Country Club. Dessert will be served and tickets are \$15.

Beautification Awards Reception: Penny reported that the reception was very well received with nearly 50 people attending the event at the WCIAC. After the awards ceremony emceed by John Hallwas, wine and appetizers were served by the committee of Penny, Marcia Lucas, Garnette Hallwas, and Sandy Nelson. She thanked Dennis Danowski for taking photos during the event. Due to the success of this location with this set up, we will plan to continue this format in the earlier date of September next year.

Gardens, Train Station, Tree Planting: Everything has looked very nice all summer long and we appreciated all those who volunteered to provide such a lovely landscape to Macomb. We are still looking for someone to assume responsibility for the north side of the courthouse. The Master Gardeners have been approached but have not accepted at this time. Penny presented the plaques created to honor Roger Barclay's donations of trees in Chandler Park which was paid for by contributions from MBA members. It was decided to donate the \$500 memorial contribution from the Barclay family to the Macomb City Tree Board to plant more trees in the city. We will plan an event to publicize this generous donation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Rachel Lenz and Cassidy Depoy from the Macomb Park District explained that they are applying for a National Forestry grant which would provide assistance and support for a tree planting program. Their goal is to plant 150 trees in Veteran's Park in late October and next spring. Trees could also be planted in Oakwood Cemetery and Spring Lake. They are asking MBA to write a letter of support to help their application. A letter composed by Morris Vos supporting their efforts was read and will be included in their application.
2. Once again, Jerry Yocum's son has donated flower seeds to MBA for distribution. Besides the four boxes of flower seeds, he also donated 20 boxes of vegetable seeds. Members are encouraged to find creative ways to disperse these seeds to individuals, businesses, and organizations.
3. Wilma Wilson reported that County Board Chairman, Scott Schwerer announced in church recently what a wonderful job MBA is doing to beautify the city, especially around the county courthouse.
4. Penny asked that we appeal to other groups and organizations to help with our efforts around the city. Our membership is more mature and we could use some younger volunteers to help with the more physical aspects of our work. We are grateful to the local FFA and 4-H Clubs for their assistance in the past and anticipate their willingness to continue in the future.

2018 MEETING DATES:

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| October 17 (Wednesday) | Nancy Jones and Pat Hobbs-"Enjoying your flowers long after the growing season – tips for painting flowers " |
| November 8th (Thursday) | Card Party Fundraiser – Macomb Country Club 1:00 p.m. |
| November 15 (Thursday) | Rachel Lenz – Executive Director Macomb Park District
"All you should know about the Macomb Park District" |

