

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		