

## MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on May 16<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> at the Country Club. The Card Party in the fall has tentatively been set for November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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

