

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