

**Macomb Beautiful Association**  
**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee - Membership List**  
**September 8, 2019 Update**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>
Maureen Marx, Chair	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:maureengmarx@mtcnw.net">maureengmarx@mtcnw.net</a>	309-776-3080 309-255-8161
Tina Belz	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:tbelz@hotmail.com">tbelz@hotmail.com</a>	309-255-5325
Scott Coker	City Administrator	<a href="mailto:Scoker@cityofmacomb.com">Scoker@cityofmacomb.com</a>	309-333-9050
Garnett Hallwas	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:Gigi61455@hotmail.com">Gigi61455@hotmail.com</a>	309 -370-1023
Jock Hedblade	Executive Director - Macomb Area Conv. & Visitors Bureau	<a href="mailto:j.hedblade@makeitmacomb.com">j.hedblade@makeitmacomb.com</a>	309-833-1315 office 773-209-6830 cell
Candice Hunt	NTN Bower, Human Resources	<a href="mailto:Candice_Hunt@ntn-bower.com">Candice Hunt@ntn-bower.com</a>	309-837-0223
Nancy Jones	MBA Member and local artist	<a href="mailto:n-jones@wiu.edu">n-jones@wiu.edu</a>	309-255-7527
Teresa Kepple	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:teresa@studiobeyoutifulskin.com">teresa@studiobeyoutifulskin.com</a>	309-255-3474
Laura Leezer	Citizens Bank, VP of Marketing	<a href="mailto:laura.leezer@mortonbank.com">laura.leezer@mortonbank.com</a>	309-837-0604
Sharon Lindahl	MBA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	<a href="mailto:levengood41@gmail.com">levengood41@gmail.com</a>	309-333-7707
Lisa Morrow	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:morrowla53@gmail.com">morrowla53@gmail.com</a>	412-613 -2123
Becky Paulsen	WIU Director of Business Engagement & Outreach	<a href="mailto:b-paulsen@wiu.edu">b-paulsen@wiu.edu</a>	309-252-2040
Morris Vos	MBA Member	<a href="mailto:m-vos@wiu.edu">m-vos@wiu.edu</a>	309-331-4369
Penny Yunker	MBA Treasurer	<a href="mailto:yunker@macomb.com">yunker@macomb.com</a>	309-837-9119 309-255-3831

**Macomb Beautiful Association**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

**Committee Assignments**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Members</b>
Design		Garnette Hallwas Nancy Jones Teresa Kepple Penny Yunker
Grant Writing		Tina Belz Lisa Morrow Becky Paulsen
Location		Scott Coker Candice Hunt Morris Vos
Fundraising		Garnette Hallwas Sharon Lindahl Maureen Marx
Cost		Laura Leezer Maureen Marx Penny Yunker

## **Macomb Beautiful Association**

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

**April 5, 2019 – The Old Dairy – 11:30 a.m.**

Present: Maureen Marx, Morris Vos, Sharon Lindahl, Penny Yunker, Rosemary Aten

#### 1. Structure

Discussed the idea of an armillary and having local artist/sculptor Duke Oursler design it for us. Penny passed out a tentative sketch of the base of the proposed armillary (see attached). There was a general consensus that an armillary would be appropriate. The metal bands on the armillary and on the base surrounding it would focus on the past, present and future goals of MBA and the people who made MBA what it is today. Along the edge of the base metal flowers could be placed at intervals around the edge.

Rosemary Aten suggested that we make sure that whatever we do fits in with the goals of MBA, our accomplishment in the community, the partnership and support provided to MBA by the City, the people who have made MBA what it is today, and a desire to increase the awareness of MBA with the overall unifying concept of beautification. Founding members of MBA that should be considered include Mary Stover, Madge Howe Cooper, Hermettet, and especially Mary Mabon who left \$50,000 to MBA in memory of her friend Margaret Stover, the founder of MBA.

#### 2. Location was discussed with consideration given to a number of locations including:

- Chandler Park
- Paton Par
- Memorial Park
- Everly and Glenwood Park
- City Hall
- Courthouse grounds
- Veterans Park
- Compton Park
- Lot on the corner of Carroll and Lafayette (need to contact Buchanan to see if he might donate this to the City or if he would sell it to the City). The Committee will talk to President Barbara Knox about approaching Mr. Buchanan.

Issues to be consider are accessibility to all community residents (parking, walking distance from housing; putting the armillary in an area of the city that does not already have much beautification,

The idea is that where ever the armillary is located it would attract residents, school children, visitors and others to an area that is beautiful, peaceful and educational.

### 3. Committee membership

We need to make sure that the committee includes individuals that represents a variety of interested parties from the community such as:

- Someone from the City – Maureen Marx will speak to Scott Coker
- Some one from local businesses – Penny Yunker will speak to Steve Hensley from NTN Bower
- Someone from Citizen’s Bank – Sharon Lindahl will speak to Laura Lizer
- Someone from WIU – Maureen will speak to Tara Heath at WIU
- Someone from the Macomb Park District – Penny Yunker will talk to Rachel Lenz
- Other that might be considered depending on responses from individuals mentioned above might include representatives from Pella, MidAmerican Bank, Laverdiere Construction, and Yetter Manufacturing in Colchester.

### 4. Cost

Based on initial discussions with Duke Oursler we estimate that the total project would cost in the range of \$20,000 to \$30,000. The drawings of a proposed armillary would be provided free of charge by Duke Oursler, and if approved a model of the chosen armillary would be made at a cost of \$1,500. Morris Vos suggested we consider a historic column salvaged from an old building in the community on which to place the armillary.

Contributions from various parties might include:

- The city - a base and electricity
- Local construction companies – such as Trotter, Laverdiere, and Wayland.
- Remaining funding provided by MBA through fundraising and an initial commitment by MBA of up to \$10,000.
- Fundraising activities to include the sale of pavers or bricks (\$100, \$500, and \$1,000) and other fundraising events.

### 5. Timeline:

April 17<sup>th</sup> MBA meeting – approval of the concept and permission to move forward

May 15<sup>th</sup> MBA meeting – 2 or 3 drawings of the proposed armillary presented to membership for approval

June 19 or September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting – Model of armillary presented to membership for final approval.

The armillary would be made during 2021 and installed in 2022 the anniversary year of MBA.

### 6. Other issues

Publicity: John Hallwas could write an article about Mary Mabon and MBA

Work with Jock Hedblade (Macomb Area Convention and Visitors Bureau), Dennis

Danowski (Macomb Public Library), Nancy Grossman (West Central Illinois Art Center),

Kristin Terry (Downtown Development), Mark McDonald (Illinois Stories), and others.

**Macomb Beautiful Association  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
Minutes of May 6, 2019 meeting  
4:45 p.m. City Hall Community Room**

Present: Maureen Marx (Chair), Scott Coker, Sharon Lindahl, Penny Yunker, Garnette Hallwas, Candace Hunt, Morris Vos, Teresa Kepple, Lauren Merritt, and Becky Paulsen

Absent: Rosemary Aten, Laura Leezer

Maureen Marx welcomed members of the committee and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Maureen also passed around a list of members and asked that we update email addresses and telephone numbers. The membership of the committee was recently increased to include members of business, community government, and other organizations in Macomb.

**Meeting dates and times:** Maureen informed attendees of the forthcoming meeting dates. It was suggested that we meet at 4:00 p.m. so that Scott Coker would be able to attend (Scott Coker, the new City Administrator, is scheduled to attend the City Council Meeting every Tuesday at 5 p.m.) Participants were in agreement so future meeting will start at 4 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall.

**MBA bylaws, brochure and current projects:** Each of these items was included in the packet of information provided to each committee member at the start of the meeting, which were all prepared by Penny Yunker. Maureen read the purposes of Macomb Beautiful so that we could keep them in mind when planning the activities of MBA as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization. The anniversary will take place in 2022. Sharon Lindahl suggested that we might want to consider celebrating the anniversary during the 2022 Heritage Days celebrations.

**Progress to date:** A smaller committee met twice this spring to start planning a possible gift to the city to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In addition to the gift to the city, other activities are being considered. A list of anniversary activities was reviewed. Scott Coker suggested that committee members review the list of activities prior to the next meeting to determine which to undertake and when to undertake them. He further suggested that we identify activities as either short-term goals (i.e., can be started on in the near future) or long-term goals (i.e., can be started as the anniversary date approaches).

The committee will initially focus on the gift to the City. Maureen reported that several members of the initial committee had met with local sculptor Duke Oursler with the idea of having him design an armillary sphere or dial. There was a short discussion of what an armillary is, what it represents, and what is its function.

Maureen explained that the idea is for the armillary to be situated in a Macomb area park and be surrounded by a patio. Candice Hunt asked how an armillary would be different from the

sculptures already around town. Morris Vos indicated that, unlike other sculptures around town, which are there on a temporary basis and can be purchased, the armillary would be a permanent (and not-for-sale) structure that will serve as the center of a social space for residents and visitors to Macomb. As such, it would be a lasting reminder of the shared histories of Macomb and Macomb Beautiful and the Association's future role in and relationship with the City. Penny further clarified how the armillary as the central point of the patio space would have metal bands that would be inscribed with important dates and information about Macomb and Macomb Beautiful.

Two other proposals for a gift to the city were also discussed:

1. A public restroom in Chandler Park (while this would be useful to the many people who use Chandler Park, it was not considered to fit the image and purposes of the organization).
2. A pocket park in the community with basketball hoop and flower beds. Macomb and WIRC recently received a grant to pull down abandoned homes. The land would be owned by the City and WIRC and could be sold to adjoining property owners or other individual, or could be used as a pocket park. The homes demolished are in an area of town that would benefit from a small park and basketball court. Tim Howe, who has been contacted by Penny, will gather information about the status of this project. The group discussed the pocket park idea and decided that while feasible and of value, it would not be the ideal way to recognize MBA's 50<sup>th</sup> year of involvement in the beautification of our community. It was suggested that we could contact other organizations in town, such as Rotary, to see if they would be interested in pursuing this project with MBA.

At this juncture, the new committee members were asked about their views on the armillary. There was a generally positive reaction to it as a gift to the city. The committee then agreed that we should continue to pursue the armillary suggestion. Maureen reported the Duke Oursler has agreed to prepare 2 or 3 possible armillary designs, which he would present at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the committee. Duke will also provide an estimate of the cost of the armillary and what that cost would include. If the committee approves a design, Maureen will present it at the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of MBA. The next step would be the construction of a model armillary by Duke Oursler. The initial cost of the model is expected to be \$1,500.

A list of possible locations for the armillary was provided. Any location would require the approval of the Macomb City Council. Maureen asked the committee to look at each of the locations and to eliminate those not considered appropriate. Some of the issues to consider are accessibility, parking, size, cost, etc.

If approved the armillary would be constructed during 2011. Duke would expect half payment up front and the remainder upon completion. It is expected that MBA would provide some seed money for the project – somewhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Fundraising projects would be undertaken to provide the rest of the cost of the project.

Garnette Hallwas and Sharon Lindahl who were on the Women's Club committee that planned and funded the Women's Memorial, indicated that it was the committee that made the final decision. Members of Macomb Women's Club were not asked to approved the final design of the statue. They recommended that our committee follow the same approach.

Maureen reminded committee members to review the list of activities and to consider the suggested location in preparation for our meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Penny Yunker, Secretary

**MBA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**  
**Monday June 10, 2019**

Members Present: Scott Coker, Candice Hunt, Teresa Kepple, Laura Leezer, Sharon Lindahl, Maureen Marx.

Members Absent: Rosemary Aten, Garnette Hallwas, Becky Paulsen, Morris Vos, Penny Yunker

Guest: Duke Oursler, WIU Associate Professor, Sculpture

Meeting began at 4:02 at the Community Room of Macomb City Hall.

Motion to approve minutes of May 6th meeting was made by Sharon Lindahl, and seconded by Teresa Kepple.

It was announced that Lauren Merritt has opted out of serving at this committee on the advice of the Macomb Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors which did not want Lauren to be overextended. Lauren indicated, however, that the Chamber of Commerce is fully supporting this MBA project and that when it gets closer to its unveiling, will assist in promoting it with an email blast and a write up in their newsletter.

Duke Oursler presented:

- a) his artistic philosophy on public art with photographs of some of his works in Georgia, Tennessee, and in Macomb, Illinois itself adding that his focus is the incorporation into his work of the native aspects of the community (e.g., its fauna and flora, its industries, its collective value system) for which he is building these structures;
- b) three drawings of an armillary dial with different bases and cradles; and
- c) other sketches he has made other than an armillary dial.

Committee members asked questions as Duke presented. During his presentation, however, there was an obvious redirection, a definite shift in what members think the MBA gift structure to the city should be. The bottom line of the discussion that followed was that, while an armillary dial is structurally beautiful, it is not seen as a symbolizing or representing what MBA and the city are about. The general consensus is that the structure should be, and rightfully so, an accurate and a meaningful representation of the following:

- a) what MBA stands for philosophically (its founding mission, its goals);
- b) of Macomb as a city (its foundation, history, and constituency,) and
- c) that the structure we want to build should be an indication of the relationship between MBA and the City of Macomb which we want to be evident to both residents and visitors.

Duke answered general and specific questions about scale, dimensions, and possible locations. Suggestions of possible locations and criteria to consider were discussed at length. At this time, however, no definitive decision was made regarding location as the decisions regarding the site and type of structure are closely linked together.

As it was obvious that the armillary dial notion is being abandoned and as several suggestions for alternative structures are being brought forth, Duke suggested, as the next immediate charge of the committee, that the members send him by email their individual sentiments about what MBA and Macomb means to them, how they see themselves as members of the association and of the community. As he collects this feedback, he will begin sketching plans for a structure which clearly represents what MBA stands for in the Macomb community.

Maureen will send the minutes along with Duke's email to members of the committee. Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

**Macomb Beautiful Association  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
Minutes – August 12, 2019**

Present: Maureen Marx, Penny Yunker, Nancy Jones, Teresa Kepple, Laura Leezer, Garnette Hallwas, Sharon Lindahl, Scott Coker, Candace Hunt.

Barb Knox, president of MBA updated the committee on the selection of a mural as its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift to the city. The MBA Board had narrowed down the possible project to the following four:

1. A mural
2. A pocket park
3. A gazebo in Glenwood/Everly parks
4. Benches and plantings in Memorial Park

MBA members voted in support of the mural. Barb thanked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for the work they will undertake to make this project a reality.

Candice Hunt mentioned that she is concerned that a mural is not particularly innovative. While there was some agreement on her statement, our committee must go along with the vote of the membership and go ahead with the mural project.

Maureen distributed a handout with subcommittee assignments. These subcommittees include:

1. Location subcommittee
2. Design subcommittee
3. Cost subcommittee
4. Grant Writing subcommittee
5. Fundraising subcommittee

Maureen reported that through a personal contact she has been in touch with the Buwicks, owners of the building in which Gelsosomos is located. Maureen will be following up with the Buwicks about the possibility of using the wall on the north side of their building for the MBA mural.

A brief discussion was held regarding the advantages of having the murals painted onto panels which would then be affixed to the wall. If a brick wall is in good condition and not already painted, panels would enable the painting to take place off site and if at some point the mural is removed it would be easier and cheaper than removing a mural from a brick wall.

Members of each subcommittees will report on their progress at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.