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Description automatically generated**Executive Council Meeting**

**Online through Zoom and In-Person**

**June 9, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.**

**Welcome & Introductions:** Dean Alberty welcomes everyone to the meeting. The attendees are Chuck Conner, Meridith Perkins, Sarah Crowder, Woody Wells, Kristi Werdenhause, Jon Skinner, Jacob McMains, Martha Clark, Ann Koenig, Brett O’Brien, Joe Oelke, and Troy Powell.

**Minutes Read and Approved:** Dean asked if anyone had changes to the minutes from April’s meeting. Martha made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jacob seconded this motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Jacob McMains

**Treasurer report 6-9-2022**

* 01 Regular share (savings)- $11,194.30
* 02 Northwest- $0.01
* 03 Northeast- $0.01
* 04 Central- $3,301.92
* 05 St. Louis (Christmas club)- $1,547.66
* 07 Southwest- $280.96
* 77 East Central- $2,184.72
* 76 Square CC- $0.02
* 75 Regular checking- $47,976.01
* 78 Money market- $25,323.25
* PayPal- $164.69

**Current total in all accounts = $92,973.55** – as of 6/8/2022\*

**Processed Transactions:**

* -Online 909 Form fee for taxes (-$26.25)
* -Zoom Subscription x2: (-$29.98)
* -Constant Contact x2: (-$237.50)
  + Meridith brought up the idea of getting rid of this due to cost and lack of use. How can we use this to maximize it? Possibly ask Dr. Paul Reese what we should use to send out information. Dean said to disengage from constant contact, Martha seconded this motion. Is there a fee to open it back up? I will call and see what our options are.
* -Dividend Payment: (+$8.06)

**Upcoming Transactions Waiting to Be Processed:**

* Arbor Day & MCFC-partnered tree giveaway: $7,500 ($2,500 of Central)
* STL Tree Decay Workshop: currently committed to $2,000
* Strategic Plan with Dr. Paul Reese: $2,520 (August 2022)

**Old Business**

* 5th Grade Arbor Day Poster Contest regional update
* Website work begins to update
  + October meeting will be used to discuss this.
* Social Media Facebook with Martha
* Members at Large
* Update on Master Plan
  + Moving forward with the payment for this.
* Tree Diapers Donation for Arbor Day planting for Missouri Department of Conservation
  + Dean will be delivering tree diapers to St. Louis, Columbia and KC. Ann, Martha, Meridith, Sarah, and Joe would all like some tree diapers.
* Elections this year for 2022
  + All felt that Jacob remains as treasurer this term. All were in favor of this motion.
  + Martha moves to chairman, Meridith seconded. All were in favor for Martha becoming chairman.
  + Sarah Crowder has interest in vice-chair. Concerned that she might not be able to make all the meetings in person. Meridith seconded the motion. All were in favor of Sarah becoming vice-chair.
* New ideas for outreach programs

**New Business**

* 5th Grade Arbor Day Poster Contest-Troy Powell
  + Troy works for the city of Springfield. He presents the Arbor Day Poster Contest curriculum and rules to schools. This program started back in 2003 with National Arbor Day Foundation. The current timeline began in 2010. The Arbor Day Poster Contest is sponsored by MCFC, MDC, City of Springfield, City Utilities of Springfield, Tree City USA, and US Forest Service. This contest is for 5th grade classes in the state of Missouri, public schools, private and home schools. It is a theme related contest; Trees Work for Clean Water, Trees Work for Our Backyard Friends, Trees Work for Our Community, Trees Work for A Healthier Me. The program timeline is: Selection of theme in August, communication with schools is the Tuesday after Labor Day, communication with state/sponsors, teaching material is posted on MCFC web page in September, teaching material is taught in schools in October, classes make posters from October to 2nd week in November, MCFC posters pick-up day on the 2nd Wednesday in November, display local posters at Missouri State on the 2nd Thursday in November, MCFC judges local poster on the 3rd Tuesday in November, MCFC judges state posters on 3rd Tuesday in November, top 12 posted on Facebook for popular vote December 1. How do the tree dedication ceremonies work? The City of Springfield buys and plants trees for all participating Springfield schools every Friday in April-May, a tree talk is given on the history of Arbor Day, the tree is registered and named certificates are awarded. Prizes from MCFC, MDC, CU, COS, USFS and Krispy Cream are awarded at the ceremony. This year’s theme is Trees Work for Healthier Water. Some have asked if this contest could be done in April instead of in the fall. Unfortunately, that would not work due to the time schedule of events. It would not allow enough time at the end of the school year to complete the contest. Dean asked if MCFC is meeting the needs to make the poster contest work? We could do a better job in promoting it in our own region/area. Would like to increase participation across the state and to do this we need a team to support this regionally.
* Trees for Health Care Workers program-Ann Koenig
  + Two years ago, around this time we were going through covid and looking for ways to thank healthcare workers. In the winter of 2020 Ann reached out to Arbor Day Foundation on ways to help healthcare workers. A program called Community Canopy helped make this “thank you” happen. MDC had a budget for $10,000 for the first year. Looked into long term care facilities. 5,400 staff. Were able to expand from 200 trees to 350 trees this year due to MCFC’s financial help. There is a chance that this could grow and want to thank MCFC for all their support. Right now, the trees are delivered individually, but could do a pick-up event down the road. This could allow for larger trees to be supplied. Tree species selection came from Arbor Day and the info on how to take care of the trees is found on their website. Ann could get more feed back data from Arbor Day.
* Joe Oelke
  + At last month’s meeting voted to add an additional $1,000 to come to $5,000 total from MCFC for the STL Tree Decay. Jacob proposed we raise it up to $5,000 if the TRIM funding does not go through. Martha seconded this motion. All moved forward.

**Committee Reports**

* **Communications Committee –** Ann Koenig, Meridith Perkins, Brett O’Brien, Gene Brunk, Martha Clark
  + We need to look into getting a camera so people who join via zoom can see the meeting. Brett has been working on the city scape lately and will hopefully send it out soon. Would like to be able to put the workshop dates in it.
* **Strategic Plan Current 2022-2024** Dean Alberty
  + No Report
* **Poster Contest & Education/Outreach Committee:** Kristi Werdenhause, Jacob McMains, Troy Powell
  + No Report
* **Financial Oversite Committee –**Martha Clark, Scott Skopec, Brett O’Brien, Jacob McMains
  + No Report
* **Website Committee-** Dean Alberty, Martha Clark
  + No Report

**Liaison/At-Large Membership Reports**

* **Utility Arborist Association and Missouri Cooperative Right-A-Way Management Association** - Scott Skopec
* **Forest ReLeaf** – Meridith Perkins
  + CommuniTree orders have shut down and this spring was a big success. Gave away 4,500 trees. Over 135 different partners came to the table. The fall order will be open July 5th and distribution will start at the end of September to November. They have more new staff hired to help with the growth. They will be doing a strategic plan as well with Paul Reece.
* **Society of Municipal Arborists**
  + They are currently looking for a new executive director.
* **MDC Report**-Russell Hinnah
  + We are working to finalize the cost share docket that will include Community Forestry Cost-share (formerly TRIM). Should be available soon to staff, there will be a few changes in the program.
  + Arbor Day Foundation is conducting an audit of all Tree City USA ordinances. They are trying to get consistency in ordinances across the U.S. If you are contacted about your ordinance being out of compliance MDC and Arbor Day will work with you to get it correct. Cities have until December of 2025 to make the corrections.
  + We just received the results of a study on the economic impacts of urban and community forestry in Missouri and the region. Russell will make a presentation at the next MCFC meeting.
* **Midwestern Chapter of ISA**
  + The TCC is coming up on June 24th in Parkville, MO.
* **TCIA**
  + No report
* **Mo. Forest Resources Advisory Council** – Gene Brunk
  + No report
* **Mo. Dept. of Transportation** – Chuck Wills
  + No report
* **Mo. Forest Products Association** - Mark McCarthy [mark@moforest.org](mailto:mark@moforest.org)
  + No report
* **Missouri Parks & Recreation Association**
  + No report
* **Federated Garden Clubs** – Gayle Fry
  + No report
* **NRCS State Forester** – Joe Alley
  + No Report
* **Missouri Invasive Plant Task Force** – Ann Koenig
  + In the process of restructuring for next year’s Pear Buy-Back program.
* **FWAM**
  + No report

**Region Reports & Volunteer Hours –** Region Representatives

* **Kansas City** – Helene Miller
  + Tree Keepers course. Had a meeting with leadership and they are going to fill the vacant forester positions in Springfield, KC, and STL. Sarah said that the Heartland Tree Alliance has completed their spring planting. Had their first 10-week pre apprenticeship. Both are now in pre-employment screening. Looking forward to a very busy fall.
* **Northwest** – Martha Clark
  + Had the tree planting for Arbor Day in St. Joe. Helena school invited Martha to help with a tree planting this year for the first time. 15 hours.
* **Central** – Todd Bock/Dave Dittmer
  + Had a tour in Jefferson City. 50 hours.
* **Northeast** – David Vance
  + No report
* **East Central/St. Louis** - John Ebeling, Ben Voss /Adam Graham, Doug Seely
  + City of Webster Groves is going to start a replanting in the fall. Forest ReLeaf will be doing a presentation in the fall. 26 hours.
* **Southwest** – Woody Wells/Jorden Oden
  + Poster contest. 226 hours.

**Adjournment**