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Press Release

Beautification & Tree Advisory Board approves painting contest

Six Wilson Park benches to be painted by winners as part of service project

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (November 14, 2016) — The Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board voted 3-0 last month to approve an Arkansas City High School senior's service project contest.

ACHS student Hannah McNulty asked the board for permission to paint six benches in Wilson Park as part of her project for a senior leadership class at the high school. Local artists will do the painting.

Up to six winners will be selected to paint one bench apiece by a committee comprising ACHS students and faculty, as well as two representatives of the City at large and board member Peggy Soule.

McNulty encourages artists of any age or any level of skill to submit their ideas. She will accept all ideas as long as they are appropriate to the park. Final designs are subject to board approval, however.

Design contest applications can be picked up and turned in at the Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce office at 106 S. Summit St. The deadline to turn in applications is Nov. 30.

For questions, email McNulty at painting.park.benches.question@gmail.com. A board of students, teachers, and board members or City officials will decide the winners and release their names on Dec. 2.

Board members present at last month's meeting were Bob Foster, Richard Humphrey and Soule. Candace Stephens and Jill Wineinger were absent. The board meets next at noon Thursday at City Hall.

In other business Oct. 20, the board:

- Approved the Sept. 29 regular meeting minutes as presented.
- Voted to give the Nelson Sensation Award for November to 2012 Cedar Crest Court and Yard of the Season awards to 316 North C St., 415 E. Vine, 418 E. Cedar, and 709 W. Chestnut.
- Discussed the recent town hall meeting on beautification and possible next steps in the effort.

For immediate release

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- Heard an update on an initiative by the Early Bird Lions Club to pay for the restoration of the lion statue at Paris Park. The statue will be transported in the near future to a carver's studio in Oklahoma, where it will remain for several months as he works to restore the face and paw.

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