

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

MARCH 27, 2014

Council Chambers

Neighborhood Associations Represented: There were 11 who signed in. The following Neighborhoods were represented: Germantown Trails, Allenby Meadows, Bromley-Foster Ridge, Poplar Estates, Grove Park, Dogwood Grove, and Neshoba North. Representatives from Neighborhood Preservation also attended.

Call to Order: President Sherrie Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

Welcome and Introductions: Special guests recognized were Alderman John Drinnon and County Commission Candidate Ron Fittes. Mr. Fittes was given an opportunity to introduce himself to the group and tell his qualifications as a candidate for County Commissioner.

Minutes: The minutes from our January meeting were presented and approved.

Guest Speaker: Sherrie Hicks introduced Mr. Joe Burns, President of the Tennessee Genealogic Society who gave information about our Genealogical library and about the Tennessee Society. He gave a special invitation to everyone to visit the Library where they have wireless connection for your computer and four computers with special software with free access to Ancestry Library Edition, fold 3 and Heritage Quest databases, a good assortment of books on how to research genealogy, and volunteers who will offer instruction on the software and help on doing your own research. There is no fee for computer, books or database usage. There is a nominal fee for copies. They also have bookstore where special books are for sale plus several other special historical collections including; Civil War Collection, Family Surname Books & family files, Memphis Belle records, Microfilm collection, Native American collection, US regional genealogy, US history and biographies, Europeans roots & Heraldry collection, and Tenn. Bar oral histories. . Their objective is to provide a facility, resources and help on researching your own family tree. The Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center is located at 7779 Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN 38138. Their phone number is 901-757-8480 and the phone for the Tennessee Genealogical Society is 901-754-4300.

The Librarian is Jennifer Blake and the Library hours are: Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Mondays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Library is closed Wednesdays and Fridays.

They are especially interested in working with young people to encourage interest in genealogy and currently have a program with GHS and are planning to start with Houston High School next year. They will schedule speakers for some meetings about the Library and about genealogy.

Mr. Burns displayed his own very extensive family tree of several thousand members complete in some cases with pictures of grave markers, business endeavors, real estate transactions and for a few distant relatives he showed court records of convictions. It was amazing that he was able to gather so much documentation from so many years past. His presentation was to show what can be done. So get by the Germantown Genealogy library and get instruction on how to start your research.

Mayors Report: The law suit against the Suburban Districts has been dropped and verified by the Judge which means the same suit cannot be refiled. Our Germantown School Board has offices at the Carrefour Center and is working diligently to organize for the opening of five Germantown Schools this fall. Our board did reach an agreement with Collierville so that students currently attending our schools can finish in our schools. The School Board will propose a budget which requires City Approval. The bulk of the funding comes from the

county and State but we must pay part also. State funding comes in August but Shelby County funding comes in March which means we must front money for the schools to start.

The city is preparing our budget for 2015. We made plans for the last tax increase to last five years and we are on target on that but we do expect a small water rate increase. Our financial outlook is good, housing permits are good. We have several new facilities under construction including a 49 bed hospital, Kroger is set to expand, Whole foods is set to open a store in Germantown, Saddle Creek Center West is undergoing a remodel. Huey's is open and doing well.

Police Report: We went over crime statistics for February which generally were good. Thefts from vehicles are way down, arrest were 224 which is up 30 and 127 cases were closed. Response time from our Police Department was excellent: emergency response was 2.24 minutes and non-emergency response time was 3.61 minutes (4 minutes is considered very good). The one request made is to lock your car doors and keep packages out of sight.

CONA Special Events: David Jackson announced that Sunday April 27th is the date for the Germantown Tour of Remodeled Homes. Flyers are available.

Joe Nunes: (planning) Villages of Germantown expansion was approved; Methodist Hospital has purchased the old UT property on Wolf River and plans to develop in the future. **(Neighborhoods)** Code enforcement is reacting to calls about code violations but they are actively looking for violations. If you are planning any kind of work involving construction, call about whether a permit is needed and check current zoning restrictions. Look around your property for property maintenance violations (yards, grass height, shrubs). Check the code on parking of RV's and boats to be sure you are in compliance on home parking. Water form pools must be drained into the sanitary sewer system because of the chlorination but water from pool covers can be drained into storm drains.

Announcements: April 12th is amnesty Dumpster Day, October 28th is the date for the Neighborhood summit, and the keynote speaker will be Jason Manuel, Superintendent of Germantown Municipal School District. April 10th is the date for the Home Landscape Workshop at Economic & Community Development, 1920 S. Germantown Rd.

Neighborhood news: Neshoba North reported an upcoming meeting and a special program honoring a Germantown family for their achievements in music.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM by President Sherrie Hicks