



CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

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Germantown Tree Board

Minutes for
September 9, 2014

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Germantown Tree Board, September 9, 2014 at noon was held at the Parks and Recreation Offices, 2276 West Street.

PRESENT:

Paul Bruns
Thomas Blanche
Joe Keohane
Pam Beasley, Staff Liaison
Wade Morgan ECD Liaison

ABSENT:

Rodney Strop
Sidney Kuehn
George Hernandez

Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was not established with only 3 voting members present. The group decided to go ahead and hold an informal meeting with those present since there were no action items on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes from the August 12, 2014 meeting was deferred due to a lack of a quorum.

Review of Upcoming Economic Development Projects

Pam Beasley, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced professional arborist, Wes Hopper. Mr. Hopper has been the president of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council and very involved with the West Tennessee Chapter for many years. He owns his own tree care company and does consulting work on urban forestry matters for several municipalities in West Tennessee. Chief Planner, Wade Morgan explained that the ECD office asked Mr. Hopper to perform a preliminary site analysis and tree inventory on the property known as the "Cordova Triangle" located on west side of Germantown Rd directly across from the Germantown Performing Arts Center. The purpose of this action was to gain a better understanding of the tree canopy and vegetation on this property as there could be an interest in developing this property at some point in the future.

Mr. Morgan and Ms. Beasley stated that it would be important for the Tree Board to receive such information from a qualified third party urban forestry professional in order to make recommendations to the Planning Commission, Design Review Commission and ECD office as development discussions on this land parcel arise.

Mr. Hopper told those present that he has started his work by walking the site and finding the following:

- The site appears to have been an old homestead; he found the footprint of the house.
- The NW corner of the property is covered in wisteria (an invasive plant) and a lot of Japanese privet (another invasive plant species) is on the site as well.
- There were several specimen trees sited on the property as well as evidence of wildlife.

Mr. Hopper said he would be developing a tree survey to include all trees greater than 10" in diameter along with a wildlife habitat statement. This information will be presented to the Tree Board as soon as work is completed. He will communicate the project status to Ms. Beasley and Mr. Morgan.

Tree Board Vacancies and Meeting Schedule

The Tree Board has two vacancies at the present time. Ms. Beasley stated that these would be filled during the 2015 appointment process since it is so late in the year.

Announcements

Members were reminded about the fruit tree sale scheduled in conjunction with Arbor Day on Friday, March 6, 2015. More details will be given later in the year. Joe Keohane with the Neighborhood Preservation Commission invited the Tree Board members to participate in the upcoming Neighborhood Summit that will be held at the Great Hall in October. Ms. Beasley will send out details as they become available.

Meeting Adjourned

The discussions were concluded at 1:10 p.m. There will be no regular meeting in October. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11th at noon at the Parks and Recreation Offices.