

Germantown Education Commission  
Regular Meeting – October 20, 2009, 6:00pm

Attendees Stephanie Van Arsdale, David Compton, Carole Hinely, Robyn Rudisill, Stacey Foreman, Lesley Fluke, Dino Palazzolo, Carol Wingfield, Xiangen Hu, Vicki Gandee, Melissa Walker

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairman Robyn Rudisill. A quorum was established.

Introduction of guests Greg Noonan from the Germantown Education Foundation was our guest speaker and he spoke about the Germantown Education Foundation and how it works.

Minutes A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2009, meeting by Stacey Foreman and Stephanie Van Arsdale seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved with minor corrections.

Comments by Chairman Robyn Rudisill Bonnie Lee's nephew died from cancer. The Commission is going to make a donation to St. Jude's Medical Center in memory of her nephew. Lesley Fluke will be collecting money for a memorial for Turner Lee and will send the money to St. Jude.

Education Week is in November. Carol Wingfield will chair the committee on delivering cookies to all the various schools in the City of Germantown to show our appreciation for all the teachers and administrators who work in our City of Germantown schools. She will be contacting Kroger for the cookies. In the past, Kroger gave the Germantown Education Commission a \$25 gift certificate which we used towards the purchase of the cookies.

Chairman Rudisill brought to our attention that the trophy given to the August Teacher of the Month, Kim Douglas, had the wrong month on the trophy and needed to be corrected. Lesley Fluke will pick up the trophy and take it to Traditions to have the correction made. Vicki Gandee and Stephanie Van Arsdale attended the October meeting along with Carole Hinely to present the August Teacher Award.

Winners for the Youth Excellence Awards were announced. They are as follows: Caitlan Camuti from Hutchinson School for the August award and Lindy Bennett from St. Agnes Academy for the September award. There was a tie between two students for the October award. Therefore, the Commission decided to award both students, one for the October award and one for the November award. Vincent DiBella from Houston High School won for the October award and Corie L. Walker from St. Agnes Academy won for the November award.

Winners for the Teacher of the Month awards are as follows. Betty Cowan from OLPH was the winner for the September award and Kay Odom from Germantown Elementary was the winner for the October award.

Stacey Foreman, Carole Hinely and Robyn Rudisill will present the awards at the next mayor meeting which is on November 9.

Commission members were informed they should have received their invitation from the City of Germantown for the Commission banquet in the Great Hall to be held November 12. Commission members were urged to attend.

Chairman Rudisill informed us that we received a letter from the city about making a Christmas tree for the auction at the Commission dinner. Stacey Foreman will pick up and decorate the tree and turn it in by November 10.

Race for Education is at 2:00pm on November 8 and Dave Compton is the chairperson. The race will be at Houston Middle School and the Commission will be handing out water from 12pm-2pm. We will buy the water with money from our budget.

Battle of the Brains Stephanie Van Arsdale presented the details of the competition. Stephanie typed up a comprehensive explanation of the competition and each Commission member was given a copy explaining every facet of this project including the awards that will be given. We will be getting names of teachers, contact persons, and donors so we can print a program. Commission members will be asked to do various tasks to help Dino Palazzolo and Stephanie Van Arsdale with final details for the competition. The students have asked for an additional two weeks to turn in their abstracts and this extension was granted. October 30 will be the deadline for turning in their abstracts.

Discussion took place about issues with names of people/businesses that are involved in the prizes and donations for the competition. We discussed if businesses should commit to donate for 3 to 5 years. There was also some discussion on the donor naming on the trophy which will be given to the winning school. We will continue the discussion at November's meeting.

Lunch will be served at the award banquet and we will be getting three quotes from different Germantown restaurants to provide this service.

We have several possible dates for the presentation of the Battle of the Brains Award at a Memphis University basketball game in 2010. They are as follows: 1st choice is January 23, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice is February 20 and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice February 27. Stephanie Van Arsdale will present to University of Memphis our choices of dates and will let us know what date works. Mayor Goldsworthy will present the award.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.