

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

July 23, 2009

Council Chambers

Germantown Municipal Center

Neighborhood Associations Represented: Allenby Lakes, Bavarian Village, Bromley/Foster Ridge, Duntreath, Forest Hill Estates, Germantown Heights, Kimbrough Green, Kimbrough Grove, Moore Road Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Rowan Oak, Timbers and Woodshire.

Call to Order: Chairman Billy Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions: Billy recognized first time visitors from Bromley/Foster Ridge and Germantown Heights. Alderman John Drinnon was also recognized.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the May 28, 2009 meeting were approved as written.

Guest Speaker:

Germantown Fire Marshal, Jody Dwyer discussed home fire safety. He demonstrated products that may be purchased to make your home safer, and he noted that it only takes 3 minutes for a fire to go from a flame to a flash over (a full-blown fire), so it is important to have escape plans and do fire drills with your family. He reviewed smoke detectors, CO detectors, and fire extinguishers—where to put them in your home and their life expectancy. He discussed the most common causes of fire, and how to be safe when the power is out and people use alternative sources for cooking and heating. He urged people to call the Fire Department to inspect your house for hot spots, even if you feel that you have put out a fire successfully. He also explained the dangers of having aluminum wiring in a house and changes one may make that don't involve re-wiring your home. Residents may call Jody to schedule him to speak at a neighborhood association meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Police Department Report: Lt. Mitch Wood and Detective Darrell LaRiviere reported that two hours before the CONA meeting, the Police Department had solved 50 cases of theft from autos with the arrest of two groups of young men. Crimestoppers tips and working with Memphis and Collierville Police helped solve the case. All arrested were adults, and these crimes are felonies. Lt. Wood also announced that the Police Department now has a page on Facebook.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy reported that the Germantown tax rate for FY 10 is the same rate we have had for the past seven years. This year's budget is 4% less than FY 09. She also spent sometime explaining the proposed plan for single source funding of Memphis City/Shelby County Schools and why the suburban mayors are opposed to it. This plan could raise our County taxes by as much as 40%, and we have no vote on it. The County Commission has already approved it, although Shelby County Board of Education is opposed to it. The feeling by the County Commission is that it probably should go before the State Legislature, but Commissioner Mike Ritz is trying to find a way to go around that process. While the plan does not mention consolidation of the schools, it does not prohibit consolidation. The Mayor suggested that citizens talk to all the county commissioners and let them know that we oppose this plan, which offers no benefit to Shelby County Schools' students.

CONA Special Events Coordinator's Report: Hope Pittman, member of the Neighborhood Preservation Commission and chairman of Germantown Cares, discussed this event, which will be Saturday, September 19. Neighborhoods, civic clubs, and churches may select a project and participate in a day of caring to help an individual or group in Germantown or the Shelby County community. The day will culminate at the Pops in the Park for food and fellowship. More

information is available on Germantown's Web Site. She also announced that October 22, 2009, 5-9 PM, is the date for the Neighborhood Summit, formerly known as the Neighborhood Leaders Conference.

Planning report: Joe Nunes reported that Chateau Gardens has now been approved for PUD status. Also, the rezoning of the Barzizza property was denied, but that is being appealed to the BMA. The fiscal impact analysis meeting regarding Saddle Creek IV will be August 11, at 7 PM, in the Council Chambers.

Neighborhood Services: Joe Nunes also reported that there will be a town hall meeting on July 30, at 6 PM, in City Hall to discuss drainage issues. A public meeting was held on July 21 to discuss the Wolf River Blvd. extension, and meetings have been held with the Allenby Lakes Homeowners Association, the neighborhood most directly impacted by this project. It is estimated that construction to complete the two mile stretch of road will take place in 2011 and 2012. The recent storm event generated 10-12,000 cubic yards of storm debris, and the City is investigating eligibility for FEMA funds to help with the cost. Phase II of the decorative street signs will be completed this week, and Phase III should go out to bid within 60 days. All neighborhoods on the current list will be taken care of. Joe asked that those neighborhoods send their logos for the signs to himself or Sherrye Rhea as soon as possible. Questions were raised about the TDOT projects to widen Poplar Avenue and South Germantown Road. At this time neither project is on TDOT's list because the projects were shifted to be covered by stimulus money from the Federal Government.

NEW BUSINESS:

Association Concerns: Billy Brown announced that he had been contacted by the Kimbrough Forest Homeowners Association, and it reported that residents are having a problem with rats. Greg Marcom, Poplar Estates, and Luci Cromer, Riverchase, said that their neighborhoods are also experiencing a rat problem.

Announcements: Billy Brown announced that CONA election of officers will be at the November meeting, and the Board is looking for volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please contact Billy Brown or Jack Langenfelder, chair of the Nominating Committee. A woman from the American Cancer Society announced that the society is selling luminaries to raise money to help the Relay for Life reach its goal. Sherrye Rhea announced that the next CERT class is the end of August, and Neighborhood Night Out will be Tuesday, October 6, with a Rain Date of October 13. It is not too soon to plan for this event and to make reservations with the Police Department to have a speaker or one of the mascots at your function.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9 P.M. The next meeting will be September 24, 2009.