

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

March 25, 2010

Germantown Municipal Center

Neighborhood Associations Represented: Allen by Lakes, Bromley-Foster Ridge, Germantown East, Germantown Heights, Germantown Station, Germantown Trails, Farmington North, Farmington South, Forest Hill Estates, Kimbrough Grove, Kimbrough Park, Oak Leigh I, Poplar Estates, River chase, Rowan Oak, Shady Creek, Sweet Oaks, The Timbers, and Wellford.

Call to Order: Chairman Greg Marcom called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions: Greg recognized first time visitors from Farmington South, Kimbrough Park, and Shady Creek. Aldermen Drinnon and Hinely were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 28, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

Guest Speakers: David Pickler, Chairman, Shelby County Board of Education, discussed the state of Shelby County Schools in Germantown. Race to the top—1/3 of teachers' evaluations will be based on student test scores and judged on national standards. The Tennessee Diploma Project (part of the American Diploma Project) will allow students in middle school to earn high school credits and students in high school to earn college credits. The first International Baccalaureate degrees awarded in West Tennessee will be awarded at Germantown HS this May. 5 families move to Desoto County each day. Enrollments at Germantown HS are 1850 (capacity is 2000), Houston HS 1710 (1920 cap.), and South wind HS 1890 (2000 cap.). Scheduled improvements to Germantown schools are a new roof at Farmington Elementary in 2011, \$20 million in renovations at Dogwood, Farmington, and Germantown Elementaries in 2013, and new roofs at Germantown and Houston High schools in 2014. Consolidation of schools: historically, within 2 years of consolidation, taxes increased 39-40%, enrollment dropped, and parent engagement dropped. When consolidated, governments must fund to whichever school district has the higher funding. Metro government leads to school consolidation. Single source funding: Memphis is trying to get out of funding Memphis City Schools. The cost could be 30-40% more in taxes (the minimum increase would be 26%) to Shelby County residents while Memphis City residents' taxes will decrease. Special school districts: Being a special school district provides limited taxing authority. If Shelby County Schools were a special school district, there would be permanent boundaries, there would be no ADA split for local funds, money earmarked for education would go there, and the district never would be consolidated. Currently, the bill sponsored by Lollar/Norris has passed the K-12 subcommittee. This bill would only apply to SCS and would give voters the option to convert to a special district. 24 hours ago: the City of Memphis countersued Memphis and Shelby County asking the State Supreme Court to opine if Memphis City Schools exists legally. This suit is in response to the court and appeals court supporting the Memphis City Schools' lawsuit to compel the City of Memphis to pay for Memphis City Schools, and to pay back the money that Memphis has withheld from MCS. If the court decides to hear this countersuit, it could declare MCS a non-entity, which would force consolidation of Memphis City and Shelby County Schools, or it could force single source funding.

Sherrye Rhea, Neighborhood Coordinator, gave a tutorial on navigating the City's new website. She showed us how to find CONA and Neighborhood Services, how to see and register for crime alerts, how to report a problem or make a service request, and how to find archived

meetings of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Planning Commission. She encouraged neighborhoods to send pictures to her for use on the website.

Old Business:

Police Department Report: Lt. Ed McGee reminded people to be wary of people going door-to-door wanting to do yard work. They could be casing your home. There have been four apartment burglaries in both the Colonnade and Brookchase complexes. The suspects drive a green Ford F 150 pickup truck with no front bumper and temporary tags. Residents are asked to call the police if they spot this vehicle.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy gave an update on the development of the metro government charter. Chris Patterson, Linda Kerley, and Mayor Hodges (Millington) sit on this commission from the suburbs. It will start meeting weekly because it must produce a charter by August 1. Some of the task forces are just starting to meet. The commission wants to meet in suburban communities.

CONA Special Events Coordinator Report: David Jackson reported that only 2 homes, the clubhouse at Aintree Farms, and 2 or 3 landscapes have currently applied for the home tour. He put out a plea for additional homes. Plans must be finalized by April 1.

Planning Report: Joe Nunes reported that the new congregate care facility and the Vinings subdivision will be coming before the Planning Commission in April. Also, the storm water ordinance will be moved to the utilities chapter of the City's Code.

Neighborhood Services: Joe Nunes reminded residents that door-to-door solicitation is not permitted except for not-for-profit, political, and religious reasons. The Norfolk Southern railroad still has to put down the final grade and clean up all the crossings in the city. Allowable grass height in the city is 6". The same contractor has been hired for manufacturing and installing the decorative street signs in the 11 neighborhoods currently on the list. Amnesty Dumpster Day is April 17, and scrap metal will be accepted.

Special Events Committee: Sherrye Rhea reported that there will be mandatory recycling for all events. There will be a summer reading event at the library on May 22. Safety City will be June 14-18 at Germantown Church of Christ. Parents can register their children online. The Vesta Home Show will be June 19-July 5.

New Business:

Association concerns: John Lunt from Bromley-Foster Ridge distributed an article about the widening of Germantown Road that was written in 1999. He pointed out that this TDOT project has been delayed for 11 years and has resulted in safety issues for pedestrians, difficulty for traffic to enter or exit Germantown Road, and Germantown codes being ignored. Right of way has been purchased, and the plans are complete. He asked other associations to help Bromley-Foster Ridge get this project completed. Call John Lunt, 683-1011, for more information.

Announcements: Sherrye Rhea reminded people about Amnesty Dumpster Day, the reading event at the library, and upcoming CERT classes.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m. The next meeting will be May, 27, 2010.