



CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

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Neighborhood Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting

Call to Order

Commission Chairman, Laura Meanwell, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Establishment of Quorum

A quorum was established.

Members Present: Scott Balentine, Ellen Bernstein, Alderman/Vice Mayor Gibson, Tiffany Howlett, Laura Meanwell, Daniel Oppenheim, Margaret Owens, Kristi Ransom, Marissa Rogers, Carol Dickinson Russell, Beth Ueleke, Gerald Wilson, and Laurie Whitney.

Staff Present: Joe Nunes

Establishment of Necessity to Conduct Neighborhood Preservation Commission Meeting Electronically:

Mr. Nunes read a declaration regarding the necessity to conduct commission business electronically in light of the pandemic. A motion was made by Chairman Meanwell and seconded by Margaret Owens for the use of electronic means to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. A roll call vote was taken to approve the format. With no objections the motion to conduct meetings electronically was approved.

Consideration of Minutes:

Minutes approved as written.

Introduction of Guests: Mr. Wes Hopper, Natural Resources Officer.

Mr. Hopper introduced himself and provided a summary of his extensive background in the science of natural resources. One of his primary responsibilities is monitoring the tree canopy for the City of Germantown. A tree canopy of is required to maintain the official title of a national Tree City. For every tree removed, one must be planted. Tree City USA status is achieved by:

1. Show you have an active Tree Board.
2. Have a community Tree Ordinance.
3. Show you have a community forestry program with an annual budget of 2\$ per capita.
4. Show that you are celebrating an Annual Arbor Day event.
5. Plus one other optional category

Mr. Hopper is available to speak to neighborhood associations and for consultation when a resident has question about the health of a tree or the removal of a tree. This is a free service offered by the City of Germantown.

Mr. Hopper can be reached by calling the City of Germantown's Park and Recreation Department.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Meanwell asked if Laurie Whitney would lead a group in the planning of a New Commission Planning Handbook. Ms. Whitney stated she was happy to serve.

Alderman Liaison Report: Alderman/Vice Mayor Mary Anne Gibson

- Regional Vaccination Center located at the Germantown Baptist Church is in need of volunteers. This location has seen some of the highest numbers of vaccines administered in Shelby County.
- The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met and a highlight of the meeting was the confirmation of the official City of Germantown bird; the Eastern Bluebird.

Commission Member Reports:

Tree Board Update:

- There was no Tree Board meeting since we met last.
- Tree identification plan was presented.
- The March 5th Arbor Day Tree Sale was a success.
- The Environmental Commission meeting was cancelled.

2020 Summit:

- Carol Dickinson Russell reported that a small group including Chairman Meanwell and Commissioner Kristie Ransom and they discussed potential dates of the Summit and the potential themes for the event. Additionally they discussed a 'Road Show' going from one HOA to the next to discuss what we do as a commission for the City and have City leaders answer questions from the community.

The date for the Summit will be confirmed by the City. Additional meetings will be planned where other commission members will be asked to participate.

Staff Reports:

Neighborhood Services Report – Joe Nunes:

- The WastePro contract renewal was approved by the Board of Mayor and Alderman.

Planning Commission – Joe Nunes:

- Expansion of Germantown Hardware is moving forward.
- Review of ordinance of residential cornered lots. Today they technically have two required front yards. The recommendation is to change to two required front yards along with two required side yards. This is moving forward to the BMA.

Environmental Commission – Update provided in Mr. Hopper's presentation.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

-End-



Chairman Signature



Date