Germantown Neighborhood Preservation Commission

Thursday, November 17, 2022, 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Lawton Conference Room, 1930 S. Germantown Road

Call to order – 5:33 p.m.

Establishment of quorum – All members were present, including Cheron Allbright, Scott Balentine, Ellen Bernstein, Carol Dickinson-Russell, Brian Everson, Peter Ganavazos, Matthew May, Laura Meanwell, Daniel Oppenheim, Adrienne Pakis-Gillon, Marissa Rogers, Gerald Wilson, Vice Mayor Mary Anne Gibson and staff support Cameron Ross and Erinn Figg.

Consideration of minutes – October 20 minutes were approved as submitted.

Chair's comments – Chair Laura Meanwell welcomed Germantown residents Tom and Noah Paudler as public guests. She also congratulated the Commission on a great year.

Reports

Alderman Liaison - Vice Mayor Mary Anne Gibson briefed the Commission on Monday's BMA work session addressing the City's Major Road Plan and the Duntreath and Miller Farms ditches. With the holidays approaching, she encouraged everyone to shop local and be a good neighbor, particularly to their service workers and delivery professionals. Gibson also reminded everyone to reapply to the Commission if they feel called to do so.

Tree Board - Gerald Wilson updated the group on the progress of revamping the Living Legacy Tree program. Also, Oaklawn Garden will be getting new signage. Additionally, Wilson reminded everyone that the City's rangers conduct periodic tours throughout the year and the schedules are posted in calendar listings and water bill inserts.

Neighborhood Services – ECD Director Cameron Ross informed the group that a draft of a nuisance ordinance will be presented during the upcoming BMA Vision Session on December 3. The NPC will also eventually review it and provide input. Ross also said that the City is working hard to make sure our code enforcement officers are working hard. The group also briefly discussed Blue Oval City recruitment of new residents and the proper disposal of leaves.

Neighborhood Traffic Task Force – Matt May updated the Commission on the Task Force's pilot project of painting speed limits on the streets of some neighborhoods. The Task Force is also working with a design firm to develop the logo for the "Slow Down, G'Town!" campaign. There's also the potential to promote the campaign at the upcoming Neighborhood Summit.

Planning Commission – Cameron Ross emphasized that it's a positive time for development in Germantown and illustrated this point by providing updates on a variety of both residential and mixed-use projects.

Environmental Commission – Per Marissa Rogers, the Environmental Commission recently discussed the pros and cons of water fluoridation. She also provided an update on the water tower, on which construction will resume when the weather gets warmer.

Project updates

Neighborhood Summit - The group chose March 28 as the date for the 2023 Annual Neighborhood Summit and determined that the theme will be "There's No Place Like Home." The group discussed sponsorships and funding and agreed to pull and analyze previous Summit budgets. Vice Mayor Mary Anne Gibson will explore whether the City can fund the 2023 Summit, rather than local businesses.

Announcements

The final meeting of the year will take place on December 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at a location to be determined.

Adjournment – 6:42 p.m.