

Germantown Education Commission
Regular Meeting – October 12, 2010
Minutes

Attendees:

David Compton, Debbie Dafferner, Vicki Gandee, Bonnie Lee, Paul Mormon, Dr. Rudolfo Palazzolo, Eleanor Purdy, Robyn Rudisill, and Teresa Schwartz.

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Robyn Rudisill. A quorum was established.

Consideration of Minutes:

September 2010 meeting minutes were approved.

Comments by Chairman Robyn Rudisill:

Robyn Rudisill thanked Bonnie Lee and Eleanor Purdy for running the September 2010 meeting, David Compton for the Race for Education Emails/Reminders, and Stacey Ewell and Dr. Stephanie VanArsdale for all of their work on the Battle of the Brains thus far.

Old Business:

Donors for teacher of the month awards are needed. Possibilities that commission members will contact are Joe Ford/State Farm (Bonnie), Knowledge Tree (Sue), Germantown Hardware, Ken Weatherford/Landmark Bank, David Pickler, Bancorp South (Vicki), Campbell's Clinic (Dino).

Planning for Battle of the Brains is going well. Dino checked with both schools and all are supportive of the GHS decision to only let IB students participate. Both schools are progressing very strongly. Money being raised for the competition is going well. Neighborhood Associations are contributing, David Compton has contacted local banks, and Paul Mormon is contacting smaller businesses. Stacey Ewell suggested those donating large dollar amounts (\$250 or more) would be listed in press releases. All donations need to be in by October 31, 2010. This will allow time to discuss with participating students the competition winner amounts, which will build excitement. At this time it is still unknown how many entrants the competition has.

At the September meeting Dr. Roy VanArsdale spoke to the commission and stated that rubrics for the competition are set and judges have been selected six judges and one reserved. The Great Hall has been reserved for the event and set up is covered.

New Business:

Robyn explained the teacher rating sheets and pointed out that the one and only applicant for September was lacking some criteria. Robyn then suggested we attach the rating sheets with the nominating forms and Teresa Schwartz suggested doing the same for the student of the month forms. Dino expressed concern that by awarding the only applicant, who did not meet all criteria, would be "lowering the bar." The commission decided to

award the applicant for September Teacher of the Year but in the future rating sheets would be provided with the applications. September Teacher of the Year is Jenny Levi from Germantown High School and Youth Excellence winner is Victor Alex Rocha from Germantown High School.

Cookies for National Education Week will be passed out at the November 16th meeting. All commission members are to deliver them to their designated schools.

Race for Education preparations are going well. Fifty eight are signed up thus far. It will be held this year at Freeman Park in Bartlett.

Germantown Christmas Parade will be Dec. 11th. The commission will participate. Everyone needs to buy extra candy. Dino will contact Martha Poole to possibly participate.

Carole Hinely requested that commission members please show up to award the winners each month. We should start inviting the people who nominate them.

Paul Mormon spoke briefly about the 5k race. Our commission will participate; make people aware of the commission and the education foundation. Stacey stated that the city does not organize races so Tom Harry will help us. The race will be on the trails.

Nametags will be ordered for new members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.