

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

November 16, 2010

Germantown Municipal Center

Neighborhood Associations Represented: Allenby Lakes, Duntreath, English Meadows, Germantown East, Kimbrough Green, Mimosa Gardens, Neshoba North, Poplar Estates, Riggs-Arthur, Riverchase, Sweet Oaks, Village at Germantown, and Wilsford.

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman, Luci Cromer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions: Luci recognized a first time visitor from Allenby Lakes.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 23 meeting were approved as written.

Guest Speakers:

Tim Gwaltney, City Engineer, gave an overview of upcoming road and intersection capital improvements scheduled for late 2010 and early 2011. The road projects include Farmington Blvd. reconstruction phase II (starting May, 2011), Germantown Rd. streetscape (March, 2011), Wolf River Blvd. construction (starting March, 2011), Poplar Ave. widening (starting March, 2011), and Poplar Ave. culvert replacements (5/year). Upcoming projects affecting intersections will be installation of a traffic signal at Germantown Rd. and Methodist Hospital (April, 2011), R.R. crossing improvements at West St. and Poplar Pike (April, 2011), installation of a new traffic signal at Wolf River Blvd. and Forest Hill-Irene (February, 2011), improved signals and improvements to the roadway at Forest Hill-Irene/Poplar Ave. (May, 2011), and a traffic signal at Poplar and Oakleigh Lane (May, 2011). Traffic congestion remediation projects to existing signals will take place at Poplar Ave. and West St., Germantown Rd. and Wolf River Blvd. and Poplar Pike/Germantown Rd./Arthur Rd. Drainage projects include the final component of the Howard Rd./Mimosa Gardens improvements and the complete resurfacing of the subdivision's roads, as well as the McVay Rd. interceptor replacement (May, 2011). Funding of the road projects is mainly 80% State Funds and 20% Local Funds. Funding of the R.R. Crossing improvements and the traffic signals at Forest Hill-Irene /Poplar Ave. and Poplar Ave. and Oakleigh are 100% State Funds, while the Wolf River and Forest Hill-Irene work is \$250,000 State and \$20,000 Local Funds. The Germantown Rd. and Methodist Hospital signal funding is 50% City and 50% hospital.

Andy Pouncey, representing the Veterans Recognition Committee, encouraged everyone to fly the American Flag everyday and distributed information about Flag Etiquette with answers to the most commonly asked questions. The Committee's purpose is to recognize, remember, honor and celebrate our Veterans. He gave the example of the recent Veterans Day ceremony at Veterans Cemetery in Germantown.

Old Business:

Police Department Report: Lt. Mitch Wood made available the Police Activity Report and Statistics for 2010 through the month of October and answered questions.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy stated that even though the consolidation effort was defeated and a new effort cannot be put to voters for three years, legal attempts are ongoing to disallow separate elections for city and county consolidation approval. She said that we also need to be watchful for de facto consolidation.

CONA's Special Events Coordinator's Report: David Jackson announced that 70-100 people attended the Neighborhood Summit on October 28 in the Great Hall from 5 to 9 p.m. The Germantown Tour of Homes will be Sunday, April 10, 2011.

Special Events Committee Report: Sherrye Rhea announced that, at the Neighborhood Summit, Germantown Trails won best project, best communication, and best neighborhood association; Germantown East won neighbor of the year; and Duntreath won neighborhood leader of the year. She encouraged all neighborhood associations to make notes and take pictures of all events and projects throughout the year to make applying for the various awards simpler next year. She reminded everyone of the November 26 Tree Lighting, the Mother/Son Gingerbread House Challenge on December 5, Sweet Treats with Santa on December 10 and 11, and the December 11 Germantown Holiday Parade. She cautioned everyone not to leave valuables in the car, especially during the holiday shopping season and to cut up cardboard to be recycled rather than leaving whole boxes advertising newly-acquired large valuables such as TVs. Real Christmas trees will be picked up with yard waste, but they must be free of all decorations.

Planning Report: Joe Nunes announced that there will be no Planning Commission meeting in December.

Neighborhood Services Division Report: Joe Nunes presented the Neighborhood Services Report. The lower number in some notice areas reflects one less enforcement officer. He also said that there has been a slight drop off in recycling which is being watched. He announced that a Monday, November 22, Board of Mayor and Aldermen work session will be held to discuss changes for a particular type of sign for schools and churches.

New Business:

Concerns: Sarah Wilkerson Freeman read a page long statement objecting to the Design Review Commission granting exceptions to the city's sign ordinances. A copy of her statement was made available to all attendees.

Announcements: Appreciation was expressed to Luci Cromer for serving as Chairman of CONA these past few months, and congratulations were given to Greg Marcom on his election to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 27, 2011.