

Germantown Senior Citizen Advisory Commission
Wednesday, January 27, 2011
Round Conference Room

The Germantown Senior Citizen Advisory Commission met on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at the Parks and Recreation offices. Chairman John Hicks called the meeting to order at approximately 3:35 p.m. and a quorum was established.

PRESENT: Chairman John Hicks, Wynn Bellerjeau, Charles Clark, Alice Colville, James Debo, Stovall Kendrick, Dino Palazzolo, Manilal Shah, Bill Stevens, Alice Wallace, Sylvia Waters and Alderman John Drinnon.

ABSENT: Nick Dunn.

STAFF PRESENT: Community Services Division Director George Brogdon and Recreation Superintendent Natalie Ruffin.

CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010 MINUTES

A motion was made by Manilal Shah, seconded by Wynn Bellerjeau, to approve the November 18, 2010 minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

Chairman Hicks said he would like to acknowledge the passing of Barbara Fisher and said he was going to miss her greatly.

PRESENTATION OF ETHICS POLICY, OPEN MEETINGS/OPEN RECORDS AND SUSTAINABILITY/PLANNING

George Brogdon said that Patrick Lawton, City Administrator, had hoped to come to the meeting but at the last second had a conflict, so Mr. Brogdon would make the presentation that Mr. Lawton planned do on the Ethics Policy, Open Meetings/Open Records and Sustainability/Planning.

Ethics Policy

Mr. Brogdon handed out the Ethics Policy that was developed for the City for elected officials and appointed officials, which would include the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission, then went through the Policy. He highlighted conflicts of interest and when a senior may or may not have a conflict and how they should deal with the situation. He also handed out a form for the members to sign acknowledging they did review the Ethics Policy.

Open Meetings/Open Records

Mr. Brogdon distributed some Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) information and explained that every meeting is open to anyone and under the Freedom of Information Act people can get the minutes from the meeting. He explained that if there was going to be a subcommittee or just a few members of the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission meeting on business, the meeting needed to be posted and they would work with their staff liaison George Brogdon who would make sure that all meetings and subcommittee meetings are posted accordingly.

Sustainability/Planning

Lastly, Mr. Brogdon handed out a Sustainability/Planning Pyramid and explained the SEE (Social, Economic and Environmental) and how this all led up to supporting the City's 2020

Vision Plan. He also handed out a copy of the City's 2020 Plan and said there was going to be a little bit of updating but it had not been completed yet.

ORIENTATION OF NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

George Brogdon said that he felt like the Ethics Policy, Open Meetings/Open Records and Sustainability/Planning discussion took care of the new commission member orientation.

FOCUS OF 2011

Chairman Hicks passed out Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Timeline of Events 2011.

Alderman Drinnon spoke briefly on storm water runoff and also the school situation and said Mayor Goldsworthy was going to be the chief spokesperson for the City. Mr. Palazzolo said the school situation does affect the students, some people said it didn't, but it does and he thought it was a very important time.

Chairman Hicks said the two big things before the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission in the Year 2011 are:

1. Finalizing the Senior Summit. The original Senior Summit was in the summer of '09 with a town hall meeting in March 2010. There were five study teams formed and 20 needs into five categories in each:
 - (1) Senior Center
 - (2) Care giving – medical and community
 - (3) Learning and personal growth
 - (4) Support services
 - (5) Social and entertainment

He would like all of the committees to be complete by the first quarter and would then like to take all their ideas for implementation to a briefing with the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

2. The second largest thing is the Expo to be held November 3 at the Germantown Athletic Club. He handed out an Expo timeline.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Palazzolo suggested a program Germantown High School is doing be done from a citywide standpoint where youth are going through neighborhoods and contacting homebound people who need some yard work, etc. done. He said this is an intergenerational program that joins the community and he would like to consider doing this citywide and the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission could be the leader of this endeavor in the future.

Wynn Bellerjeau mentioned that with enlarging the Germantown Performing Arts Centre there might be an opportunity to build a senior area to complement both what GPAC is doing, as well as the Germantown Athletic Club.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.