

## COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

September 25, 2008

Council Chambers

Germantown Municipal Center

**Neighborhood Associations Represented:** Allenby Lakes, Bedford Plantation, Bromley, Dogwood Grove, Duntreath, Farmington North, Farmington South, Gardens of Oakleigh, Germantown Trails, Kimbrough Green, Kimbrough Grove, Kimbrough Park, Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Rowan Oak, Sweet Oaks, Woodshire.

**Call to Order:** Chairman Billy Brown called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Billy recognized six first-time visitors from Neighborhood Associations and aldermen Drinnon, Palazzolo, and Uhlhorn.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the July 24 meeting were approved as written.

**Guest Speakers:** Patrick Lawton, City Administrator, explained the Smart Growth Public/Private Partnership Program that was adopted in this past spring. This partnership brings together the community, the City, and developers to make things happen and provides checks and balances for each proposed development. The Smart Growth Matrix incorporates several criteria that include strong citizen participation, adherence to the principles of Smart Growth, economic stability, and development incentives. Development conditions are: 1) the public is a partner in development decisions; 2) a balanced environmental footprint; 3) a high quality of life for the entire community; and 4) a balanced tax base. A Smart Growth development could be eligible for a PILOT if it is going to be corporate headquarters or class "A" office space.

**Guest Speakers:** Tim Gwaltney, City Engineer, explained the storm water pollution prevention program. He discussed what storm water is, how it gets polluted, how it is regulated, and control measures that are in place. Within the next four years, cities will be required to test storm water. He discussed what systems Public Works maintains and how residents can help lessen storm water pollution. He asked that residents place yard waste on the grass and not in the streets. Tim Bierdz is the City's Storm Water Manager, and citizens are encouraged to call him at 757-7281 to report problems or concerns. Neighborhoods may call him for fliers and door hangars to distribute to area homes.

### **Old Business:**

**Police Department Report:** Lt. Angie Lewis discussed the crime/activity report. She targeted the statistics for burglaries and thefts from motor vehicles. 2 PM-10 PM is the busiest time of day for calls, and the highest number of calls comes from district 5. There are two open robbery cases now, and they both involved business owners taking cash home and being followed from their businesses.

**Mayor's Report:** In the Mayor's absence, Alderman Palazzolo gave the report. He announced that 200 citizens serve on 19 boards and commissions, and that applications are now available for positions on them. The deadline for submitting an application is November 28. He also reported that applications are now being accepted for Leadership Germantown. The tuition is \$750/person, and scholarships are available. The deadline for submitting an application is October 28.

**Special Events Coordinators Report:** Rebecca DeRousse reminded people that the Neighborhood Leadership Conference is October 23 from 5-9 PM at The Great Hall of the Germantown Athletic Club. Neighborhood Association of the Year, Neighborhood Leader of the

Year, Neighbor of the Year, Neighborhood Project/Activity of the Year, Remodeled/Landscaped Home of the Year and Most Effective Neighborhood Communication awards will be presented. The deadline for nominations is October 1.

Planning Report: Joe Nunes announced that a revision removing a pond in Saddle Creek IV is on the agenda. He also indicated that unfinished developments are being monitored by Code Compliance as well as watches being kept on vacant homes.

Neighborhood Services: Joe Nunes announced that there was an increase in the amount of ewaste at Amnesty Dumpster Day. It is anticipated that there will be more TVs disposed of after February when everything is switching to digital. Joe reminded people that it is not necessary to get rid of old TVs; converters are available, and coupons are available to switch to that service. He also mentioned that the City recycles scrap metal.

### **New Business:**

Telecommunications Commission: Donna Chandler Newman and Kenneth Ketcham reported some of the duties of the commission. Among them is monitoring Comcast and the service provided to citizens. Penalties may be assessed, and they requested that residents call Neighborhood Services if they experience a problem.

Association Concerns: Billy Brown and Luci Cromer mentioned problems caused by a very large (6 foot) AT&T box on Cordes Road and urged citizens to be watchful for other such intrusions in their neighborhoods. According to code, boxes are supposed to be a maximum of 48" tall. 48" boxes are scheduled to be placed at 10 locations in the City. Call Joe Nunes or a member of the Telecommunications Commission if you think the regulations are not being met by AT&T.

Announcements: Sherrye Rhea announced that several races are scheduled to take place in the City: Race for the Cure at 8:30 AM on October 25; Race for Education at 2 PM on November 2; and Gobble Wobble at 8 AM on November 15. The last CERT classes for this year will be in October and November. Germantown Night Out is October 7.

Greg Marcom announced that the Germantown Alderman Candidate Forum, sponsored by the Leadership Germantown Alumni Association, will be Thursday, October 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Municipal Center. It will also be televised on GHS-TV.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. The next meeting will be November 20, 2008. Please note that this is a change in schedule because of the Thanksgiving holiday.