

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

JANUARY 24, 2008

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

GERMANTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Allenby Lakes, Bavarian Village, Farmington South, Forest Hill Estates, Germantown East, Germantown Park, Germantown Station, Germantown Trails, Kimbrough Park, Mimosa Gardens, Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Rowan Oak, South Germantown.

CALL TO ORDER: Luci Cromer called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM in Chairman Billy Brown's absence due to illness.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Luci introduced the new CONA Board to the membership and recognized first time visitors to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the November 15 meeting were approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Patrick Lawton, City Administrator, presented the priorities and goals that were set at the retreat for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen held in early January. The BMA reaffirmed the Focus Areas set out in the Vision 2020 plan which it wants to address over the next five years. The areas are Safety, the City operating as a business, Smart Growth planning, the Germantown Economy and Neighborhood Preservation and Enhancement.

The top Priorities for the 2008 Policy Agenda are a Municipal Facilities Plan for Municipal Square/Smart Growth (City-owned property), Direction and Funding of the Community Theatre Building, Germantown Civic Club Complex Master Plan, City Economic Development, Policy, Staffing and Action, Fire Station Location including #5, and Public/Private Partnership Policy for Smart Growth with transparency stressed in terms of the process.

High Priorities for the 2008 year include a Master Plan for Parks, Policy and Criteria for Civic Support Grants, Storm Water Utilities Policy and Action, Smart Growth Utilities Services Plan and Infill Policy and Guidelines.

Considered the Top Ten Achievements for 2007 were Smart Growth, the Financial Condition of the City, Managed Competition, Germantown Athletic Club, GPAC, Emergency Medical and Ambulance Service, Wolf River Parkway, Community Theater and Fire Station, Library Program Expansion, and a 6th Police District.

David Jackson, Chairman of the Neighborhood Preservation Commission, gave a power point presentation showing the homes featured in the 2007 Tour of Remodeled Homes and Landscapes. Five homes are registered for the 2008 Tour and four more are needed. Associations were asked to encourage people in their neighborhoods to contact Sherrye Rhea at 757-7203 to register their remodeled home for the April 27 tour.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor's Report: The report was given by Patrick Lawton since Mayor Goldsworthy was attending the National Conference of Mayors. The new City web site includes improvements to the "Mayor's Action Center" that will assist citizens in getting issues resolved. City departments are currently developing business plans to submit for the budget. There is no projected tax increase for 2008. The City is carefully watching

State allocations to our city because of state shortfalls. To assure that our voice will be heard in Nashville, the City works with the Tennessee Municipal League and has a paid lobbyist. Of particular interest this session is the "AT&T Bill". The City is also concerned with the safety issues involved with Internet usage. New equipment should be installed at the Germantown Athletic Club by April; there are already new classes and personal trainers available.

Planning Report: Joe Nunes announced that there was no January Meeting for the Planning Commission, but at the February meeting guidelines for "public to private" and "private to public" streets and expansion of Saddle Creek under the new Smart Growth zoning would be on the agenda.

Police Report: Lt. Angie Lewis was introduced as the new Community Relations Officer, and she spoke of the Police Department's eagerness to work with all associations. Marc Molina discussed plans for an Open Forum for parents to discuss internet safety issues. He also stressed the importance of Neighborhood Watch and the beginning of a new program, "Watchful Eyes", for school children's safety, currently organized in the Riverdale School district. He encouraged citizens to take advantage of the Police Department's Vacation Check and announced that seven new officers will be on the streets. 2007 Yearly Stats and the December 2007 Crime Activity Report were made available.

Neighborhood Services: Joe Nunes announced construction work at Poplar/Riverdale for the next couple of months was likely to cause traffic delays. The City has almost completed the Neighborhood Planning Initiative with the Arthur/Riggs neighborhood and is working on the drainage project in Mimosa Gardens. English Meadows will be the next neighborhood covered by the NPI. Bids are out for the next phase of the decorative street signs, and the City hopes to finish the 11 new neighborhoods and 3 remaining neighborhoods in phase two by July.

NEW BUSINESS:

Association Concerns: Jason Williams, a resident of the Farmington South neighborhood expressed concerns about Smart Growth.

Announcements: Sherrye Rhea asked associations to help obtain participants in the 2008 Remodeling Tour and to encourage enrollment in the upcoming CERT training classes. She also announced that Chamber of Commerce magazines and maps are available. They make nice welcome gifts for associations to give to new residents. A representative of the American Cancer Society encouraged participation in the Relay for Life to be held June 7 & 8 at Houston Levee Park. An information sheet with details was available.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next meeting will be March 27, 2008.