

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2007

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

GERMANTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Bavarian Village, Farmington South, Gardens of Oakleigh, Germantown East, Germantown Trails, Mimosa Gardens, Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Winchester Forest Hill Estates, Woodshire.

CALL TO ORDER: Edgar Babian called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Edgar recognized first-time visitors to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the July 26 meeting were approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKER: David Halpern, Germantown Parks and Recreation Department, addressed the group about changes in the city parks that have taken place over the past year and would be occurring in the upcoming year. He noted the new signage added to every park this year and the renovations at Cameron-Brown, Farmington, Houston Levee, and Riverdale parks. The Greenway section from Houston Levee to Johnson Rd. was opened giving us 8 miles of completed Greenway. The goal of the entire project is to span the distance between Mud Island and Collierville with a paved road without any crossings. There are two dog parks in Forgey Park.

Wolf River Nature Conservancy is building an outdoor classroom, thus far without any funds from the city being spent. Germantown has a provision for new and future developments that requires that a certain percentage of the development must be set aside and developed as a park. Currently the city of Germantown has 28 parks consisting of 800 acres and 12 miles of walking trails and 18 miles of bike trails.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONA Special Events Coordinator's Report: Luci Cromer reported that the Neighborhood Leaders' Conference will be Thursday, October 25, in the Great Hall at the Germantown Centre. There will be a panel of people from various neighborhoods, and breakout sessions will include Neighborhood and Home Safety, Legal/Liability Issues for Neighborhoods, Homeowners and Boards of Directors and Neighborhood Landscaping. Luci encouraged associations to create a booth to show their events, activities, and projects they have been doing and are planning to do.

Mayor's Report: There was no report because the Mayor was ill.

Planning Report: Joe Nunes reported on the progress being made on various projects within the city. He stated that the final reading concerning Smart Growth zoning would be in the Municipal Center on October 22, at 7 p.m.

Police Report: Lt. Mike Gray stated that the new graduates from the Police Academy

are due to begin their duties in mid-October. Police cars are being equipped with the latest paperless technology. He mentioned the great assistance this gives to officers in attaining information. In the station, creating entries using this system enables the officers to return to their duties on the street quicker.

Neighborhood Services Report: Joe Nunes reported that Amnesty Dumpster Day has become an event with wide popularity and participation. The latest one saw 899 vehicles dropping off a total of over 420 cubic yards of debris. The next scheduled Amnesty Day will be April 15, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: John Gregory explained the nominating process and read the duties of each CONA officer as stated in the by-laws. Members of the nominating committee are John Gregory, Edgar Babian, and Greg Marcom. Members wishing to be considered for CONA offices are to contact members of the nominating committee by October 10.

Association Concerns: Members of the Farmington South neighborhood association expressed their concerns about the Smart Growth plans and their effects that it could have on residential streets and their neighborhood in particular. One such issue specifically addressed the establishment of pedestrian-friendly zones and the possible increased automobile traffic that could occur on residential streets such as Brierbrook and Neshoba. In addition, zoning that would allow 6-story buildings is being proposed adjacent to the residential area of Farmington South.

Announcements: Joe Nunes announced that the Municipal Melodies concerts will again take place in October at noon on Fridays. CERT classes will be held midweek in October and the first and second weekend of November. Coming up are Walk on the Wild Side, Race for the Cure on October 27, the festival of Fun and Fright, and Senior Expo on November 1.

Billy Brown announced the date of the Remodeled Home Show is April 27, 2008, the last Sunday in April. He asked associations to encourage any homeowners who have recently remodeled or are planning a remodel by then to consider applying to be a part of the Show. People doing landscaping projects are welcome to apply as well.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m. The next meeting will be on November 15, a change of date because of the Thanksgiving holiday.