

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

January 26, 2006

Council Chambers

Germantown Municipal Center

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Cedar Lake, Duntreath, Duntreath Park I & II, Duntreath Equus Park, English Meadows, Forest Hill Estates, Gardens of Oakleigh, Germantown Station, Germantown Trails, Glenalden, Kimbrough Grove, Neshoba North, Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Sweet Oaks, The Vineyards, The Village of Germantown, Winchester Forest Hill Estates

CALL TO ORDER: Edgar Babian called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – New board members Edgar Babian, John Gregory, Linda Gregory, and Chuck Mullins introduced themselves . First time visitors from Sweet Oaks, The Village of Germantown, and Neshoba North were welcomed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from the November 17, 2005 meeting were approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Dr. Sue Loper, Director, Germantown Community Library, discussed changes at the library and plans for the future. The library received \$88,000 to fund on line databases that are available 24 hours a day to library cardholders. There are over 40 databases that can be accessed from home or the library. This past year the library staff had summer reading programs, developed position descriptions, and developed policies and procedures. Friends of the Library book sales raised over \$17,000. The cities that withdrew from the City of Memphis Library System are Collierville, Bartlett, Germantown and Millington, and they have formed the Wolf River Library Consortium. Citizens have access to books in any of the libraries in the consortium. The library now stocks more bestsellers and CDs than in the past because it leases them for six months. The staff is developing adult programs to include a series called Our Trees, Your Trees (a genealogical study), Reel Talk – a film and discussion series, The Southern Gardening program, Meet the Author, a video series that touches on topics that are of interest to parents, and a How To series. The Tennessee Genealogical Society will be moving its 14,000-volume collection to the original library building on Poplar Pike. The library will be providing outreach programs for people with disabilities. A coffee shop is scheduled to open on March 1.

Jerry Cook, Director of Development discussed the proposed design to eliminate the curve at the west end of McVay Road, an existing 2-lane road with a 90 degree turn. The project will include a bridge structure, a major drainage ditch, and a flood plan. In developing the plans, the City has been looking at solutions to upgrade McVay Road and still be sensitive to the residential areas and environment. It has held neighborhood meetings with the neighborhoods impacted. The design of the roadway should be completed before June 30, 2006 at which time the project will go out for bids. The estimated cost of the project is \$105,000, and it is anticipated that construction will take approximately one year.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONA Special Events Coordinator's report: John Johnson asked Billy Brown, Neighborhood Preservation Commission Chairman, to update the group. Billy announced that the Remodeled Home Tour will be April 30 from 2-5 PM. At this point six people have volunteered to put their homes on the tour, and the commission would like 9 or 10 homes. If anyone has suggestions of remodeled homes or landscapes that might be included in the tour, contact Billy. Plans are being made for a festival to showcase neighborhoods and neighborhood associations. There will be fun activities, refreshments, and information tables. This festival will be in the fall in one of the public parks. If you have ideas about what to include in this festival, contact Billy Brown or John Johnson.

Mayor's report: There was no report.

Police Department report: Detective Bill Stemmler reported that residential thefts and residential burglaries are down. The Five Year Activity Report indicates crime has been fairly steady. The City has purchased new equipment for the Police Department so the officers can process scenes more effectively.

Neighborhood Services Division report: Joe Nunes reported that there has been an increase of about 31% in permit activities. There has been an 80% increase in vehicle notices. The Mayor's Action Center compared two quarters and there has been 25% increase in concerns coming from citizens, the biggest concerns being about animal control and sanitation. The City is in the final year of the contract with the current provider of sanitation services. Household trash concerns were down, but yard debris concerns were up. The department is in the second phase of the property maintenance ordinance. Trash containers must be removed from the street by 8 AM the day after collection.

NEW BUSINESS:

Association concerns and updates: It was asked what an association may do when a homeowner is delinquent in association dues. It was suggested that the association contact other CONA members and ask how they have handled this situation.

Announcements: Sherry Wadlington announced that The Daddy/Daughter Dance at the Performing Arts Centre will be February 3, and reservations may still be made. Information was distributed about upcoming Parks & Recreation programs. Shelby County Schools is offering a program called "I Safe" on February 9 at 6 PM at Germantown High School. The program is only for adults to show parents what is happening on the Internet.

Linda Berry from the Poplar Pike Arts Guild announced that the Germantown Community TV Auction will be Saturday and Sunday, March 4 and 5, and they need people to help with the telephone bids. It is hoped that neighborhood associations will help man some of the shifts. It takes 10 people to man a shift, but any number of volunteers is welcomed. The neighborhood association will be acknowledged on the air. Contact Linda Berry at 755-0953 or email lrbmcc@aol.com. Donations for auction are also being accepted. All proceeds go to the Germantown High School Fine Arts Department.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. The next meeting will be March 23, 2006.