

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

JULY 28, 2005

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

GERMANTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Allenby Lakes, Allenby Westfair, Bromley/Foster Ridge, Dogwood Creek South, Dogwood Grove, Duntreath, English Meadows, Farmington, Farmington Meadows, Forest Hill Estates, Fox Creek, Gardens of Oakleigh, Germantown East, Germantown Heights, Germantown Park, Germantown Station, Grove Park, Hunters Run, Kimbrough Woods, Kirby Hills, Poplar Estates, Riverdale Farms, Riverchase, Village of Wicklow, Waverly Crossing, West Cordes area, Winchester Forest Hill Estates, Woodshire.

CALL TO ORDER: Luci Cromer called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: First time guests from West Cordes, Farmington, Farmington Meadows, Duntreath, Hunters Run, Germantown Heights, Kirby Hills, Germantown Park, and Woodshire were welcomed. Also welcomed were Alderman John Drinnon and Boy Scout Troup 358.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes were approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Lt. Lee Covey, Germantown Police Department, talked about how to start a Neighborhood Watch. Find out from neighbors who are interested in having a neighborhood watch, then plan a meeting location and time, invite a member of the Germantown Police Department to the meeting, and have a sign in sheet. Officers are available to go to neighborhood watch meetings, and the City provides Neighborhood Watch signs. Citizens are encouraged to sign up for the Police Alert Network to receive information on crimes in their neighborhoods. There are five districts that cover the city. Homeowners are encouraged to participate in Operation ID and to engrave their items with their drivers' license number.

Joe Nunes, Manager, Neighborhood Services Division, discussed the enforcement side of Code Compliance. The mission of Code Compliance is to help improve the safety and beauty of Germantown's neighborhoods through the consistent and fair enforcement of Germantown's codes. Enforcement looks at 1) buildings and building regulations (such as fences), 2) environment or nuisances as they relate to property, 3) signs (both residential and commercial) with the goal of keeping signage to a minimum, 4) solid waste, streets and sidewalks (from the clearance stand point), vegetation (grass ordinances), and 5) zoning (home businesses, set back requirements). The goal of code compliance is compliance. First a verbal warning or courtesy warning is given. The next step is an official letter or notice. If compliance isn't accomplished, then a citation to court is issued. 1,988 notices were issued in FY05 for trash, grass, inoperable vehicles, and swimming pools. 442 permits were issued this past year for fences, swimming pools, and accessory structures. In the area of sanitation, there were 4,029 total

requests for household trash, yard waste, and recycling and over 5,000 information calls. Questions concerning Code Compliance may be directed to 757-7263.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor's report – The County Commission has authorized funding for a new southeast Shelby County high school that will relieve the overcrowding at Houston and Germantown High Schools. The Superintendent has gotten advanced notice that the numbers are off the charts, favorably, in Shelby County Schools with regard to No Child Left Behind.

Update on status of Wolf River Boulevard – City staff is working to complete an environmental impact statement. The Audubon Society will work with the city to make sure the roadway is environmentally friendly. Two medical office buildings and at least one bank will occupy part of the old Wal-Mart area.

Police Department Report—Lt. Covey encouraged citizens to be aware of anyone driving through their neighborhood that looks out of place and to call the police. Often burglars and car thieves drive through neighborhoods to determine the schedule of homeowners. Make sure doors are locked on your car and leave no personal items in the vehicle. If anyone has a problem, call 911. Any call from within Germantown, is diverted directly to the Germantown Police Department. Lt. Covey suggested using 911 instead of *54 when using home phone or cell phone. There have been two armed robberies at commercial establishments in Germantown. There will be two automated traffic enforcement systems added in Germantown. The existing systems now are able to monitor cars turning left and right, not just cars driving straight through the intersection. A fixed amount is paid by the City of Germantown to the vendor each month for the automated traffic compliance systems, and citations are now covering the cost of the system. Excess money is being used for traffic education purposes. Approximately 95% of the building alarm calls are false alarms. Detective Amanda Hollin is available to speak to neighborhood associations about identity theft.

NEW BUSINESS:

Announcements –

Sherrye Wadlington reminded people that National Night Out is August 2. Amnesty Day is September 17 from 7:30 AM – 1:00 PM at the Public Services Complex, 7700 Southern Avenue and Johnson Road Park, 2950 Johnson Road. Acceptable items are building materials, fencing or wire, steel poles, tires without rims, concrete, dirt, rocks, lawn mowers, bikes, and grills. Shred It and Vcyber Yard.com will be only at the Johnson Road Park location.

Sherrye asked for pictures for the calendar for next year. She prefers them in email or on disc.

If you have concerns, log onto the City web site and post them in the Mayor's Action Center.

Luci Cromer reported that the bylaws committee will report on its bylaws review, and David Pickler will talk about the state of the Shelby County Schools in Germantown at the September meeting.

The Neighborhood Preservation Commission will be working with the City to plan a celebration of neighborhood associations. Billy Brown, Commission chairman, invited Luci to attend to give input, and Sherrye will be working with the Commission. No date for the event has been set yet.

Come Celebrate Story Telling is planned for August 19, 7 PM at GPAC. The ticket price is \$25, or \$20 for youth and seniors. For more information call Andy Anderson at 751-7500.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.