

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

March 24, 2011

Germantown Municipal Center

Neighborhood Associations Represented: Allenby Lakes, Bavarian Village, Duntreath, Forest Hill Estates, Germantown East, Germantown Heights, Mimosa Gardens, Poplar Estates, Riggs/Arthur, Riverchase, Sweet Oaks, Village at Germantown, and Wilsford. Aldermen Marcom and Palazzolo were also present.

Call to Order: Chairman Billy Brown called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 27, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Guest Speaker: Randy Hutchinson, President of the Better Business Bureau of the Mid-South, stated that there are 30 million victims of scams each year, and all ages are targets. Scams follow the headlines or issues of the day—Save your house, Debt relief, Free trial offer, Employment. Most scams fall into 3 categories— itinerant in neighborhoods, bogus business, and organized crime (mostly overseas involving phishing emails). He stressed not relying on oral guarantees, and that a verbal 30/30 guarantee most likely means 30 seconds or 30 steps out the door. The Better Business Bureau provides reports on companies, takes complaints, and works with media and law enforcement to prevent scams. Everyone present had an opportunity to sign up to receive email news releases and warnings from the Better Business Bureau. The office number is 759-3100, and Randy's number is 757-8607.

Old Business:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy stated that a flurry of law suits from all sides means that the Memphis/Shelby County School Consolidation issue will be resolved in the courts. The City of Germantown is still studying all the issues and possible options with the aim of the best education possible for all of Germantown's students. With regard to a private agency soliciting business from neighborhood associations to provide protection, patrols, and vacation checks for a fee, she said that a citizen's best response is to call the Germantown Police who provide those services, have a five minute response time, and for which you are already paying with your taxes.

Police Department: Lt. Ed McGee reported that except for some daytime burglaries at the Colonnade and Vineyards Apartments and an auto burglary at the Macaroni Grill things have been quiet and going smoothly. The burglaries at the apartment complexes are being done by a male & female in a gray 4-door car with temporary tags and 3 black males in a tan or gold Jeep Liberty SUV. The thieves are either going in windows or prying doors.

CONA Special Events Coordinator's Report: David Jackson, Tour Chairman for the Neighborhood Preservation Commission, announced that the 2011 Tour of Remodeled Homes and Landscapes scheduled for April 10 has been postponed until spring 2012 because several of the participants had issues with the April date.

Special Events Committee Report: Sherrye Rhea announced that a new Neighborhood Watch program is being implemented. Contact her for a presentation in your neighborhood. She reminded us that the Municipal Park Concerts will begin again in May and CERT classes are continuing. With the earthquake in Japan as a reminder to be prepared, she said that the Ready Shelby Calendar that went out to every household is a great help for Emergency Planning.

Neighborhood Planning Report: Joe Nunes announced that the Planning Commission meetings in March and April will handle requests for changes from private streets to public in Devonshire Gardens, Gardens of Oakleigh, and Poplar Grove. The Preserve, a new subdivision behind Germantown Church of Christ is asking for PUD designation.

Neighborhood Services Report: Joe Nunes said that there have been changes proposed for recycling services in Germantown and listened to attendees' reactions and comments to the current and proposed recycling. He reminded us that Free Mulch Day is this Saturday, March 26 and that Amnesty Dumpster Day is April 16,

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 26, 2011.