

Neighborhood Preservation Commission

June 16, 2011

Minutes

A meeting of the Neighborhood Preservation Commission was held on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in Economic and Community Development, Blue Room.

Chairman, Rebecca DeRousse was present and presiding.

**In attendance** – David Cook, Becky Dunn, Larry Farabee, Sandra Hayne, David Jackson, Pat Mahoney, Ron Sklar, Andrea Vu,

**Absent** – Daniel Dent, Alderman Mike Palazzolo, Lisa Parker – Planning Commission Liaison,

**Also in attendance** – Joe Nunes– Neighborhood Services

A quorum was established.

**Minutes** – approved as written

**Chairmen's Comments** – There will be a busy few months coming up and your attendance is appreciated. Larry Farabee has agreed to be the Germantown Cares Chairman. Larry is looking forward to advance preparation which will be discussed at a later date. He will need some input and guidance from the commission. The date of the event will be September 17. The event was explained to the new commission members.

## **Reports**

**Alderman Mike Palazzolo Report** – Alderman Palazzolo was not in attendance therefore no report was given.

**Neighborhood Services Report** – Joe Nunes reported that the new solid waste contract will begin July 1. The contract was awarded to Advanced Disposal which was All Star. Eight days after the contract was awarded, Advanced Disposal informed the city that they were selling their Memphis operation to Republic Services in an assets swap that involved multiple locations in the south. Joe went to the BMA last week to assign the contract from Advanced Disposal to Republic Services which technically is BFI Waste Services because it is the legal entity even though it is no longer a marketable name. We were with BFI 5 years ago and they have assured us that they are a new company. Somewhere over half of Germantown residents are choosing the curbside option with the discount. It will probably go up to 60% of residents choosing curbside. When the contract started 5 years ago, 20 to 25% of residents were choosing curbside. The most recent survey indicated that 40 to 50% of residents were requesting curbside. An audit will ensure that residents that are choosing curbside are using a 96 gallon roll cart. The new recycle roll carts will not be delivered to residents before September 1.

**Environmental Commission** – There was not a report

**Planning Commission** – Joe Nunes reported that the Planning Commission is moving forward with Asylum. Also, there is a bike facilities plan that is being developed which will be adding bike lanes to improve the bike facility in town.

**CONA Report** – David Jackson reported that Butch Eder gave the CIP report and Patrick Lawton gave a general funds presentation on May 26. The Mayor presented information on the school situation. Joe stated that the Judge in all of the different law suits will consolidate all of the suits and make one ruling on the school

situation. This is to be done within the next 30 days. The city is in hopes that the Norris Bill will delay the consolidation for two years so that a viable plan can be drawn up.

The next CONA meeting will be held July 28. Germantown Cares and the Neighborhood Summit will need to be presented at the next CONA meeting. David will present both events, event chairmen need to send information to him.

**Neighborhood Summit** – Becky Dunn has gone through all of the previous year’s information and has come up with possible topics and speakers. Rebecca gave a list of the sub-committee members to Becky which includes: Lisa Parker, Alderman Palazzolo, Ron Sklar, Daniel Dent, and Rebecca. Larry stated that there has been a mixed review of 3 sessions; some felt that they went too long. Having a variety is the best option. The biggest issue was how to structure the evening to keep people engaged and keep people there. Comments on the suggested topics: Recovery from Disaster – David likes this topic; he stated that we have talked about preparedness however we haven’t discussed recovery. Joe suggested that neighborhood watch should be a booth, not a topic. Recruiting volunteers and retention was also suggested.

**Unfinished Business** – Drainage ditch fencing will be held until next meeting.

**New Business** – Detached structures: The Mayor emailed Rebecca regarding a situation on Elm Leaf Drive. Joe passed out pictures. Neighbors have emailed the Mayor on this situation. The ordinance does not address the types of materials that can be used for building a detached structure. At this address, the resident used steel and the structure is built in an unusual shape for a Germantown neighborhood. The Mayor would like for this commission to look at the ordinance that deals with detached structures. Directions to the structure were given.

As the ordinance reads now, the distance from the fence needs to be equal of the height of the structure. Also, all structures combined cannot take up more than 25% of the required rear yard. Joe stated that Collierville updated their ordinance that relates to detached structures. Even if Germantown’s ordinance is updated, the structure on Elm Leaf would not have to come down because it was built under the current ordinance.

Rebecca stated that style and material used should be added to the ordinance. After much discussion, Ron stated that part of Collierville’s information is similar to most subdivision restrictions. He suggested taking out the 150 foot restriction and prohibiting plastic or metal unless it is lower than 6 feet tall.

Ron said he would put together some suggestions on ordinance changes for the next meeting.

**Concerns and or comments** – Joe reminded everyone that the July 4<sup>th</sup> family celebration will once again be held at Municipal Park with fireworks at 9:10 p.m. Trash collection will be delayed by one day all week.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned.