

GERMANTOWN HISTORIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 26, 2011, 6:00 P.M.
Administration Conference Room

The regular meeting of the Germantown Historic Commission was held Tuesday, July 26, 2011, in the City Administration Conference Room. Chairman Bagby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and a quorum was established.

Present: Chairman Louise Bagby, Daneise Burnette, Lucie Calvin, Kay Fleming; Dale Hicks, Roma Macko-Sailors, Jim McGehee, Warren Travis, and Alderman John Drinnon.

Absent: Joy Cook.

Staff Present: George Brogdon, Community Services Division Director.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 28, 2011 MINUTES

A motion was made by Roma Macko-Sailors, seconded by Daneise Burnette, to approve the June 28, 2011 minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Bagby reported that GHS-TV has permission to post the historic homes documented by the commission on their website. Germantown Museum will also have a website and can be accessed at germantownmuseum.org.

NEW BUSINESS

Heritage Day/History Fair

Kay Fleming and Daneise Burnette reported on Heritage Day/History Fair. Several outstanding issues of the event were discussed as noted below:

- The different vendors who will be coming to the event.
- Dale Hicks volunteered to bring fabric scraps for the event for Shirley Gee's craft demonstration.
- Luci Calvin will have fifth graders present the Frances Wright display.
- Warren Travis reported on a conversation he had with Sid Witherington regarding the Civil War re-enactment.
- The Minor Street Strings will be playing during the event.
- It was emphasized that publicity is important, as well as having the Gray house open
- Jim McGehee can provide the sound system.
- George Brogdon will notify police and park rangers of the upcoming event.
- It was mentioned all commission members to help in some way, with specific assignments by September.
- Provisions for water for the vendors during the event was discussed, as well as the old fashioned drinks for purchase by the public. Alderman Drinnon volunteered to cover the cost of the old-fashioned drinks. Roma Sailors will contact Barbara Schneider to get an estimated number needed.
- George Brogdon asked to be provided with a list of vendor requirements, so his staff can ensure all vendors have what they need in the way of tables, chairs, electrical, garbage disposal, etc. The Commission should have this in time for a September meeting with City staff.

Methodist Hospital Project: History of Germantown

Chairman Bagby reported that work on the Methodist Hospital History of Germantown display continues. Methodist is targeting September 1, 2011 to have this completed and on display. The display cases are jewelers' cases that have very thick glass which should make the donors of the artifacts a little more comfortable. She said they would not be putting murals on the walls but would be putting pictures on the wall. There will be a total of five cabinets, segregated by timeframe, beginning with Chickasaw Indians and continuing through present day Germantown. Chairman Bagby is looking for artifacts for each of these eras and anyone who can contribute to this effort should contact her. The duration of the project is unknown. It was reemphasized that artifacts are important, much more so than just displays of writings.

Dale Hicks pointed out that she pulled together a similar display at City Hall a few years back. Her display was created in such a manner that artifacts could be added or changed as needed. Chairman Bagby stated we will be able to do the same with the Methodist Hospital project.

John Gray House

Kay Fleming and Chairman Bagby reiterated that the John Gray House is in disrepair and the repairs need to be completed prior to Heritage Day on October 15th. Previous estimates indicated all repairs would cost around \$60,000.00. Jim McGehee pointed out that interior plaster has been repaired once before and is crumbling again due to the roof leaks. Chairman Bagby read a letter from Patrick Lawton stating these repairs would be considered for the 2010 city budget; however, George Brogdon confirmed they did not make it through final budget reviews. Mr. Brogdon said he did not have the formal report, however, he had talked to the facilities maintenance division and they would have the house in repair and open for the 15th. He did not commit to a full roof replacement at this point in time.

Miscellaneous

Civil War Markers

It was brought up that George Browder is doing research on Civil War markers for Germantown. The possibility was discussed of having maybe a directional marker on Poplar Pike down Honey Tree toward Fort Germantown because it is such a difficult park to find being behind the subdivision and tucked between the subdivision and the railroad track. George Brogdon said he would discuss that with Andy Pouncey. Mr. Brogdon stated the West Tennessee Historic Society has money for these markers. He also stated we are still planning the marker for the Frances Wright place.

Alderman Drinnon reported that there are some groups in Germantown trying to organize to disrupt churches and things as they did to the Cornerstone Church in San Antonio and John Hagee and he had spoken to the police and they will watch for that.

Progress on Ocean View Farm

George Brogdon stated that the City has engaged the Farm Based Education Association to develop a program analysis to be used as the foundation for RFPs to local engineering/architectural firms. No timeframe was given for completion of this work.

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Oral Histories:

Chairman Bagby stated the oral history on the Hoppers needs to be summarized. Lucie Calvin volunteered for this project.

Library Expansion Town Hall Meeting:

George Brogdon stated a Town Hall meeting will be held at the Germantown Library on August 30 at 7:00 p.m. to gather input from citizens on their requirements and needs for an expanded library.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.