



—Advertiser Photo by Warren

Mayor James, Daughter Ginger, Wife Dot (Left) ; Lamar and Martha Wagner After Primary

CITY COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEES ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
NOTICE OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 1966

TO: STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS,
SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF
THE CITY COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEES ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, AT 5:00 P.M.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COMMISSION ROOM AT
CITY HALL.

WALTER KENNEDY
CHAIRMAN
STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES
of the
CITY COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEES
on
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

AUGUST 15, 1966

STEERING COMMITTEE

COMMISSION ROOM
CITY HALL

The regular meeting of the Steering Committee of the City Commissioners' Committees on Community Affairs was held in the Commission Room, at City Hall, on Monday, August 15, at 5 P.M.

There were present:

Carl W. Bear, presiding

W. Tom Jones
Henry Spears
R. D. Nesbitt
Rawls Dobbins
W. E. Thompson

Earle Kitchen
John Nicrosi
C. T. Smiley
W. M. Blount
Dr. J. G. Hardy

Guest: Mayor Earl D. James
Charles R. Sheldon
William H. Eagar

Mr. Henry Spears gave the opening prayer.

Mr. Bear asked that the minutes of the meeting of July 18 be read. The minutes were approved as read.

Mr. Bear called attention to the conflict of our regular meeting date, with other important meetings In the discussion of meeting dates, it was first agreed that Monday was the best day of the week.

Mr. W. E. Thompson made a motion that the Steering Committee accept the 2nd Monday of each month, at 5 P. M. as the regular meeting day for the Steering Committee. This motion was seconded by several; voted on and was unanimously passed.

Mr. Bear introduced Mr. Charles R. Sheldon, Acting Co-ordinator of the "Montgomery Community Action Committee".

Mr. Sheldon's presentation was most informative. He first gave us background on formation of the Committee, and then with the use of charts, showed the flow of directives and request for funds.



Jack Rucker



John Rutherford



Drue Lackey



D. H. Johnson



Richard Hanan



Denny Abbott



Mike Blacker

Seven Hopefuls Jam Public Affairs Race

By RAYMOND MASSEY

The race for public affairs commissioner is so crowded, most Montgomerians would be hard pressed to name all the candidates.

Seven contenders are vying for Place No. 2 on City Commission in the March 15 Democratic primary.

In addition to the incumbent, Jack Rucker, the candidates for police, fire and traffic commissioner are Denny Abbott, Mike Blacker, Richard E. Hanan, D. H. "Dock" Johnson, Drue Lackey and John Rutherford.

To one degree or another, all the candidates are emphasizing the need to solve Montgomery's longstanding hospital emergency room problem, improve traffic safety on South Boulevard and other

people, attract new industry and upgrade the city merit system.

Jack Rucker was closely watched during the January qualifying period because rumors kept circulating he might be in line for state public safety director.

At any rate, Rucker drew the most opponents in the City Commission race.

Rucker, 63, is seeking his second term as public affairs commissioner.

After serving 27 years on the Montgomery police force, Rucker retired as an assistant chief in 1963 to make an unsuccessful race against incumbent Public Affairs Commissioner L. B. Sullivan.

Rucker came back in 1967, defeating Sullivan in a hard-fought race that split the Police Department. He went

Between the contests with Sullivan, Rucker served as a bailiff for Montgomery County Family Court.

Denny Abbott, 31, has been Montgomery County's chief probation officer since 1963. He's on a leave of absence from Family Court to make his first political race.

A Montgomery native, Abbott joined Family Court as a probation officer in 1961 after receiving his B.A. degree from Huntingdon College. He also holds a 1968 master's degree from Florida State University.

Abbott is known for his role in filing a federal court suit in behalf of black juveniles that led to widespread reform at Mt. Meigs Industrial School.

Abbott also played a major

tion center and securing a federal grant to hire a full-time vocational rehabilitation counselor for Family Court.

Mike Blacker formally entered the race the first day of the qualifying period, becoming the first lawyer to run for City Commission since the late John Goodwyn was elected mayor in the '40s.

Blacker, 37, volunteered for Air Force duty while in college and served as a jet fighter pilot flying reconnaissance missions in Europe.

He entered Jones Law School while stationed at Maxwell AFB and received his degree after leaving the service.

Blacker served as a law clerk for State Supreme Court Chief Justice Ed Livingston and Justice Robert S. Coleman Jr. before entering

uniquely his own among the 15 City Commission candidates. He wants to change the present form of city government to a mayor-council.

Richard E. Hanan has been a member of the City Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board for seven years, a period which has witnessed millions of dollars worth of construction designed to curtail pollution and increase efficiency.

A 38-year-old Montgomery native, Hanan is making his first political race (as are five of the seven public affairs candidates).

Hanan operates a toy store in Eastbrook shopping center and a downtown toy distributing firm.

He has served as vice chairman of City Com-

Hanan cites overweight trucks, a controversial subject in Alabama, as one of the main causes of Montgomery's traffic problems.

D. H. "Dock" Johnson (actually, the D. stands for Dock) is one of three public affairs candidates with an extensive Police Department background.

Johnson, 45, resigned from the police force as a lieutenant and detective supervisor in 1967 to join State Atty. Gen. MacDonald Gallion's staff as an investigator. He left this post last January.

A former Montgomery Police Academy instructor and Montgomery Traffic Commission executive secretary, Johnson's 12 years on the police force included three years as safety education

Johnson says he originated the city's fleet safety program.

A native of Elmore County, he attended Troy State University.

Drue Lackey was a candidate for Rucker's job months before the qualifying period began. He was busy building an organization.

Rucker named Lackey police chief in November 1967 shortly after taking office as public affairs commissioner.

Lackey resigned the job in February 1970, ending 22 years on the force, after a long series of disagreements with the commissioner.

Lackey, 44, is a Jones Law School graduate who sold real estate and insurance after resigning as chief.

Lackey's platform includes "appointment of a community study board to analyze all city

overlapping, waste and outmoded operations, so that the city can avoid new taxes.

John Rutherford entered city politics in 1967, running an unsuccessful campaign for mayor.

Since that time, he has become a familiar face at City Hall, attending practically every City Commission meeting.

Rutherford, 46, has operated a television and radio sales and service center for a number of years.

A Montgomery native, Rutherford is a Troy State graduate.

Announcing his candidacy at a press conference, Rutherford was critical of Montgomery's Court Square urban renewal project, saying the city should "set a plan and not deviate — not to