

RAB MEMBER PROFILE:

One-on-one with Reginald Eskridge

Reginald Eskridge knows how important process is. As a lawyer, he depends on it to serve his clients. As the newest member of the Memphis Depot Restoration Advisory Board, his goal is to help his fellow community members better understand the environmental cleanup process at the Depot so that they can become more involved in it.



"I think it is important for the community to understand that once the cleanup and restoration phase comes to an end, there will no longer be an opportunity to voice the concerns they may have – health or otherwise," said Mr. Eskridge, who was elected to the RAB on October 21, 1999. "Now is the time to make their concerns known, while the various governmental agencies are available to offer assistance."

A partner in the law firm of Eskridge and Eskridge with his wife, Janelle, Mr. Eskridge first became interested in the cleanup program at the Depot when he attended several community meetings about the Depot closure and restoration process at Corry Middle School. As the Vice-President of the Harlem-Kerr Neighborhood Association, Mr. Eskridge says he knew that others in his community were also interested in learning more about Depot issues.

"I learned from fellow neighborhood association members and friends that they have always had concerns

about the Depot's presence in the area, especially with regard to the possibility of health hazards. With respect to the cleanup, they are concerned with how such efforts will affect the future of our community," said Eskridge, the father of two sons and a member of St. Augustine Church.

After his election to the RAB, Mr. Eskridge volunteered to serve on two RAB subcommittees so that he could learn first-hand about the cleanup process and be better able to present this information to his community. His immediate goals are to learn more about the steps taken so far, as well as the proposed efforts for the future, and to encourage the community to get more involved in the restoration phase currently underway at the Depot.

"I know that a great deal of time and effort has been expended on making information about the Depot available to the public in various information repositories and on the Internet. It is my desire to encourage and support the continued dissemination of such information." Mr. Eskridge plans to work on improving the present Depot website

Upcoming RAB Meetings

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings are open to all community members. You are invited to attend and learn about the environmental cleanup program and to raise issues of interest or concern with members of the Board.

Next meetings

January 20, 2000
February 17, 2000

Meetings will be held at 6 p.m. in the "J" Street Café at the Depot, 2163 Airways Blvd., Memphis, TN. Enter through Gate 2, proceed through the guard entrance and follow the signs. □

to include all documents related to the restoration and cleanup.

"I would also like to explore the possibility of RAB members visiting all of the block clubs and other community and civic organizations in the immediate area surrounding the Depot for the purpose of making brief presentations on the cleanup and restoration efforts taking place on the site." □