

ASSESSMENT OF THE DRAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Position and Goals since organization - August 1979

The Drake Neighborhood Association has organized to arrest urban blight spreading into the neighborhood, to make housing improvements and to involve residents in helping each other. The Association has incorporated as a non profit corporation. A board of directors has been formed representing the neighborhood's university, churches, residents and businesses. A regular series of neighborhood potluck dinners have provided residents a forum for concerns. The board has responded by initiating planning efforts in areas of safety, crime prevention, housing improvements and business development. It recently organized a neighborhood clean-up as preparation for home improvement programs.

The board is currently trying to determine how it can begin to work in partnership with the City on those problems, the solutions of which necessitate resources beyond those available within the neighborhood itself. The City is currently not prepared or equipped to help evolving neighborhood groups. The City has devoted the bulk of its neighborhood development resources to the most deteriorated neighborhoods - the designated prime service areas. It does not appear to have a defined policy and process to work with evolving neighborhood groups or neighborhoods showing early signs of blight. Such groups are left to their own ingenuity to seek recognition by the City and to learn of City resources available to their neighborhoods. It is an enormously frustrating, haphazard task.

An organization such as the Drake Neighborhood Association could serve as a role model for citizen's groups, interacting between self-help groups dedicated to neighborhood preservation and the City agencies given responsibility for the revitalization of urban areas. Presently the system operates like this: A neighborhood loses its vitality by economic changes, loss of capital, rapid depreciation, and flight of residents. Thus it loses, early on, the mechanism for self preservation. Then to restore it, large federal "priority boards" or "strategy boards", are set up by the larger city planning offices. This legitimates a neighborhood as eligible for resources, professional, financial, and research-based studies. The neighborhoods just on the boundary of a blighted area, with perhaps as great intrinsic problems or incipient distress, are left with no approach avenue. Their needs are smaller at this stage, but the timing is critical.

It appears likely that both the City and other evolving neighborhood groups could benefit from a method giving recognition and support. In doing so, the City could be in a position to respond more flexibly to changing circumstances and changing times, helping neighborhoods address early signs of deterioration and blight.

John Neubauer, Vice President

Willis L. Cuning, President

May 12, 1980

Drake Neighborhood Assn. Inc.

Board Meeting

3:00 PM

January 21, 1980

The meeting was held in the conference room of the 1st Federal State Bank,
24th & University Avenue

Present: W. L. Cunning, President

 John Neubauer, Vice President

 Rev. James Ryan

 Gene Hiskey

 Gladys Burkhead

 Georgia Bolton

1. Minutes of last meeting mailed, reading dispensed with.
2. Reviewed the proposed articles of incorporation.
3. Report of proposed articles of incorporation status; have been submitted to Atty. Roger Widke for determining tax exempt status.
4. Report of General Membership and Program Committee by Gladys Burkhead, director.
 - (a) Thursday January 31, ^{6:00 PM} potluck dinner at Greek Orthodox Church of St. George.
 - (b) More publicity is needed; Gladys will be responsible for calling list.
by Burkhead
 - (c) It was moved/and seconded by John Neubauer that Mrs. Pauline Morrison will join the Board. Carried.
5. Report of President on absent Board members; Wayne Shoemaker, Nelda Wells, Rod Rhoads, and Larry Wenzl.

6. Gladys Burkhead reported on the City-Wide May 1st clean-up; several organizations are backing this effort. It was moved by Burkhead and seconded that this Association commit to or sponsor a formal clean-up effort. (This will involve publicity, flyers, and some organization of volunteers. John Neubauer & Gene Hiskey volunteered to work through an apartment owners group to interest tenants.) Carried.
 - (a) Drake Neighborhood Association to ask City Council (via Elaine Symoniak) to have "junk pick up" twice per year. Also requested information concerning how to dispose of old cars. The county at one time implemented a program to haul junkers at County expense. Currently such a problem exists on private property at 27th & Cottage Grove.

7. Discussion of Metro Center; should President Cuning write to Des Moines Housing Council? Moved by Jim Ryan and Seconded by John Neubauer. Carried. Purpose to let them know Drake Neighborhood Association exists and is functioning; to propose they extend Metro Center concept into the Drake Neighborhood area; to get the Association lined up for February 15th second project consideration by Metro Center and Des Moines Housing Council.

1/21/80

CAMPUS COMMUNICATION
Drake University

To: Mr. James Wise, "The Study Group" Date: February 14, 1980
1st Christian Church
From: W. L. Cunning, Director of the Physical Plant
Subject: Drake University Participation in the Drake Neighborhood Association,
Aims and outlook.

Per your recent request, as President of this new association, I offer the following for your deliberation and planning.

1. Drake University nearly at its centennial observance is the longest-term institution, social structure, and largest capital investment in the "Drake area".
2. Drake from the earliest days has shaped the neighborhood, when professionals and upper-middle class citizens chose to make it their residential community.
 - a. This influence has gradually waned over the years, as affluence of the general population (particularly after World War II) and population growth, created new neighborhoods and suburban communities around Des Moines.
3. In the recreating, restructuring, and maintaining of a quality neighborhood, programs must start with the "anchor points" in the neighborhood. Drake definitely qualifies as one of these. However, Drake is a partner in the enterprise, not a dictator of the policies or direction.
4. Drake is the only institution with the in-house expertise, leadership, and general professional capability to launch such an effort.
5. Drake has at stake literally millions of dollars in capital investment (which could be wasted, or at best, converted to public or private uses other than the original intentions of its governing bodies). Drake should invest this effort, for its own good and as one of the functions of a modern university (see #6).
6. There exists an era of social change, with transportation changes, fuel and energy shortages, housing scarcity, and rapid inflation which is recreating high intrinsic value in the surrounding housing and real estate. Drake leadership should be in the midst of these changes, supplying the best thinking and current information on urban sociology, anthropology, economics, public administration, municipal economics, which will enable the neighborhood itself (through a newly created organization, or through individual citizen efforts related to the above) to reshape the surrounding community for the years 1990-2000.
7. Drake subscribes itself to the goals statement of the Drake Neighborhood Association at its inception (the organizational meetings of August/September 1979):

The purpose of the Association shall be to further the interests of the neighborhood herein defined, to create a neighborhood identity and esprit, to assist all dwellers in this neighborhood and all business or professional occupants in what is called the Drake area and surrounding environ to enjoy to the fullest their livelihoods, safety, and legitimate personal endeavors. When organized and active, the Association will be a chief means (but not the sole or exclusive means) of contact with City government, the ward representative, and other agencies local, state, or federal.

- 8. That there is a body of history, tradition, and long-tenure residency in the "Drake area" is only beginning to be recognized by the urban planning agencies of our city. This needs to be reinforced and significant planning based on it.

WLC

W. L. Cunning
Director of the Physical Plant

cc: Rev. James Ryan

Drake Neighborhood Assn. Inc.

Board Meeting

3:00 PM

February 22, 1980

The meeting was held in the conference room of the 1st Federal State Bank,
24th & University Avenue

Present:

W. L. Cunning, President

Larry Wenzl, V. P. of Finance & Treasurer

Gladys Burkhead,

Pauline Morrison,

Ginger Kuhl,

Georgia Bolton,

Excused Absent:

John Neubauer, (out of the City)

Wayne Shoemaker (Pastoral duties)

Minutes of the Previous Meeting being previously distributed, it was moved
and seconded to dispense with reading of minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Mr. Cunning reported on recent contacts with John Neubauer about his efforts for the neighborhood clean-up the second week of April. Gladys reported that John is trying to get a group of apartment owners and apartment dwellers to enlarge the volunteer effort. They will be supplied with plastic bags and broomsticks.
2. Mr. Cunning reported that he had been in contact with Elaine Szymoniak, Councilwoman, and that she had returned information that the City will re-institute the large or bulky trash item pick-up during the neighborhood clean-up, as part of a City-wide effort.
3. Larry Wenzl reported on a meeting with the housing committee greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce on February 7th, also attended by Larry Cunning. That meeting was to describe the Metro-Center housing program being developed by the Des Moines Housing Council (Anna Smith, Staff Coordinator). The intention is to attract private builder capital into the inner-city, particularly the near North side, by turning over low cost land to developers, land that is now held by the City and County but with all improvements in place. To qualify for Federal

funding such projects must be 50% available to low-cost housing.

There was discussion as to whether this type of project would extend close enough to the Drake Neighborhood to involve us; Wenzl and Cunning reported in the negative, based on the sense of the meeting and the main question as to whether or not there are enough lots in the areas south and east of Drake.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Federally aided projects. Neighborhood block grants related to the item above, the Chamber of Commerce meeting and announcement on Metro Center, the Board had received a report on the Federal Block Grants Program project in York, Pennsylvania. If 50% of the property owners sign up for a voluntary home improvement appearance project, that block can be declared a recipient for Federal funds (revenue sharing) with which the municipality can proceed with major fixture renovation in the area such as, curbs & gutters, repaving, new storm & sanitary sewers, street lighting, etc.

Larry Cunning thinks that the Model Cities project in Des Moines has at least one block qualifying, at 27th and Kingman (east side of street only). There was discussion about whether the Drake Neighborhood Assn could get a project going immediately to the north of this so as to double the effect or appearance change, the latter Block being in our area and not in Model Cities. The conclusion: the concept is good, i.e. self help, self-initiated, local participation of management, but the D.N.A. has no present contact person in that area to generate leadership.

2. The Woodland-Wilkie community is recognized by the City as a planning group, and has a project coordinator supported by Federal Funds, HUD, Leo Green. They are also interested in Block Grants. On March 15 they plan to have a bus tour of their neighborhood for their planning committee members and have invited the D.N.A. to send a guest. Ginger Kuhl volunteered to do this and report back on their goals and prospects.
3. Mr. Cunning noted that it has been difficult to get action or commitments from the University Avenue Business people and that a recent meeting with Rod Rhoads, President of the University Business Association had not produced any tangible results. People are concerned, he said, about the appearance and safety of the parking facilities at the rear of the businesses, and wondered whether this effort could be improved. Larry Wenzl volunteered to make a positive contact with Rod Rhoads, and to get some action going through this channel.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM, members reminded of potluck dinner, Grace United Methodist, March 27

(Minutes reconstructed from notes by Ginger Kuhl, in the absence of a Secretary)

CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA

Office of

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

TO Neighborhood Priority Board
Chairpersons

DATE April 16, 1980

FROM Richard J. Wright, Administrator
Neighborhood Development

SUBJECT: NPB Public Hearings

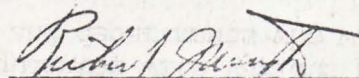
The schedule of activities for this year's planning conferences, as recommended by the CAB and approved by the City Council, includes a provision for public hearings to be held by each Neighborhood Priority Board between May 1 and May 29. These public hearings are required by HUD as part of the overall planning process.

The purpose of the public hearings is to provide an opportunity for the board to obtain the views of as many neighborhood individuals and/or citizen groups as possible. As such, particular efforts should be made to make residents aware of the hearing and to encourage their participation. The public hearing may be held as part of a regular NPB meeting or it could be a separate meeting.

The procedures for the meeting should be as "open" as possible. The purpose of the meeting is not to set priorities or to agree upon a plan, it is just to identify problems and needs in the neighborhood. No one should be discouraged from speaking because their ideas do not appear practical or directly related to the current Community Development program.

During this time between the public hearings and the NPB Planning Conference on May 30 - 31, the boards can further discuss the ideas presented at the public hearing. Also, NPB's should be giving consideration to the various needs and concerns which have been called to their attention throughout the year. If the NPB wishes it may be advantageous to invite appropriate departments or agencies to attend your regular meetings to discuss "potential" solutions to identified problems. Please note that this time should be used for discussion of solutions and not for specific proposals. NPBs should have an opportunity to become acquainted with various proposals from June 2 - 19; the period provided to agencies and departments who wish to make a presentation to the various NPBs prior to the CAB planning conference.

It is hoped that the public hearings will provide an opportunity for Boards to get participation of citizens who may not have been previously involved in the Community Development process.



Richard J. Wright, Administrator
Neighborhood Development

/ec

cc: Service Area Coordinator
CAB Chair
Citizen Participation Supervisor

Drake Neighborhood Association

Minutes

Thursday May 2, 1980

The meeting convened 3:00 P.M., in the First Federal State Bank Conference Room

Present:

W. L. Cunning	President
John Neubauer	Vice-President
Larry Wenzl	Vice-President for Business Affairs
Wayne Shoemaker	Pastor Grace United Methodist Church
Paul Johnson	Business Manager, Drake University
Pauline Morrison	Homeowner
Ginger Kuhl	Homeowner
Gladys Burkhead	Homeowner
Gene Hiskey	Manager, Hiskey Apartments
Leo Green	Representative of the Woodland-Wilkie priority board

1. Wayne Shoemaker reported the incorporation status. The papers have cleared, the fees paid by Grace United Methodist Church, Larry Wenzl named as the registered agent, and the address that of the First Federal State Bank. We are now a section 503.C Corporation, and therefore on our way to being tax exempt. The IRS application is needed and John Neubauer agreed to begin this process.

2. John Neubauer reported on Dog Patch Daisy Day; (the area spring clean up). One Half ton of garbage was collected by organized activity in 20 blocks of our 200 block area. All volunteers came from calling on neighborhood members door to door. None resulted from the media; although a small amount of calls were received. Media coverage did result in free coverage by WOI-TV which is to be aired Tuesday May 6, at 6:30 P.M.

Seventy to eighty bags remain for the next clean-up, of the two hundred provided, half was donated by Home Plastics, and half donated by Drake University. Irene's Florist provided the flowers, Frank Schion provided use of the garbage truck, Bill Mulstay donated two works which were used as press releases.

It was suggested that prints of these works should be made on posters, or T-Shirts. The funding for this requires a donor, or donors.

Noted was the interest and efforts of the Drake area businesses; all but one cleaned up their property and adjacent areas before the volunteers arrived. The garbage from that one business did consume a large share of the time and energy of one of the crews.

Gene Hiskey reported that although residents he called upon did not volunteer their time, some donations were received.

It was stressed that the same time of year should be maintained for

3. The next potluck will be 6:00 P.M. in the First Christian Church, Thursday May 22nd.
4. Rod Rhoads has been named as the first trustee of Drake University from the Drake business area.
5. Paul Johnson, Drake Business Manager, outlined a home renovation program that was presented to Drake by the Des Moines Housing Council. This involves the renovation of one house at a time. The Housing council is responsible for locating the house, and selling it to a lower income family. The sponsor, (Drake), renovates the house, while the Council is responsible for ownership.

The new year will involve up to 120 such houses. Bidding is necessary for time & materials on a normal competitive basis.

6. Interest was expressed in a Drake neighborhood member becoming a member of the Des Moines Housing Council. Joe Jester, with Jester & Sons, was willing to serve as this representative, according to Cuning, the last time talked to him.
7. Leo Green of the Woodland-Wilkie Priority Board related details of the Housing renovations programs currently taking place in the City of Des Moines. The City of Des Moines is broken into Five prime service areas for Neighborhood Development. Woodland-Wilkie being one of them, Mr. Green is an employee of the city, under Dick Wright's office by the Des Moines Community Development Office.

One program is the Neighborhood Block, which involves Revenue-sharing funds from HUD. This includes landscaping, building repair, etc. Part of the funds are ear-marked which must be used to assist the elderly, the low income residents, and the disabled. All other funds can then be spent in any justifiable way in improve the condition of the neighborhood.

A significant effort to complement "border-line" areas is involved between the Drake Neighborhood & Woodland-Wilkie. The area outlined between 24th and Harding south of University to Ingersoll is virtually unclaimed. Several of those buildings are unoccupied but the exact percentage is unknown. A population survey is required, to determine whether a block, several blocks of an area can qualify for funding. Question: who does the Housing survey? How does a new area priority board get recognized?

In the Sherman Hill area, this justifiable way of spending 93% of funds, was to include the attraction of new people to the Des Moines area in order to bring in revenues and to create and fill industries, etc. However, Sherman Hill was already within an existing Neighborhood Priority Board, so extending eligibility was no problem for them.

Also noted as an improvement to the city is the stoppage of urban blight, at least within their boundaries. Mr. Green said this is an advantage that any organized neighborhood improvement effort may claim, provided the proposal is backed with survey information supporting it, and that he and Woodland-Wilkie board would be glad to endorse our proposal for recognition.

The funding priorities will be decided for this year on May 30-31, and June 1 in the office of Dick Wright. The proposal then goes to the C.A.B., Central Advisory Board.

This Block Grant for Des Moines currently is \$8 million: city provides matching funds.

Someone to show how these improvements would go to the neighborhood citizens is needed. The population survey is essential, but does not need to be as thorough and detailed as a census.

There is a possibility of funds being expended outside the Woodland-Wilkie area is proven to help eliminate urban blight, etc.

Drake's Real Estate purchasing for renovation or for campus expansion according to the Master Plan has caused some misconceptions by the general population. Some see it as a "walling in" of the campus. Others see it as a tax exemption. However, as pointed out by Ginger Kuhl, these tax records are public, and will show that Drake-owned properties which are not part of the academic campus are taxed, and that these taxes are paid by Drake. The Master Plan is used to determine the properties to be purchased for future expansion. Also, for the good of the community, properties purchased by Drake are well maintained and brought up to code, helping to stop urban blight.

8. An expression was made for approval of Drake Neighborhood Assn taking the steps towards being recognized as a Neighborhood Planning Board, to be presented to the neighborhood office; motion by Hiskey, Seconded by Wenzl & carried.

A workshop will be held with Cunning, Neubauer, Shoemaker, and P. Morrison to draft a proposal, next Wednesday at 2:00 P.M. in the bank conference room.

9. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Minutes Of

General Membership Meeting #5

22 May 1980

To: Drake Neighborhood Assn. Board of Directors

From: John C. Neubauer - Vice President

Re: Report of D.N.A. May 22 Potluck

Fifty neighborhood residents attended the bi-monthly potluck held at the First Christian Church. I presided over the meeting in President Larry Cuning's unforeseen absence. I reported on the results of Dogpatch Daisy Day and the board's recent efforts to involve the City in our efforts. I informed them of the June 5 meeting with City officials and urged them to attend "in force."

Guest speaker Paul Dempewolf, a local biofeedback therapist, described his experiences in Detroit with a neighborhood program called "Dial a Ride". Neighborhood residents there, particularly older and handicapped persons, could call and request available rides which had been volunteered by others with cars. People wishing to offer rides called a central number and informed the "Dial a Ride" coordinators of available times they would be willing to transport needed riders. He said the neighborhood volunteer "matching" approach worked much more efficiently than a later government-sponsored attempt. The question of driver liability was raised in case of an accident.

Drake law student Diane Heins volunteered to research the question and present a written report to the DNA Board. There appeared interest among the residents present for such a program sponsored by the Board. I recommend that the Board consider such a program contingent upon receipt of the "liability" report by Ms. Heins.

Residents present raised a number of issues for me to pass along to the Board which are as follows:

1. "What to do about lawns not being mowed?" I suggested talking directly to their neighbors and if that did not work, to call the D.N.A. phone. I said the board had a housing committee and that the housing committee chairman would call on the home owner or landlord. In the case of a disabled or hospitalized owner, volunteering to help was in order.
2. "Had residents had problems getting Iowa Power to replace burnt-out street lights?" One man had complained for five days and another for two weeks. No action. Bureaucratic shuffling was a complaint. They agreed to raise it at the next potluck if they wanted the Board to communicate with Iowa Power.
3. A resident of 3519 University asked if the Board would request the owner of that residence to replace the main (north) entrance door which had been "missing for two winters" and "tack down loose carpet."

3. (cont.) I said we would notify the housing committee chairman.
4. Residents in attendance were in agreement that the Board should start a newsletter to keep them informed of board activities, DNA projects and upcoming potlucks. I said I would request the Board to start a bi-monthly newsletter to be mailed in the months between the potlucks. Meredith Publishing Co. employee Bob Furstenau (2600 Kingman 284-2119) and friends volunteered to help produce and publish such a newsletter. Residents especially want the newsletter to regularly list the names, addresses and phone numbers of all board members. I recommend the Board take such action at its next meeting.

The Drake Neighborhood Assn.
For Immediate Release
4 June 1980

City Council members Elaine Szymoniak and George Nahas along with representatives from the City Manager's Office will meet with the Drake Neighborhood Association Thursday evening June 5 7:30pm at the First Christian Church (25th & University) to address neighborhood concerns being raised by the Association.

The Association, a non profit corporation, has been organized to arrest urban blight spreading into the neighborhood, to make home improvements, to bolster its business community and to involve residents in helping each other.

The Association recently became frustrated in its attempts to determine how it can work in partnership with the City on neighborhood problems whose solutions necessitate resources beyond those available within the neighborhood itself. The Association appealed to Council members Szymoniak and Nahas for help. The meeting tomorrow night represents these Council members immediate response to the Association's needs.

Among the concerns the Association will raise with City officials is the apparent lack of a defined City policy and process for responding to evolving neighborhood groups, or for neighborhoods with citizens interested in arresting early signs of deterioration.

The Association will also recommend changes in the Office of Neighborhood Development.

For further information, contact Association Vice President John Neubauer at 255-9934 (work) or 279-5350 (home).

Sent to: Register Szymoniak
Tribune Nahas
WHO Crivaro
KIOA
WOI
KRNT
KCCI

Drake Neighborhood Assn. Inc.

Board Meeting

2:00 PM

June 9, 1980

The meeting was held in the conference room of the 1st Federal State Bank, 24th & University Avenue

Present:

W. L. Cunning, President

John Neubauer, Vice-President

James Ryan

Paul Johnson

Gladys Burkhead

Absent:

Rod Rhoads - (Thursday afternoons in conflict)

Ginger Kuhl - (Excused to other duties)

Minutes of previous meeting distributed by mail, reading was dispensed with.

1. John Neubauer & Larry Cunning reported on their June 10th meeting with Dave Johnson, Asst. City Manager (Richard Wilkey's Asst). He concurred with the effort for neighborhood preventive action. He agreed to entertain a proposal for City staff to work with the D.N.A. He also suggested petitioning for expanding the Model Cities area by eight blocks which are currently between the northeast Drake area and Model Cities borders. This is primarily to allow eligibility for tax abatement; limiting of property taxes for those individuals who use their own funds for property improvement.

The Drake Neighborhood does not qualify under any heading or in any section as a Prime Service Area. All of the above information came about from the June 5th neighborhood evening meeting at 1st Christian Church with the City council persons Szymoniak & Nahas, and several neighborhood development offices' staff representatives. This was covered by local news media.

It was decided that D.N.A. should make contact with the Model Cities representatives. Model Cities co-ordinators will suspect that their funds are being shifted to other interests; they need to be shown how this will benefit them. To discuss this program with them, Neubauer and Daniels were chosen to represent D.N.A.

2. Paul Johnson described the D.M. Housing Council plan to provide funds for the renovation of abandoned but restorable inner-city residences. 1307 12th was a typical pilot project. \$15,000 in Federal funds was given by the Des Moines Housing Council to renovate; and it was in turn sold for \$20,000 when brought up to standard. Overall poor work supervision of the CETA workers was a considerable factor as the poor end-result shows. Much more could have been accomplished with the funds under better management. D.M. Housing Council would use Drake technically-qualified people to supervise projects in the D.N.A. zone.
3. Johnson also related from the Housing Council bi-weekly meeting of 6/15/80; the D.N.A. has been asked to send a representative to the Housing Council. Pauline Morrison is favored as our representative, and will be contacted by James Ryan.

The Housing Council has acquired 50 cleared properties for no cost. These are to be built on by ten planning contractors, and then in turn sold to those qualified for low income loans. This program has recently been placed in jeopardy because of the withdrawal of \$2.5 million in federal funds originally earmarked for "Centre-Metro".

4. In mid-August it will be known whether a CETA person will be supplied to serve in Drake University office space as liason between the D.N.A. and the Des Moines Housing Council, or with City offices having planning or redevelopment monies.
5. The Dial-a-Ride program was mentioned. This is primarily for senior citizens who are limited in mobility by other transport systems. Funds would be necessary for a co-ordinator of dispatch, etc. Mr. Cuning mentioned that MTA "para-transit" can be readily obtained for elderly or disadvantaged if they can be certified or endorsed by a social agency.
6. Concerning the possibility of a newsletter as mentioned in previous meetings: Local artist Bob Furstenau and others who are employed by Meredith Publishing have reminded the association of their willingness to start publication of a newsletter for the D.N.A. Since a quorum was not present to vote on this matter, "executive action" was taken to begin publication of the newsletter. Details are to be discussed later.
7. Meetings will be held Wednesday afternoons, in a further attempt to improve the schedule for the majority.

Meeting adjourned 3:07 P.M.

WLC/rr dna 6/19/80

Drake Neighborhood Assn. Inc.

Board Meeting

2:00 PM

June 19, 1980

The meeting was held in the conference room of the 1st Federal State Bank, 24th & University Avenue

Present:

W. L. Cunning, President

John Neubauer, Vice-President

James Ryan

Paul Johnson

Gladys Burkhead

Absent:

Rod Rhoads - (Thursday afternoons in conflict)

Ginger Kuhl - (Excused to other duties)

Minutes of previous meeting distributed by mail, reading was dispensed with.

1. John Neubauer & Larry Cunning reported on their June 10th meeting with Dave Johnson, Asst. City Manager (Richard Wilkey's Asst). He concurred with the effort for neighborhood preventive action. He agreed to entertain a proposal for City staff to work with the D.N.A. He also suggested petitioning for expanding the Model Cities area by eight blocks which are currently between the northeast Drake area and Model Cities borders. This is primarily to allow eligibility for tax abatement; limiting of property taxes for those individuals who use their own funds for property improvement.

The Drake Neighborhood does not qualify under any heading or in any section as a Prime Service Area. All of the above information came about from the June 5th neighborhood evening meeting at 1st Christian Church with the City council persons Szymoniak & Nahas, and several neighborhood development offices' staff representatives. This was covered by local news media.

It was decided that D.N.A. should make contact with the Model Cities representatives. Model Cities co-ordinators will suspect that their funds are being shifted to other interests; they need to be shown how this will benefit them. To discuss this program with them, Neubauer and Daniels were chosen to represent D.N.A.

- 202
2. Paul Johnson described the D.M. Housing Council plan to provide funds for the renovation of abandoned but restorable inner-city residences. 1307 12th was a typical pilot project. \$15,000 in Federal funds was given by the Des Moines Housing Council to renovate; and it was in turn sold for \$20,000 when brought up to standard. Overall poor work supervision of the CETA workers was a considerable factor as the poor end-result shows. Much more could have been accomplished with the funds under better management. D.M. Housing Council would use Drake technically-qualified people to supervise projects in the D.N.A. zone.
 3. Johnson also related from the Housing Council bi-weekly meeting of 6/15/80; the D.N.A. has been asked to send a representative to the Housing Council. Pauline Morrison is favored as our representative, and will be contacted by James Ryan.

The Housing Council has acquired 50 cleared properties for no cost. These are to be built on by ten planning contractors, and then in turn sold to those qualified for low income loans. This program has recently been placed in jeopardy because of the withdrawal of \$2.5 million in federal funds originally earmarked for "Centre-Metro".

4. In mid-August it will be known whether a CETA person will be supplied to serve in Drake University office space as liason between the D.N.A. and the Des Moines Housing Council, or with City offices having planning or redevelopment monies.
5. The Dial-a-Ride program was mentioned. This is primarily for senior citizens who are limited in mobility by other transport systems. Funds would be necessary for a co-ordinator of dispatch, etc. Mr. Cuning mentioned that MTA "para-transit" can be readily obtained for elderly or disadvantaged if they can be certified or endorsed by a social agency.
6. Concerning the possibility of a newsletter as mentioned in previous meetings: Local artist Bob Furstenau and others who are employed by Meredith Publishing have reminded the association of their willingness to start publication of a newsletter for the D.N.A. Since a quorum was not present to vote on this matter, "executive action" was taken to begin publication of the newsletter. Details are to be discussed later.
7. Meetings will be held Wednesday afternoons, in a further attempt to improve the schedule for the majority.

Meeting adjourned 3:07 P.M.

WLC/rr dna 6/19/80