

TO: *Drake Neighborhood Association*

DNA Meeting Minutes: January 12, 2005

Board members present: Dean Blum, David Courard-Hauri, Trish Davis, Joachim Jonassen, Daniel Koenig, Bill LaHay, Jennifer Lawler, Patti McKee, Carl McPherson, Dolph Pulliam, Eddie Robinson, Jennifer Sayers.

First Christian Church cancelled all evening activities/events due to threat of bad weather, so the meeting location was switched to Yankee Doodle Dandy Tattoo Parlor. Thanks to owner/member Dan K. for hosting on short notice! Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

1: NBSD: Ed Leedom announced that DM police officer Sergeant Jeff Aldridge, the DNA contact for the DMPD Neighborhood-Based Service Delivery program, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Jeff is currently the only NBSD officer to be awarded this rank; he will continue to work with the DNA. Congratulations, Jeff!

2: Ed also announced that on Wednesday, January 19th at 6:30 p.m., there will be a meeting about the city's "Weed & Seed" program for neighborhood improvement/community development. This will be an opportunity for the public to offer input about funding allocations for this program. Meeting location is Drake University's Olmsted Center, in the Pomerantz Room.

3: The DM Community Development Dept. has compiled its 2004 report with data pertaining to housing inspections, code enforcement, ordinance compliance, and other neighborhood-quality issues. For specifics about data for the Drake Neighborhood, contact Ed Leedom at 283-4183.

4: DNA member (?) Rob Whitehead, a resident of 36th (just south of University Ave.) attended to request that the DNA support and/or provide a letter to the city's Traffic and Transportation Dept. for a traffic study at 35th & University. Nearby residents claim the intersection has a high accident rate, including a recent pedestrian fatality, and needs a signal to control traffic. The board voted to provide a letter of support from the DNA.

5: Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Trish Davis provide a copy of the year-end 2004 DNA budget, showing a final balance of \$15,737.79. Membership dues and the Historic Home Tour were the biggest revenue sources for the year.

6: Discussion was held regarding a donation to the 2005 Thresholds Festival, an annual diversity event sponsored by First Christian Church. Board voted to match last year's donation of \$750 provided that DNA will get advertising space in the event program.

7: Derek Gourd volunteered to chair the 2005 Historic Homes Tour committee. There was much rejoicing.

8: The DNA Board annual “retreat” will be held on Saturday, January 22, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the home of David Courard-Hauri (1112 29th Street). This is a chance for the members to discuss general issues about DNA mission/plans/goals for the year.

9: Organization Report: Drake University (c/o Dolph Pulliam)

- The DM city council gave its third-reading approval for the Drake University stadium renovation project, which will involve the permanent closing of Clark Street north of the stadium. The project is scheduled to be completed by September 2005.
- Drake Univ President David Maxwell participated in a Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting to hear and discuss citizen concerns about parking, traffic, and other issues pertaining to the stadium renovation and Drake events.
- The Drake Relays Parade is scheduled for Saturday, April 23. Some Drake-area businesses may want to enter floats. Dolph P. will find out if that can be arranged.
- Drake University received a \$10-million gift from Dan and Patricia McDonnell Jorndt, the CEO of Walgreen’s drug stores and a Drake alumnus. Half the gift will go toward the stadium renovation; half will go to endow scholarships.
- Drake University Legal Clinic will offer free tax preparation help to low-income earners, especially those eligible for receiving an Earned Income Tax Credit.

10: Drake Business Association Report:

Daniel Koenig is the new president of the DBA; there was no December meeting to report.

11: Denise McAfee needs bios of the new board members for the DNA newsletter. Contact her at 274-1910 or mcafee@mchsi.com

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DNA Meeting Minutes: April 13, 2005

Board members present: David Courard-Hauri, Carl McPherson, Trisha Davis, Joachim Jonassen, Jennifer Sayles, Bill LaHay, Jennifer Lawler, Patti McKee, Dolph Pulliam, Heidi Wessels.

1: Minutes from March 9 board meeting: Dolph Pulliam moved for approval; second by Heidi Wessels.

2: Treasurer's report from Trisha Davis: current DNA account balance = \$15,835.68

3: NBSD Report/related topics: DMPD Lt. Jeff Aldrich)

- Roger Thompson of Riverbend Neighborhood is organizing a "crime committee" with goal of crime prevention and reduction in neighborhood. The committee will meet monthly; JA will advise DNA on status.
- Jeff reported that there is \$18,500 in Weed&Seed fund, for neighborhood beautification and improvement. City has not made a decision on how to allocate the money.
- Current focus on crime problem in 2200 block of Carpenter Ave.; meetings with landlords (#2220, #2214, #2219) have not helped. Effort is collective ; includes DMPD, City of DM, and the Polk County Attorney's office. DNA board is welcome to communicate any concerns or ideas to this effort; options include sending DNA letters to landlords, or picketing homes of property-owners. We should coordinate this with Jeff if interested.

4: New Business:

- Ginny Gieseke, director of the Drake Farmers Market, informed the board that the market will open on June 1, and said volunteers are always needed and welcome. Contact Ginny at 277-6951 for more information.
- Nick Mutch attended the meeting on behalf of the Institute for Social & Economic Development (ISED), to talk about the organization's programs and inform DNA about opportunities for Iowans to participate. ISED Ventures focuses on helping low-income residents become financially self-sufficient through access to education and job training, assistance for starting a business, and an introduction to the principles of asset management. Nick left program literature and encouraged DNA members to contact ISED offices (283-0940; in United Way building complex on 9th Street) for more information.
- Marc Beltrame, assistant to Congressman Leonard Boswell, attended to inform board about the status of legislation that might affect the budget cuts pending for the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program. He said the budget bills in the US House of Reps and the senate are very different, and urged DNA members to write letters to Senator Chuck Grassley and Rep. Jim Nussle. Through these bills there is some hope for restored funding for CDBG.

- Attorney Tyler Smith and his clients, owners of La Delicia Bakery at ML King Pkwy and Clark St., attended to notify DNA of their application for zoning adjustment of their parcel. The owners wish to expand their facility and business activity to include direct retail sales at the site. Carl McPherson moved that the board provide a letter in support of requested zoning change; seconded by Patti McKee.

- Jeremy Babcock and Stella Neill of Anawim Housing attended to address the board about Anawim's mission/history and to explain their intended project at 21st Street and Forest Ave. The organization currently holds a purchase option on a parcel owned by Polk County, and seeks to build a two-story building housing their offices (first floor) and apartments for Anawim tenants (second floor). Anawim can purchase and develop the property without DNA approval/endorsement, but would need DNA support to obtain funding from city. Discussion and questions ensued among board members, but no action was taken at meeting following their presentation.

- Dolph Pulliam announced that about 175 Drake students had volunteered to pick up litter in the neighborhood on the morning of Scrub Day (April 16). He asked if DNA was willing to donate \$150 toward purchasing food to feed the volunteers afterward. Heidi Wessels moved to approve the donation; seconded by Bill LaHay.

5: Old business:

- DNA House float: volunteers welcome on Sunday morning (4/17) to meet at Jen Lawler's house and help load the Drake House float onto the trailer and decorate it.
- Deric Gourd, 2005 DNA House Tour chairman, announced that 12 houses are still lined up for this year's tour. The tour area will be centered in the vicinity of 35th-42nd Streets, and Cottage Grove and Kingman Blvds. Deric proposed that we get city's permission and barricades to close down Kingman between 35th and 36th streets, for vendors and ticket sales.

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DNA Meeting Minutes: June 8, 2005

Board members present: David Courard-Hauri, Trisha Davis, Dean Blum, Jennifer Lawler, Patti McKee, Eddie Robinson, Jennifer Sayers, Heidi Wessels

1: There were no minutes from the May, 2005 meeting to approve. We hope Bill will get them to us soon.

2: Treasurer's report: Current balance: \$20,956. This includes income from the house tour, but not all expenses yet. The bulb grant money finally came in.

3: NBSD: None present. It was pointed out that a house on 28th and Cottage Grove is open, and the message was relayed to Ed through Dave.

4: New Business.

Lauri Laurod of DMPD gave us a quick presentation on the West Side Boxing Club at 611 Forest Ave. It's open M-F 3-7:30 pm, with summer hours 12-6. It is open for kids/adults 12 and up, with 12-17 year-olds needing to be accompanied by an adult. There are generally about 40 people attending on an average night.

a: New Board Members: Dave. We need new Board Members. Hopefully we can have them voted on after the new by-laws are passed. If you know of anyone interested, please let us know. Names mentioned at the meeting were Pam Rothlauf, Lauri Hilgeman, and Eldon McAfee. It was also suggested, as it had been in the past, that Marty Schmitt take the place vacated by her spouse Tony Schmitt. We agreed to discuss it at the end of the meeting after we had Marty leave the room.

b: House Tour Discussion: Derek. Derek commented that he thinks the tour was positive. There are two ways to measure success: quantitatively and qualitatively. Quantitative includes things like how many people came, how much money was made, and so on. From this perspective it was disappointing. However, the qualitative information has not come in yet, because we haven't asked. Derek says he can put together a survey to put into the newsletter and/or online so that we can have more feedback. Looking ahead to 2006/2007, the question is what should we improve. One thing is that every tour we have a chair, who is responsible for *everything*. Derek thinks the house tour needs to expand, to become a big committee (something like 30 members). He thinks the chair should be a Board member, and the committee should be permanent, perhaps with multiple sub-chairs (volunteer chair, finance chair, etc.). There was discussion of these points, with some skepticism directed at the size of the proposed committee, for example. Marty Schmitt said that the first tour was a Christmas tour, and that maybe for the 20th anniversary tour we should do something similar. Lauri Hilgeman and Marty Schmitt volunteered to co-lead the 2006 tour (perhaps with a December 2005 preview). Heidi moved that we accept their offer, with Derek serving in a significant capacity, the motion was seconded by Dean, and it carried unanimously.

c. Jazz in July. Heidi: The Playhouse event will be on July 8. They need membership information and a sign. They also need about \$100 for posters. Heidi moved that the DNA supports both Drake area J in J's: the Playhouse with \$100 and the Drake University event with half of the cost. Trish indicated that last year's J in J seemed expensive, and we agreed to look into that. Trish seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Old Business

a. Bylaws: Trish. We need to get by-law suggestions in by late June so that we can vote on them at the next Board meeting and then take the revisions to the quarterly meeting for membership approval.

b. Budget Discussion: Trish. In order to produce a budget, we need everyone to submit requests for what they think their committee will be needing.

6. Organization Reports: None.

7. Announcements: None.

8. After the meeting, Marty Schmitt was voted onto the Board to serve out the remainder of Tony Schmitt's term.

dch

DRAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES OF NOV 9, 2005

Board members present: Dean Blum, Trish Davis, Marty Schmitt, Patty McKee, Heidi Wessels, Bill LaHay, David Courard-Hauri, Joachim Jonassen, Dolph Pulliam.

Meeting called to order by President David at 7:09 PM

- 1 **Secretary** - minutes from Oct., 2005 approved.
- 2 **Treasurer's** - Report received and spread over the minutes. Savings account opened 11/9/05 with US Bank.
- 3 **NBSD** - No Report, (no one present) Heidi talked about activity at 1005 28th St., letter to be sent to Ed. 1521 29th St. mentioned also.
- 4 **New Business:**
NFC designation west of 35th St, Heidi checking into this with NFS Organization. Threshold information to be sent for next month meeting.

5. **Old Business:**

New Board Members elected at the 4th General Meeting held on Nov. 5, 2005 at Grace United Methodist Church. New Board Members are: Donya Harvey, Eldon McAfee, Bonnie Hall and Bruce Wilson. Reelected board members: Carl McPherson, Jennifer Sayers, and Marty Schmitt. General information/feedback from the general meeting, people wanted the 8 areas of representation to be only a goal not mandatory for the board members elections.

Trish to take on looking into signs for the General Meetings. Trish also to set up the quarterly meetings with the churches (so we can have a calendar for 2006).

Bill LaHay has ideas for more permanent signage. Let Bill know of intersections that would be great for DNA welcome signage. Marty & JJ to work on advertising signage ??.

Dean made a statement that anyone running for the Board, should of had their dues paid before elections for any new board member. This matter had been talked about at the last board meeting and at the general meeting. Per David, OK this time if paid by time taking office in January.

6. **Organization Reports:**

- A) *Drake University* - Noisy football players apologized to the neighbors. Drake student robbed/kidnapped. Activity Passes being validated. Halloween Party great hit with over 350 people present this year.
- B) *Drake Business Assoc.* - 125th Anniversary signs on Poles, Drake will be paying for Nov 2007 Drake Business Association Signs also.
- C) *Beautification* - The Kingman end caps with the flowers were cleared off by Susan K and Dean B on Sunday. This makes the beds clear for the winter and ready for the defiled bulbs to bloom in the spring. Some talk of putting annual grasses in the end caps

DRAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES OF NOV 9, 2005

D) *Marketing* - Motion by Patti seconded by Heidi to: defer to next meeting for approval of cost involved in production of new membership fliers.

E) *House Tour* - 9 houses and maybe 2 more for the 2006 Tour. Progressing on other press releases and information of home owners.

7. Announcements:

Village Nit Wit to open at 42nd St. - Roosevelt Shopping Mall

DM Gay Men's Chorus Concert to be Dec 16/17

JJ- Salvage proposal for next meeting along with a news article for the newsletter.

Scrub Day - Bill LaHay to plan a proposal for action.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 PM

DNA Meeting Minutes: December 14, 2005

Board members present: Dean Blum, David Courard-Hauri, Trisha Davis, Joachim Jonassen, Bill LaHay, , Patti McKee, Dolph Pulliam, Jennifer Sayers, Marty Schmitt, Heidi Wessels.

1: Discussion of minutes from November board meeting. Heidi moves to approve; seconded by Dolph P; minutes approved.

2: Treasurer's Report: Trisha Davis reported a general account balance of \$3,963.50.

3: NBSD Report/related topics:

- DMPD officer Deb Richardson present; introduced Shawn Green, new manager of the Kum&Go station/store at 22nd and University. Both discussed recent enforcement efforts to reduce/prevent drug trafficking and other illegal activities by individuals loitering on the premises.
- Other neighborhood crime issues discussed involved robbery/attempted robbery at the Subway sandwich shop on Forest Ave., next to the university bookstore, and reports of prostitution activity at 30th and Forest.
- Discussion of a problem property (1005 28th); Ed Leedom has met with the landlord (Mike Link) and explained the city's concerns and consequences; a DNA letter will be drafted and sent to the landlord.
- Ed Leedom also discussed city efforts to address problems at properties in the Ingleside Hills area (@1512 23rd Street, and at 23rd and University); the city will be sending a request to review, and may seek a court order if property owners do not cooperate.
- Rich Emery, owner of a 10-unit rental property at 2841 Kingman, attended the meeting to speak about the issue of vehicles with expired registration tags and the city's enforcement policies. Under current DM city law, the property owner rather than the vehicle owner is subject to fines. Emery indicated that this ongoing problem is a factor in his decision to sell the property, and is a disincentive for DM landlords to maintain and invest in their property.

4: New Business:

- Waveland Park Neighborhood Association member Bob Gernes attended , along with a representative of the Iowa Dept of Transportation (DOT); topic of discussion was the rebuilding/relocation of a pedestrian walkway on the north side of I-235, adjacent to the new pedestrian bridge recently completed just east of 42nd Street. Rebuilding the walkway in its previous position will create a narrow concealed corridor that creates security/safety issues, especially for school children who would use the walkway en route to Hubbell Elementary. The DOT has agreed to explore other design options for the pedestrian walkway, including re-routing it along adjacent neighborhood streets. They are seeking input from the DNA on how best to replace the walkway with a new or modified design. Heidi volunteered to be the DNA liaison and coordinate efforts to resolve in time for a public meeting in January.

- The Thresholds Festival 2006 has come to the DNA requesting a donation of \$750 for this year's event; the DNA would get ad space in the event program. There was discussion about appropriate levels of funding the DNA should offer to sponsor local events; we will discuss further at the 2006 planning meeting in January. Trisha offered a motion to pledge \$250 for now and consider the request again after we have a chance to evaluate our 2006 budget; motion seconded by Bill; motion carries with aye vote.
- Discussion of quarterly meetings and ideas to increase member participation. Some ideas included changing the current Saturday evening slot to a different day or time, offering incentives such as door prizes, and the possibility of offering babysitting services on site. Board will continue discussion at 2006 Planning meeting in January.
- Patti McKee and her husband John Krieg expressed their concerns about the newly expanded activities schedule for the Drake stadium, including an arrangement to host Roosevelt High School home football games. They were concerned that this and other decisions were made by the university without explicit discussion at meetings of the Drake Neighborhood Advisory Council. Dolph said such issues have been and will continue to be included in DNAC meetings. Patti offered a motion for a DNA letter to Drake University asking that we be allowed prior input to decisions involving use of the stadium. Carl seconded; motion carried.
- Patti also informed the board that she will be out of the country for three months in 2006, and as such must resign her board member position on the DNA. She asked that the DNA allow her husband, John Krieg, to serve the remainder of her term. Jennifer Sayers motioned to accept the request; Heidi seconded; motion carried with aye vote.

5: Old Business: DNA Membership brochure/mailer. Discussion of recruitment efforts for 2006; Dean offered a motion to accept Jennifer Sayers' proposal for designing/producing the mailer; seconded by Bill; motion carried with aye vote.

6: Organization reports:

- Drake University—Dolph announced that the stadium renovation (Phase 1) is currently on schedule and will likely be completed on time for the Drake Relays in April. Phase 2 plans are not finalized.
- Drake Area Business Association – held its annual planning meeting on December 7. Jennifer Sayers was elected new DABA president; Larry James will serve as VP; the board is currently full.
- Membership Committee – Dean mentioned that past due notices for membership renewal have been mailed.
- Signage – Bill reported some progress in locating options for signage; waiting for word on regulations from the city.
- Marketing – Heidi mentioned three new area businesses are open -- the Cookery (an African-cuisine restaurant) and Planet Sub on University Ave, and the Village KnitWit in the Shops at Roosevelt.
- Michael garden – Marty reported progress on getting bricks, stone capitals, and other materials placed in the garden; completion will have to wait until spring.
- 2006 House Tour – Marty said 10 houses are confirmed for this year's tour. She said the tour committee will be working this year to coordinate efforts and support of area businesses and local media.

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**Drake Neighborhood Association
Draft of Board Minutes
January 11, 2006
First Christian Church**

Board members present: Dave Courard-Hauri, President; Trish Davis, Treasurer; Jon Krieg, Secretary; Dean Blum, Bonnie Hall, Donya Harvey, Joachim Jonassen, Bill LaHay, Eldon McAfee, Marty Schmidt, Heidi Wessels, Bruce Wilson and Jacqui DiGiacinto (on behalf of Dolph Pulliam)

Board members absent: Carl McPherson, Vice President; Jennifer Sayers

Dave called the meeting to order.

1. New DNA Secretary: Heidi moved, and Marty seconded, that Jon Krieg serve as DNA secretary. Motion carried with an aye vote.

2. Treasurer's Report: Trish gave the treasurer's report.

3. Introductions: Board members and others present introduced themselves.

4. NBSD Report/Related Topics: DMPD officer Deb Richardson discussed drug complaints in the 1000 and 1100 blocks of 28th and the 1300 block of 24th. At 1113 24th, there was a recent arrest for domestic assault and parole violation.

Ed Leedom said the Drake Neighborhood proper is doing pretty well. We've seen an increase in junk-on-curb violations, but they're getting cleaned up. He provided totals for 2005. The Drake Neighborhood had 858 code violations (1200 for the wider area), 678 rental housing inspections (some of these were repeats). This was a fairly average year. We're making a difference and getting a lot done. Eventually the 1200 figure should go down. We've seen a decrease in junked cars and trash, and an increase in more minor violations.

Ed said it's better for him, rather than neighbors, to remove illegal signage on private property. Ed said he'll check out a car parking on a lawn on 31st Street north of the freeway.

Deb distributed an "event summary" of police calls to the corner of 31st and University – mainly to the Kum and Go – over the past six months. She said that the number of calls is not unusual for a convenience store open 24 hours.

5. Discussion of the Proposed Expansion of the Kum and Go at 31st and University: The Board spent the bulk of the meeting discussing the proposed expansion of the Kum and Go at 31st and University; the proposal would require the re-zoning of a parcel of land west of the current station and the re-zoning and demolition of the apartment building south of the station. The re-zoning issue was scheduled to come before the

Planning and Zoning Commission on January 19. Representatives from Kum and Go, other DNA members, and other neighbors participated in the discussion. Board members and neighbors expressed a number of concerns about the proposal and suggested alternatives.

Bruce moved, and Marty seconded, the following motion, which passed on an aye vote: The DNA Board is opposed to re-zoning and the present project design for the Kum and Go at 31st and University, but the Board is open to more discussion about other possibilities. The Board will request that the Planning and Zoning Commission table their discussion of the proposal to allow time for further discussions. Dave will speak for and represent the Board at the P and Z meeting.

6. Organization Reports

Drake University: Jacqui, who is Drake's Director of Government and Corporate Relations, reported on behalf of Dolph, who was providing commentary for a Drake men's basketball game. Classes begin next Tuesday; trustees meet next Thursday. The stadium renovation remains "on track." Dolph and President David Maxwell are working on a date for the next Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting, which will be open to everyone in the neighborhood. Roosevelt High School will provide professional security and cleaning services for their football games at Drake Stadium.

Drake Business Association: Jacqui said the DBA has not met. They have new officers, a new focus and a new drive. It's a great thing.

Beautification: Dean said the committee will meet in the Spring.

Membership: Dean said Denise McAfee will send out reminders to members to renew.

Signage Task Force: Bill said the task force is exploring finding locations for signs welcoming people to the Drake Neighborhood. Kingman and 42nd is one possibility. We've identified affordable plaques that would look nice.

Jacqui added that Drake is buying new banners that would welcome people to Drake. The university would be a good partner in this beautification effort.

As Drake celebrates its 125th anniversary, it's worth noting that this is the 125th anniversary of the Drake Neighborhood, as well.

Dave said a major task of the January 28th annual planning retreat of the Board will be to clarify the roles of the subcommittees. The meeting will be at Dave's home, 1112 29th Street, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Marketing: Heidi said that she, Dave and Trish are compiling forms, bylaws, agendas and minutes to hand out to the Board. At the retreat on January 28, we'll go through committees and assign committee chairs. We'll introduce new people to the Board and to

each other. We need to make our committees work, and we need the structure to allow that.

Garden and House Tour: Marty said there's nothing to report on the garden. The next House Tour meeting will be January 21. If anyone wants to get involved, they should talk with Marty.

7. Other Discussion

Denise is finishing up the newsletter this weekend. New Board members should send their bios to her (Mcaffee@mchsi.com) by Monday; Sunday is the deadline for articles.

The Board discussed topics for the quarterly meeting, originally scheduled for February 4 (later re-scheduled to January 29 at 5:00 p.m. at St. Luke's). We can talk more then about the Kum and Go expansion.

Dave said that Sandra, who works on the Thresholds Festival, was curious why the DNA changed the amount of money it donates. She will come to the February DNA meeting. The DNA newsletter will include information on the Thresholds festival.

The Board further discussed options for dealing with the Kum and Go proposal.

Eldon said a meeting will be set up regarding a proposed bike trail down School Street. Heidi said that she has not been notified of any more meetings regarding the sidewalk/bike trail north of the 40th Street pedestrian bridge.

The meeting adjourned.

Drake Neighborhood Association
Board Minutes
(pending Board approval)

February 8, 2006
First Christian Church

Board members present: Dave Courard-Hauri, President; Trish Davis, Treasurer; Jon Krieg, Secretary; Bonnie Hall; Donya Harvey; Joachim Jonassen; Bill LaHay; Eldon McAfee; Dolph Pulliam; Jennifer Sayers; Marty Schmidt; Heidi Wessels

Board members absent: Dean Blum; Donya Harvey; Carl McPherson; Bruce Wilson

Dave called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of January 11, 2006 Board Minutes. Heidi moved and Marty seconded approval of the January 11, 2006 Board minutes. Motion carried with an aye vote.

2. NBSD Report/Related Topics: DMPD officer Deb Richardson said there were 487 crime reports for the Drake area in 2005. Police are working overtime to break a recent city-wide robbery spree.

A home for veterans is scheduled to open on April 15 at 3650 Cottage Grove.

Ed Leedom said several public nuisance properties are in the process of being downsized and renovated. There have been four suspected arsons in the neighborhood since last fall; they involve inter-family disputes and have not been random acts; no one was injured.

Dave said he's called Mr. Lake, trying to work out a time for Ed to do inspections of his properties. Ed said he'll send a letter to Mr. Lake dictating a date for the inspection; Ed will inform Dave of the date. Deb will go along.

The Board thanked Deb and Ed for their efforts.

3. Treasurer's Report: Trish gave the treasurer's report.

4. Discussion of the Thresholds Festival request for additional funds: Sondra Eddings presented more information about the Thresholds Festival, which is requesting additional funds from DNA. (The Board earlier approved \$250 for this year's festival.) The Festival is hoping DNA buys another ad in the program book.

Sondra gave details about ESL and mentoring programs at First Christian. This year will mark the 10th anniversary of the Drake Farmer's Market, which will be celebrated June 7.

Marty reviewed past donations and DNA's cash flow. Further discussion ensued.

Heidi moved and Jennifer seconded that the Board contribute another \$250 to Thresholds, capping our donation for this year at \$500. Motion carried with an aye vote.

The DNA president and vice-president will attend the Thresholds lunch at President Maxwell's home.

The Board agreed that we will adopt an application form for groups to use when seeking donations from the Board. The form will include a space designated "for office use only" so that the Board can track whether the goals of the donation were met.

5. Discussion of parking changes on University Avenue: Larry James spoke to the Board and asked for its approval of changing parking restrictions on University between ML King and 31st. At present, rush hour restrictions prohibit parking on the north side between 4-6 p.m., and the south side between 7-9 a.m. The proposal would be to change the restrictions to two-hours. Discussion followed.

Heidi moved and Bill seconded that the DNA support the concept of this parking change pending Drake's review of it. Motion carried with an aye vote. Dolph abstained.

6. New Vice President: Dave said that Carl can't continue as V.P. and wants to step down; he may be resigning from the Board, as well. **Heidi moved and Bill seconded that the Board accept Carl's resignation as Vice President. Motion carried with an aye vote.**

Dave said that the DNA needs to choose a V.P. since there's a significant chance he won't be returning to Drake next semester. A V.P. would likely become president in June rather than January. Marty said she would accept the nomination as V.P. **The Board unanimously approved Marty as the new V.P.**

The Board discussed members' attendance at meetings. If a member misses three meetings, the Board has the option of voting that person off. Dave will ask Carl if he wants to continue on the Board and will e-mail Donya and Bruce about attendance. All members are expected to notify the president in advance if they cannot attend a meeting.

7. Discussion of 3650 Cottage Grove: Dave and the Board discussed this property and plans for its future. Dave said it will be a home for veterans who've had problems. It's scheduled to open April 15. Dave said Ed Leedom says that the owner will come and talk with us. Dave will forward information about the house to the Board.

8. Kum & Go Update: Dave says there's not much to report at the moment. The DNA needs a task force to meet with Kum & Go. (Jennifer Sayers will serve on it as a representative of the Drake Business Association; Dolph said he can sit on it as a representative from Drake, which is neutral on the matter.) Representing the DNA on the

task force will be Dave, Bill, and Jennifer and Larry James. Dave said this task force will come back to the DNA's March meeting with a resolution.

9. New Membership Booklets: Heidi referred to the new membership booklets. She and Jennifer Sayers will be working on a new membership brochure. The goal is to increase DNA membership by 100, which would be a 20% hike. They will e-mail DNA letterhead to all Board members.

10. Organization Reports

Drake University: Dolph said there will be a meeting on Tuesday, March 7 at 6 p.m. in Levitt Hall for the boards of nearby neighborhood groups, the Neighborhood Advisory Council, the principal of Roosevelt High School and security personnel to discuss night high school football games at Drake Stadium. He said this is not a public hearing, but is open to board members only.

Drake will hold an event to mark the "setting of the lights" for the stadium and the softball field. Lights will need to be on for five days straight, 24 hours per day. Drake will get this information out to people. Jon asked Dolph to be sure that Drake, at a minimum, notifies every resident along Meek Ave. and 28th Street.

April 15 will be the scrub day for DNA and nearby neighborhoods. Also, Drake will be celebrating 100 years of men's basketball this coming weekend.

Drake Business Association and other DNA committees: No report this month.

11. Jennifer James on Drake Neighborhood History: Jennifer James presented on celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Drake neighborhood. There will be a history lecture on March 4 from 10 a.m. to noon at First Christian.

Trish and Bonnie will coordinate the schedule of quarterly meetings.

The meeting adjourned.

Drake Neighborhood Association
Board Minutes
(pending Board approval)

March 8, 2006
First Christian Church

Board members present: Dave Courard-Hauri, President; Trish Davis, Treasurer; Jon Krieg, Secretary; Bonnie Hall; Donya Harvey; Joachim Jonassen; Bill LaHay; Eldon McAfee; Carl McPherson; Dolph Pulliam; Jennifer Sayers; Marty Schmidt; Bruce Wilson

Board member absent: Dean Blum, Heidi Wessels

Dave called the meeting to order. Ben Alloway thanked the DNA for its support of the very successful Thresholds Festival.

1. Approval of February 8, 2006 Board Minutes. Jennifer moved and Dolph seconded approval of the February 8, 2006 Board minutes. Motion carried with an aye vote.

2. Treasurer's Report: Trish gave the treasurer's report.

3. NBSD Report/Related Topics: Ed Leedom reported on a public nuisance property at 1228 31st St. Michael Lake, owner of the four-plex at 1019 28th Street, has filed for bankruptcy. There's been a lot of graffiti recently; Deb Richardson relayed her apprehension of one suspect recently.

Deb reported on complaints at 1118, 1120 and 1122 26th Street. DMPD Patrol and Narcotics know about the problems. There was a recent drug arrest at 1122 26th. Deb relayed statistics from the past two months about calls for service for the Drake area. For the next DNA meeting, Deb will bring maps to show a comparison of crime throughout the city.

Deb visited the half-way house at 3650 Cottage Grove for a second time. Dolph has also spoken with the owner.

Dave said that Mayor Frank Cownie wants to visit each neighborhood association meeting in the city. Angela Connolly, Polk County Supervisor, will attend the April DNA meeting.

4. Discussion of Signage Needs – Marty said that we want to increase signage for the house tour this year. Two four-foot by four-foot signs would cost \$485.13. These would be in addition to our current signs. **Jennifer moved and Trish seconded approval of \$485.13 for two large signs for the house tour; motion carried on an aye vote.** More information will be sought about yard signs, which will be discussed again in April.

National Night-Out will be August 1. The DNA will hold its quarterly meeting then at Drake Park. We're open to ideas on music and food.

5. Discussion of Sculpture for Michael Thomas Memorial Garden – Dave introduced Jay and John Brommel. John is a metal sculptor, and Jay is his agent. They talked about John's work and what might be appropriate for the Garden at Cottage Grove and Kingman. The Garden Committee will work further with the Brommels. Marty will report to the Board.

6. Botanical Center Plant Giveaway – Trish said order forms are available for flowers. Next year, we'll put the notice in the DNA newsletter.

7. Discussion of Roosevelt Football Games at Night at Drake Stadium – Dolph said that last night a number of representatives from Drake met with Councilman Vlassis, representatives from Roosevelt and neighbors to address parking and security concerns about night high school football games at Drake Stadium. Crowds are expected to number around 3000. Fans will be asked to park in the Tennis Center lot and other Drake lots. There will be a plan in place to get people out of the neighborhood following games. There will also be more foot traffic to the games. Varsity games would start around 7 p.m. and conclude by 9 or 9:30 p.m. Roosevelt, not Drake, will market the games. Junior Varsity games will be played Friday afternoons. There may also be Thursday night games, too.

On the Friday evening of Relays, April 28, fireworks will help kick off the newly remodeled stadium. Drake will provide 200 tickets for neighborhood residents; those interested should contact Dolph. Dolph said Drake will consider flyering 28th Street and Meek. Jon urged Drake to make every effort to keep nearby neighbors informed. Dolph relayed Drake President David Maxwell's invitation for neighbors to be in touch directly with him regarding any concerns. Dave noted that a lot of people are excited about Roosevelt playing football again at Drake Stadium.

8. Jazz in July – Marty said Jazz in July is changing to involve bigger and fewer concerts. We could let others sponsor concerts, or the DNA could sponsor every two or three years. Dave said he'd like Heidi to be part of this discussion, so we'll address it at the next meeting.

9. Organization Reports

Drake University: Dolph said the neighborhood "scrub day" will be April 15, with a picnic as an incentive. The DNA contributed \$150 last year. **Dolph moved and Carl seconded that the DNA contribute \$150 for scrub day, and the motion carried with an aye vote.** Volunteers are needed to help people unload.

Dolph discussed his meeting with Jerry Murphy, the owner of 3650 Cottage Grove. It will be a group home for veterans, one or two of whom may have had drug or alcohol

problems. The main focus is to train them as entrepreneurs. The home will open April 13. It would be good for Jerry to come to a DNA board meeting, followed by a site visit.

Drake Business Association: Jennifer said the DBA did not have a quorum. The ball is starting to roll regarding streetscape plans. Drake University, the DBA, the DNA will be part of a task force working with the city.

Special Events: Marty said the Kingman Island Cruise will probably occur in later August. Dolph said Drake frosh arrive the third week of August. Bonnie distributed calendars of upcoming events.

Communications: Jennifer said the DNA Web site has been updated. There will be more to report next month.

Beautification: Bill said an e-mail will go out soon regarding flowers. He's spoken with Jackie D. regarding signage.

Volunteers are needed to help organize stuff donated on Scrub Day. Items could be sold during the House Tour. **Bill moved and Jennifer seconded that the DNA provide \$25 in "salvage bucks" as an incentive to volunteers; motion carried with an aye vote.**

10. Kum & Go Update – Dave said Kum & Go has asked P&Z for a continuance until April 20. There have been no further meetings, although the task force will likely meet at the end of March.

11. Other Items – Bonnie said it would be helpful for each DNA board member to write a non-time-sensitive article for the newsletter and submit it to Denise McAfee. (Please copy in Dave.) The Drake Relays parade will be April 22. Bill has a trailer we can use for the DNA float.

Dave agreed to coordinate the DNA water station for runners on April 29.

Bonnie said the May quarterly meeting will feature historic gardening appropriate for shady neighborhoods. August 1 will be National Night Out. In December, a mini-shopping extravaganza is in the works with the DBA.

The meeting adjourned.

Drake Neighborhood Association
Board Minutes
(pending Board approval)

April 12, 2006
First Christian Church

Board members present: Dave Courard-Hauri, President; Marty Schmidt, Vice-President; Trish Davis, Treasurer; Jon Krieg, Secretary; Bonnie Hall; Bill LaHay; Eldon McAfee; Carl McPherson; Dolph Pulliam; Jennifer Sayers; Heidi Wessels; Bruce Wilson

Board members absent: Dean Blum; Donya Harvey; Joachim Jonassen

Dave called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of March 8, 2006 Board Minutes. Dolph moved and Heidi seconded approval of the March 8, 2006 Board minutes. Motion carried with an aye vote.

2. Treasurer's Report: Trish gave the treasurer's report.

3. NBSD Report/Related Topics: Dave and Ed Leedom met with Mark Caples, the landlord of 1118, 1120 and 1122 26th Street regarding problem tenants. Some of the tenants have been evicted. Neighbors are tired of the ongoing problems. Dave will send a letter to Mr. Caples expressing the DNA's concern.

Ed and Deb Richardson discussed other neighborhood concerns. "No Loitering" signs have been posted at the Kum & Go on 22nd and University. Deb reviewed the numbers of "calls for service" for March 2006.

Ed has been inundated with housing inspections. Members discussed concerns about problems at specific residences. Volunteers are needed for Scrub Day on April 15, for the Drake Parade on April 22, and the water station on April 29.

4. Alice Rodine Nominations – Dolph moved and Jennifer seconded that the DNA nominate the following people for the Alice Rodine Awards: Larry James, business person; Ed Leedom, City worker. Motion carried with an aye vote.

5. Kum & Go Update – Dave provided members with an update on Kum & Go's plans for its store at 31st and University. Kum & Go has requested a continuance with Planning and Zoning until June 1. **Jennifer moved and Heidi seconded that the DNA support the continuance for Kum & Go. Motion carried, with Bonnie voting nay.**

6. Jazz in July concerts – Jean Samson, director of Friends of Drake Arts, and the DNA Board discussed Jazz in July options. Drake's Jazz Band will play at Harmon Fine Arts Center on Wednesday, July 19 or July 26; either date could be tied with neighborhood's Farmers Market. We'll want to put all area arts events in the DNA newsletter. **Bonnie**

moved and Jon seconded that the DNA contribute \$150 for the Jazz in July concert at Drake. Motion carried with an aye vote.

Dave and Heidi said that the DNA has also been asked to partner with the Playhouse for a Jazz in July event. **Heidi moved and Eldon seconded that the DNA contribute up to \$150 for a Jazz in July concert at the Playhouse. Motion carried with an aye vote.** Heidi said that the amount could be less if more sponsors are found.

7. Discussion of Community Garden Release for Carpenter Square – Teva Dawson of Park and Recreation spoke with the board regarding the possibility of the DNA taking over the maintenance of Carpenter Square at the intersection of 25th Street, Kingman and Cottage Grove. The agreement would be for three years, subject to renewal. The DNA will run this proposed agreement by our insurance agent first. Dave said the DNA will review this proposal at the May meeting; if approval is needed before that, it could be sought via e-mail.

8. Organization Reports

Drake University: Dolph said the April 1st “Adopt a Block” event went well. Drake will be turning on the lights at the stadium one evening soon for neighbors to give input on them. Dolph distributed free tickets for the Friday evening, April 28 session of the Relays, which will conclude with fireworks. Dolph said that Tom Davis, Drake Men’s basketball coach, is interested in encouraging more neighborhood members to attend games. Drake will hold special nights, with free tickets and flyers mailed to homes in the neighborhood. Drake will ask the City for a list of neighbors; this is a list the DNA can use, as well.

Drake Business Association: Jennifer said the DBA will be in the Relays parade. The streetscape task force meeting will be on May 5.

Civic Affairs: Dave said there was no report.

Special Events: Marty said there was no report.

Calendar: Bonnie reminded members of the newsletter deadlines. The next DNA quarterly meeting will be May 6 at 10 a.m.; the meeting will feature an expert on four-season gardening. Plantings at Carpenter Square, Kingman Islands and Drake Park will happen on May 20.

Membership: Heidi said the draft of the brochure will be out soon.

Communications: Jennifer said she met with Denise McAfee to review the DNA’s \$4000 communications budget for the year. We print 400 newsletters per issue, and the DNA’s Web site is up to date, including minutes and upcoming events.

Beautification: Bill said the streetscape task force is looking at benches and flowers along University Avenue and other locales.

9. Other Topics – Members discussed traffic issues at the intersections of 42nd and Kingman and 35th and University. Bill said neighbors on his block (41st Street between University and Forest) will be meeting with City officials next week; neighbors may request a letter from the DNA at its May meeting.

Dave said that hopes are high for the DNA's involvement in the 10th anniversary of the Farmers Market, which will open June 7.

Heidi gave an update on the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Applications are due May 1, the meeting to present the proposals is May 17, and selections will be made in June. Marty said she will help Heidi prepare an application; Dave will look for the April 2001 application for review purposes. Neighborhood support would be crucial.

The meeting adjourned.

Drake Neighborhood Association
Board Minutes
(pending approval)

May 10, 2006
First Christian Church

Board members present: Dave Courard-Hauri, President; Marty Schmidt, Vice-President; Trish Davis, Treasurer; Jon Krieg, Secretary; Dean Blum; Bonnie Hall; Joachim Jonassen; Bill LaHay; Eldon McAfee; Carl McPherson; Dolph Pulliam; Jennifer Sayers; Heidi Wessels; Bruce Wilson

Board member absent: Donya Harvey

Dave called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Approval of April 12, 2006 Board Minutes. The minutes of the April 12, 2006 meeting were corrected to show Trish, not Bonnie, voting nay on item #5. **Carl moved and Heidi seconded approval of the April 12, 2006 Board minutes as corrected. Motion carried with an aye vote.** Start and end times will be added to the minutes.

2. Treasurer's Report: Trish gave the treasurer's report.

3. NBSD Report/Related Topics: Deb Richardson reported on recent public safety issues in the neighborhood, including ongoing concerns in the 1100 block of 26th St. Ed Leedom and Deb will stay on top of developments at 1016 24th Street, the site of six rental units for ex-offenders.

Ed reported on upcoming inspections he will perform in the 1000 block of 28th Street and 2600 Kingman.

Complaints about weeds should be addressed to the County Weed Commission at 286-3005.

4. Angela Connolly: Angela Connolly, a member of the Polk County Board of Supervisors, spoke about current and future County projects. She also responded to questions.

5. DNA Brochure – Heidi said that Jennifer is finalizing the layout of the DNA brochure, which will be ready in time for the Historic Home Tour. **Carl moved and Bonnie seconded that a select group of DNA Board members be empowered to review and approve the DNA brochure. Motion carried with an aye vote.**

Dave said he will distribute information via e-mail about the King-Irving Bike Trail.

6. Application for Neighborhood Revitalization Program – Dave said the DNA is one of eight neighborhood associations competing for three spots with the NRP. Receiving

this designation would provide for critical infrastructure improvements for our neighborhood. Heidi will present the DNA application on May 17; all Board members are strongly encouraged to attend. Diversity of participation from our neighborhood is key to a successful application.

7. Historic Home Tour – Marty gave an update on progress for the home tour, which has taken in over \$2000 in donations. Deb said she will look into providing mounted patrols during the event. All Board members are strongly encouraged to volunteer for the home tour.

8. Michael Garden Project – Marty also updated members on the Michael Garden project. Volunteers are needed to plant flowers on May 20.

Trish said it will cost the DNA \$50-100 in extra insurance to take over the maintenance of Carpenter Square/Michael Garden from the City. Trish will look into costs of workers compensation insurance. The agreement would be for three years, subject to renewal.

Dolph moved and Carl seconded that the DNA sign the agreement with the City regarding the maintenance of Michael Garden. Motion carried with an aye vote.

9. Annual Goal Assessment/New Brochure – Dave said our goal is to increase Board membership by 10 people per Board member. According to Denise, the DNA has 20 new members since January, but almost that many members have left. We are not making good progress toward that goal.

The new DNA brochure will help in our efforts. The upcoming Historic Home Tour and other events will help, as well. **Trish moved and Bonnie seconded that the DNA approve up to \$250 for printing the new DNA brochure. Motion carried with an aye vote.**

Dave said the Drake Farmers Market opens its 10th year on June 7 at 4 p.m. It would be good for DNA members to be visible at the market. First Christian Church needs volunteers to help with the market.

10. Organization Reports

Drake University: Dolph said that Drake University is trying to get better control of how the name “Drake” is used. Drake’s director of marketing and communication will be invited to a Board meeting to share more about this.

This year’s Scrub Day resulted in less material than in past years.

Drake is working on more renovations of residence halls and classrooms this summer. Construction of new student housing and retail on the west side of 31st Street between Carpenter and University will begin this summer, with completion set for 2008.

Roughly 850 students will participate in new student week, beginning August 26. Drake is looking for two-hour community service opportunities and projects. The projects will be within the Drake Neighborhood.

Drake Business Association: Jennifer said the DBA has set September 30 for the Dogtown Festival. It's hoped that the DNA will have a booth there. A streetscape meeting was held last week with the City, which has hired a consultant to help with that effort. The Jazz in July proposal was accepted; sponsors will include the Farmers Market, DBA, Drake University, DNA and Metro Arts.

Civic Affairs: Dave said there was no report.

Special Events: Marty said the DNA has four large signs posted regarding the Historic Home Tour.

Calendar: Bonnie said the next DNA quarterly meetings will be held on Sunday, September 10 at 5 p.m. and Sunday, December 3 at 5 p.m. At the latter, it's proposed that the DNA hold a joint meeting with the DBA.

Membership: Heidi said there was no further report.

Communications: Jennifer said there was no report.

Beautification: Bill said 179 plants earmarked for DNA use will be provided May 19. Volunteers are needed to help plant. Also, the Downtown Community Alliance pulls up plants quarterly; these plants are available for neighbors to use. Bill added his thanks to Deb regarding a very positive "traffic calming" meeting held for 25 households on his block of 41st Street.

Further discussion was held regarding needs for the Kingman Island plantings. Dave said Bill can make an executive decision regarding mulch. Marty will get the water meter.

11. Polk County Community Improvement Grants – Heidi said applications for Polk County Community Improvement grants are due in October. If anyone has ideas for these grants, please share them with Heidi.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Drake Neighborhood Association
Minutes from Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Called to order: 7:04 p.m.

Board Members Present: David Courard-Hauri, Bruce Wilson, Trish Davis, Bonnie Hall, Carl McPherson, Jacqui DiGiacinto, Marty Schmitt, Bill LaHay, Dean Blum

Others in attendance, Jade Negel, Jen James, Deb Richardson, Ed, Tim Johnson, John Wells, Kyle Larson, Larry James, Jr., Pam Lewis

Jen James spoke on a proposal for the Drake Neighborhood Quasquicentennial Events, Saturday September 20, 2006. The DNA Preservation Awards can be given out. Nomination forms would need to be circulated and 3 judges from outside the neighborhood would be chosen. Looking into having Lowes or Home Depot be a corporate sponsor, giving gift cards.

Questions:

Trish: Would the winners need to be members of the DNA?

Jen: No, this could be a membership marketing opportunity

The DNA agreed to support this event. Future discussions will happen so financial support can eventually be passed.

7:13 p.m.

Approval of the agenda, moved by Karl and seconded by Bruce
Approval of the minutes (Marty's last name is spelled incorrectly), moved by Bruce and seconded by Bonnie

7:14 p.m.

Treasurer's report

NBSD Report

Deb Richardson:

- There was a drug-related drive-by shooting in front of Double-Deuce
- West End Lounge has been having problems with patrons. A fire extinguisher was opened and bottles were thrown at the bar. In an unrelated episode, a pig head was found on top of their dumpster. Although it was discussed, this is not believed to be cult-related, because other aspects common to that type of activity have not been observed.
- Spoke with Mr. Hiskey at the Laundromat about removing his pay phone. The person who owns the pay phone offered Mr. Hiskey more money to continue operating it.
- Deb was involved in a car chase today involving marijuana.

If anyone sees anything suspicious, call 911 and then leave a message on Deb's cell phone, 971-0701.

- Nate Jones bought the property at 1118 26th Street and 1122 26th Street. There appears to be a guy dealing with help from a white female.
- The pole camera on 22nd Street and University has been delayed due to need for it to be reallocated.

DNA suggestions:

- Get rid of Hiskey's pay phone
- Do more with Nate Jones' property
- Get Nate Jones to attend the next board meeting and ask him to explain what his future plans are for that property.

May stats were passed around

- Carl explains how people are afraid to call the police because of the chance of retaliation. Deb's suggestion, call 911 and a car will show up at your house, or call 283-4811 and no car will show up.

Ed:

- There have been a lot of DPQ calls (disturbing peace and quiet) around Germania Drive.
- Gang graffiti seems to be on the rise. Within the last 2 days, there have been 10 graffiti calls.
- Much overgrowth in the alleys
- Lots of housing inspections are happening
- The gang activity can be attributed to the summer and the gang visitors from Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis and Kansas City.
- We will need to set up a goal-setting meeting soon. The City Manager's office wants the new goals for the neighborhoods delivered in a report by the middle of July
 - Jacqui DiGiacinto has agreed to get a room at Olmsted Center of Drake's campus.
 - Suggested dates: Tuesday, June 27th or Thursday, June 29th at 7 p.m.

John Wells spoke about the Tyler House

- 1016 – 1018 24th Street
- Rents to newly sober men
- This is not an institutional place
- His tenants have been sober for some time before moving in
- They have month-to-month leases
- No tenant is permanently there
- No one is forced to stay
- They must follow 4 rules to live there
 - STAY SOBER
 - Be employed

- If on probation, they must complete all probation requirements
- Must go to AA meetings
- There is a live-in-manager on site
- John's office number is: 243-2318
- This is not a half-way house. There are no group meetings, no files on tenants, not licensed through the state and no therapy sessions.

8:03 p.m. Kyle Larson from the City of Des Moines spoke on the University Avenue Streetscape Project
\$2500 was requested from the DNA to help with the conceptual drawing process. Moved by Bruce and seconded by Carl. Passed. This will need to be finalized at the next meeting.

8:17 p.m. The 1,000 Friends of Iowa spoke about the Walkability and Bikeability Audit for the Drake Neighborhood.

Jade Negel encouraged us to go to MPO Meetings to discuss alternative transportation options.

DNA has agreed to have a walkability and bikeability audit late July or early August. David will schedule it with Jade.

8:31 p.m. Larry James, Jr. spoke about the changes happening with the Merrill Apartment Building.

- The building is being converted to condos.
- Working with current tenants to help relocate them
- After July 4th, the renovations will begin
- Going back to the original floor plan: 8 apartments
- Starting price around \$109K - \$169.9K
- Adding garages, central air, updating fixtures and electrical

8:36 p.m. DNA Brick Lot

We got a Thistle in the DM Reg due to the weed problem

We need to get all salvageable bricks out – will pay to have someone do it

8:43 p.m. Porter Dimery Garden

Pam Lewis from the Ingleside Hills Neighborhood came to invite us to the memorial service this Saturday at 11 a.m. (Clark & 23rd Streets). A dedication service will be held for the triangle park in memory of Porter Dimery.

OLD BUSINESS

House Tour:

- HUGE SUCCESS
- Got memberships

- Tons of people (635 paid tickets, plus about 40 free tickets)
- The mounted police were excellent
- Would like to put an urn in the Michael Garden. It is \$800 and originally prepared for the St. Louis World Fair.
- Request for donation to the mounted police of \$250, moved by Carl and seconded by Bill

NRP

- Voted to support staff recommendations
- THIS DOES NOT COME WITH AN AUTOMATIC **NFC** DESIGNATION

9:08 p.m.

Jazz in July

- Partnering with the Friends of Drake Arts

Drake University

- The Ray Society is looking for new members
- DU will be meeting with DNA regarding the streetscape

Business Association

- No report

Civic Affairs

- Get Nate to come to the next meeting

Special Events

- Kingman Island Cruise is in September
- National Night Out is August 1, 2006 at the Drake Park. We will be contacting Ron Carr for assistance

Adjourned, 9:25 p.m.

Drake Neighborhood Association : Board Meeting minutes from August 9, 2006

Members present: Marty Schmitt, Trisha Davis, Dean Blum, Bonnie Hall, Bill LaHay, Eldon McAfee, Dolph Pulliam, Heidi Wessels, Bruce Wilson.

Members absent: David Courard-Hauri, Joachim Jonassen, Jennifer Sayers, Carl McPherson.

Others in attendance: Ed Leedom, Mohammed Khan, Ward Lutzi, JoAnn Muldoon, Larry James Jr.

Call to order: 7:02 p.m. As arranged previously, Marty Schmitt presided over the meeting because David was unable to attend.

July meeting minutes were approved, although it was noted that little of the after-presentation discussion of the Drake University proposed construction project on the west campus was included. Motion to approve: Dolph P. Second: Bonnie. Ayes carried.

Trish issued the Treasurer's report with current balances, which did not reflect the \$2,500 the DNA will contribute toward the design fee for the Drake area streetscaping project. Trish also provided a categorized YTD outline of budget tallies and expenditures.

NBSD report: (Deb Richardson on duty with DMPD at state fair.)

Ed Leedom reported that a citywide meeting for NBSD managers was held on August 6; some preliminary figures were available re: enforcement, citations, etc. Ed will provide an end-of-year assessment similar to one he compiled for us in 2005. Many numbers were up, but Ed noted that some of these statistics reflected improvement in the neighborhood. For example, more enforcement was done via proactive patrolling and drive-by evaluations rather than in response to neighbor complaints. Also, reported violations tended to be minor in nature, indicating that severe or major code violations were less of a problem.

New business

o Mohammed Khan from the Muslim Community Organization appeared to request DNA letter in support for a request for variance at the MCO property at 1163 25th Street. At issue is a requirement for a 35-foot property setback for buildings used in a public capacity, as their center is. Ed agreed to track down specific info on the variance and how it might affect immediate and long-term use of the property. Heidi reminded the board that DNA bylaws require 7-days notice before taking action or a vote on such issues; we will revisit this request at the September board meeting.

o Ward Iutzi and JoAnn Muldoon from the King Irving Neighborhood Association presented their request for DNA support of early development work on bike trail improvements in the KI neighborhood. There were some discrepancies regarding local residents' support for the request, where apparently no official vote had been taken. Also, Marty noted that it is our policy not to take action on matters outside DNA boundaries, even though this bike trail might eventually connect to the Drake Neighborhood. Bill made an initial motion to send only a letter of general support expressing our support for bike trails in the city, but after the aforementioned discussion the motion was voted down.

o Heidi presented an explanation of a grant program for home weatherization and how it might be implemented in the neighborhood. The program provides matching funds up to \$100 per residence for making improvements in weatherstripping, insulation, and other energy-saving upgrades. If we participate, DNA members/volunteers would have to identify eligible households and help install the materials. Discussion raised concerns of too little time to meet a September 16 application deadline and not enough DNA volunteers to participate. This is the second year of a 5-year program, so we may be able to plan ahead and participate in the future.

o Dolph announced that Aug 26 was scheduled as a Drake student work day, and mentioned that students would be working on four projects: distributing DNA membership flyers, cleaning up weeds etc in the

Michael Thomas Memorial Garden, helping with a cleanup in Drake Park, and a litter patrol near ML King Blvd and Cottage Grove Ave. He mentioned that each of the four projects required one adult coordinator, and asked that anyone interested in volunteering contact him.

- o Dog Town Fest will be held on Saturday, Sept 30. Larry James Jr. is the event chairman and will be assisted by Dolph and others. Eldon moved that we repeat our DNA support (\$750 in 2005) for this year. Bruce seconded. Motion passed with 1 nay, 8 ayes.

- o Trish has continued to explore the options for DNA to get official nonprofit status as a 501c3 entity, and has talked with local attorney Bob Oberbilling about the possibility of his acting as a consultant for us in this process. Bonnie offered a motion to authorize further meetings with Oberbilling to explore the pros/cons of this step; Dolph seconded; motion carried with unanimous aye vote.

- o DNA real estate lots near Cottage Grove Ave & freeway: We own 3 of 4 lots, the other is owned by Larry James (Sr.?), who has expressed interest in purchasing the DNA lots in order to move several houses from 30th Street that have to be relocated or demolished for the planned Drake University "west village" (not its official name) project. Trish moved that we obtain a free market assessment from a local realtor, then discuss/vote later on whether to pay for a full appraisal. Bruce seconded. Motion passed with unanimous aye vote.

Drake University report (Dolph)

- o Dolph announced that he is to be inducted into the Iowa African-American Hall of Fame on Friday, August 11. Congratulations were offered. There was much rejoicing.

- o Dolph announced that the Drake University Event Pass cards formerly mailed to only DNA members will now be sent to all neighborhood residents in order to promote greater community involvement and attendance at Drake events.

DABA report (Dolph)

- o The DABA hosted a Business After Hours event on July 27

- o The Greater Des Moines Junior League has decided to relocate from its downtown location and has selected the Drake area for its new site, though a specific property has not been determined.

Special Events

- o Marty asked about interest in a Kingman Island Cruise this year. Discussion raised concerns of too many events in Sept to be able to manage another. Trish moved that no KIC be held this year; Bill seconded; motion carried.

- o Review of National Night Out at Drake Park: low attendance due to not enough planning and promotion. Witmer Park was mentioned as an alternate site in the future, if the event location rotates. Heidi volunteered to help with early planning for next year's event.

- o A DNA sale of architectural salvage items (mostly doors and wood trim) is Scheduled for Saturday Aug 12, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Joachim will be coordinating; Bill and Dean volunteered to help take shifts on Friday evening (prep) or Saturday.

Membership

- o Heidi mentioned the need for more membership brochures. The last order of 500 cost \$420 to print; she will get info on costs for ordering another, possibly larger, batch this year.

- o With recent departure of Jon Krieg from board, and unresolved status of Donya Harvey, we will be nominating new board members. Marty will contact David re: candidates.



Drake
**NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Established in 1979

P.O. Box 41128
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
271-4663
President: 205-2158; fax 244-4618
E-mail: info@drakeneighborhood.org
Web: www.drakeneighborhood.org

"I-235 to Franklin Ave. & 42nd St. to Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy"

Board of Directors

David Courard-Hauri, Pres	Eldon McAfee
Marty Schmitt, V.P.	Dolph Pulliam
Trish Davis, Treas.	Pam Rothlauf
Dean Blum	Jennifer Sayers
Bonnie Hall	Carl McPherson
Joachim Jonassen	Heidi Wessels
Bill LaHay	Bruce Wilson

**Drake Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting
Thursday, December 7th, 2006, 6 p.m. St. George Greek Orthodox Church**

6:00: Greetings

6:20: Eat Dinner

6:40: Presentation on Streetscape Project

7:15: Introduction of Candidates for Board, by-law change proposal, and voting

7:30: Presentation of Gladys Burkhead Award

Dolph Pullium (Drake)
Vince Rubino (12/31/11) X
Dean Blum (12/31/10)
Kendall Dillon (12/31/10) X
Claudia Schabel (12/31/11)X
Bill Cappuccio (12/31/11) X
Eldon McAfee (12/31/11) X
Deric Gourd (12/31/10) X
Cyndi Chen (12/31/11) X
Trish Davis (12/31/10) X
David Courard-Hauri X
Kevin VenHaus (12/31/10) (12/31/11) X
Betsey Qualley (12/31/10)
Bruce Wilson (12/31/11)
Eric Moore, NBSD
Sgt. Mulford X
Ed Leedom, NBSD

Kendall called the meeting to order at 7:02

22nd & University Marie Apartments will be vacated soon. Generally things have been quiet. Crime incidence in Drake Neighborhood is down 22%.

Drake University Report: Dean sent out message to students saying that community is safe in light of recent reports about claimed, later rescinded, claim of abduction. Board agreed to send a letter to President Maxwell highlighting the importance of the relationship between the Neighborhood and the University and thanki

Minutes: Dave move approval, Bill Seconded, approved on voice vote.

Drake Neighborhood Plan: Eldon moved approval of the draft plan, Bill seconded, approved on voice vote. Deric discussed Streetscape aspect of the implementation.

Kendall: City's liquor ordinance passed, which should be beneficial for the neighborhood.

Witmer project/Closest Creek update: Hoping to get all of the material purchased by the 15th of December. Looks like

The Board thanked Vince for his service, and Kendall for her term as President.

Minutes for the Drake Neighborhood Association Board
December 8, 2010

Present: Kendall Dillon, Claudia Schabel, Bill Cappuccio, Eldon McAfee, Deric Gourd, Cyndi Chen, Trish Davis, David Courard-Hauri, Kevin VenHaus, Vince Rubino, Sgt. Mulford

Kendall called the meeting to order at 7:02

NBSD Report: 22nd & University Marie Apartments will be vacated soon. Generally things have been quiet. Crime incidence in Drake Neighborhood is down 22% over last year.

Drake University: Drake's Provost sent out message to students saying that community is safe in light of recent reports about the claim, later rescinded, of abduction. Board agreed to send a letter to President Maxwell highlighting the importance of the relationship between the Neighborhood and the University and thanking him for the use of Leavitt Hall for our quarterly meeting.

Minutes: Dave moved approval, Bill Seconded, approved on voice vote.

Drake Neighborhood Plan: Eldon moved approval of the draft plan, Bill seconded, approved on voice vote. Deric discussed Streetscape aspect of the implementation.

Kendall: City's liquor ordinance passed, which should be beneficial for the neighborhood.

Witmer project/Closest Creek update: People working on the project are hoping to get all of the material purchased by the 15th of December, in line with the grant extension they were given. This seems like a reasonable expectation, and Kevin said he is ready to purchase the plants.

The Board thanked Kendall for all of the wonderful work that she has done as President, and also thanked Vince for his service (he will be leaving neighborhood soon, and this was his last meeting).

Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

January 13, 2010

1. Guest: George Shade – US Census
2. Guest: Brook Wennerstrum – Recovery in Action, 1007 33rd Street
3rd house—requesting a variance. 1007 33rd St. Don't plan any changes. Will have 8 individuals in the house. Will be for men who are coming out of treatment Have worked with Union Park and Highland Park. They also have a duplex on 30th St. There would **not** be a manager living there. There are mandatory weekly meetings—house person who runs meetings and such. The house person is a resident who has a little bit of seniority. Requirements: must be sober, member of RIA, be employed. People generally stay about a year. Six months is a short stay.
3. NBSD Report Eric Moore/Ed Leedom
1075 26th has been public nuisanced.
2915 Cottage Grove. Meth bust in November, continuing issues.
Public works is who to call about snow on the sidewalk.
4. Police Report Sgt. Dave Mulford
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Treasurer's Report Dean Blum
\$38,029 in savings, some 3,000 in checking
7. Planning Subcommittee Update Dean Blum
8. Planning Subcommittees 5&6
Need co-chairs for Commercial and Crime/Safety subcommittees
9. DNA Design Contest Trish Davis
10. Critelli Properties – collaboration with Sherman Hill
11. CDBG Grant Funding Update Claudia Schabel
12. January 23 Planning Session Claudia
13. DNA Property for Sale Eldon McAfee

Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Major Decisions
January, 2010

Recovery in Action requested DNA support for zoning adjustment at 1007 33rd St to allow eight unrelated residents in a single family home. Board decided against taking a position because there is not enough time to get feedback from neighbors, and agreed to write a letter to that effect for the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

The Board agreed to sell the DNA property at **2201 Carpenter Ave** for the amount offered (\$250), assuming that the buyer pays all closing costs.

Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Major Decisions
February, 2010

The City requested Board input on the **Recovery in Action** proposal (1007 33rd St.), given that neighbor feedback had been obtained. The Board agreed to write a letter stating that we are opposed to a zoning exception that would allow 8 unrelated people in that property, but do not object to the current situation with 4.

The sale of **2201 Carpenter Ave** fell through because the buyer backed out.

A delay in the City improvement schedule means that the grant money for **Close's Creek** near Witmer Park can no longer be used for its original purpose, and the grant recipients would like to use the money for education and improvements in the watershed. The Board voted to support the effort to find alternative uses for the money.

Bill C, Cindi, Kevin, Trish, Dean, Mac, Vince, Me

Laura Mundi, Tim Hocheman?
Terry Black from neighborhood

Meeting began at 7:02 with introductions

Heidi Wessels, Exec Director Neighborhood Development Corporation

Spoke about NDC. Nonprofit developer with projects all around the city. Worked with commercial revitalization subcommittee to understand priorities of DNA. Spoke about Forest Ave. 2104 Forest Ave (former Drake Liquor Store). Have had low attendance from DNA at meetings. Have looked at a mixed use development.

**Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express Meeting Room**

Board members present (X), term expires as noted				
X	Kristina Johnson (12/31/11)	X	Dolph Pullium (Drake)	Jennifer Thompson (12/31/11)
X	Dean Blum (12/31/12)		Kendall Dillon (12/31/12)	Erica Luna (12/31/11)
	Bill Cappuccio (12/31/11)	X	Eldon McAfee (12/31/11)	X Deric Gourd (12/31/12)
X	Cyndi Chen (12/31/11)		David Courard-Hauri (12/31/11)	X Kevin VenHaus (12/31/12)
X	Trish Davis (12/31/12)	X	Betsey Qualley (12/31/12)	Bruce Wilson (12/31/11)
	Eric Moore, NBSD		Sgt. Mulford	X Ed Leedom, NBSD

1. Call to Order

Deric called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

2. Welcome and Introductions

Guests: Jen Sayers for Roosevelt Cultural District

3. Approval of Minutes

Kevin moved to approve with corrections, Dean seconded, passed with aye vote

4. Treasurer's Report

May Financials- Dean emailed to the board and reviewed at the meeting. Cyndi moved to approve, Mac seconded, passed with aye vote.

5. NBSD Report

Ed Leedom reported that things are looking good on the west side. There are several single family homes that are currently being turned into rentals.

Deric informed us that Sgt. Mulford says that a task force is being formed to look at the Forrest Mart.

6. Sub Committee Updates

A. House Tour Update-

Trish reported on a general update after the tour last weekend. Will be planning the 2012 tour starting in the fall. Will have a post-tour meeting in July. Had good feedback about including Anawim and Habitat for Humanity. Discussed talking to Drake about

having one of their properties open for the tour next year, hoping that if we give them enough notice, they will be able to staff appropriately.

B. **Ingleside Hills Initiative** - Deric reported that the block party was successful and received great response.

C. **Rental Committee**- Kristina reported that they will be sending out a letter in the next month asking landlords to attend a meeting that will be the first step in the neighborhood plan implementation. Will be working with Home Inc. to find ways to help tenants.

D. **Website**- Deric reported that he and Bill are continuing to work on this.

E. **Volunteer/ DNA Focus Group**- Discussed having a more formal volunteer coordinator and possibly having a focus group to find out what people would like to do. Erica & Jennifer are going to administer this, likely in the fall.

F. **Foundation**- Cyndi reported that they are having a meeting next week.

9. **Drake University Update**- Dolph reported that there will be 30,000-40,000 people in the area this weekend due to the NCAA track and field meet being held. University has plans to build an entryway to Drake on 31st & University and Dolph plans to show us the plans as soon as they are available.

10. **DABA**- Dolph reported that they are now a committee of the West Side Chamber. Have started planning for Dogtown Fest (Saturday, September 24th), they will ask the DNA for support again this year.

11. Old Business

A. Deric reported that we are still in need of a Vice President

B. Discussion for the second vote for Jazz in July. Cyndi moved, Dean seconded that we support the Jazz in July with \$500, passed with aye vote.

11. New Business

A. Forestdale would like to know if we would approve \$100 for a block party for them for the 4th of July. Deric motioned that we support the Forestdale block party with a \$100 donation with the following stipulations: that all area neighbors are invited, it is open to all DNA residents, it is publicized that support was given by the DNA, and membership information is available at the party. Kevin seconded, with an aye vote. Deric will talk to Kendall about submitting/creating a form for this request.

B. Second Quarterly Meeting- Kevin will talk to Jim Miles Polk about having it at his house and contacting the mayor as a part of the grant he implemented.

C. RCD Streetscaping Proposal- Jen Sayers reported that they have received approval from the city to go forward on their project. They are currently in the first phase of fundraising. They have already received some donations and are hoping to have their first \$20,000 pledged by the Jazz in July event on July 18th. They are requesting some kind of financial support from the Drake Neighborhood Association.

We will table discussion of this after we have had time to review the plan and allow the absent board members to review as well.

D. Kevin brought up the issues that we are seeing sink holes in the islands on Kingman Blvd. Kevin will contact public works about these issues.

14. Adjourn

Deric adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm

Drake Neighborhood Association Operational Meeting Minutes
Saturday, February 4th, 2012 @ noon
Smokey Row Coffee

Board Members Present (X); term expires as noted					
	Dean Blum (12/31/12)			X	David Courard-Hauri (12/31/13)
X	Trish Davis (12/31/12)	X	Kendall Dillon (12/31/12)	X	Deric Gourd (12/31/12)
X	Kristina Johnson (12/31/12)	X	Scott Johnson (12/31/13)	X	Erica Luna (12/31/13)
	Eldon McAfee (12/31/13)	X	Eddie Robinson (12/31/13)	X	Jen Sayers (12/31/13)
X	Jennifer Thompson (12/31/12)		Eric Moore (NBSD)		Sgt Dave Mulford (NBSD)
	Teva Dawson (Parks)		Dolph Pulliam (Drake)		

Introductions

Strategic Plan (SP)

Deric: Putting together the Strategic Plan was a huge deal, it was very ambitious, but has lots of great goals. The SP will be implemented over a decade, in his opinion, and we need to take it each year at a time. So, first question is what have we accomplished in 2011?

Deric on Housing Committee: Part of the goal was to create relationships. Completing and publishing the historic survey was a huge deal, and he's glad we got it done.

Kristina: Street signs are up and look great. We did the logo and are working on branding. Glad to see that Habitat for Humanity got so many homes finished and did great work all around the northeastern part of the neighborhood.

Jen: Roosevelt Cultural District. Got the plan done, raised \$20,000 to bring to the City for a RFP for the streetscape. Thanks to the DNA for their part. They raised the money quickly, and now are going to look to raise even more for implementation. Very successful drive. Plans for the Drake Streetscape project are waiting on funding, given that Drake isn't on board. The RCD has also been a nice way to get Drake and Waveland to increase their interactions.

Trish: Potluck at the last quarterly meeting was a huge success. Lots of turnout, and was probably the largest quarterly meeting we've had recently without a clear cause.

Erica: Beginning of work with student representative has been really valuable. Hopefully we can build on that success now to tap into student organizations and their resources.

Jennifer: Archive project has been really nice as a way to build relationships with university contacts as well. Someone is not looking into a film on the history, and that may be an exciting project. Perhaps some oral history, for example.

Vision for 2012 Success

Things we need done:

Deric: website.

Jennifer: Could be a good time to develop relationships with Drake students. Students and groups have been really interested in civic engagement; perhaps we can improve here.

Erica: Combining the website and new Drake connections seems really exciting.

Jen: With business in the neighborhood, she sees a huge need to replace the DABA entity. They are responsible for getting a lot done in the SP, and somehow we need to fill this spot.

Deric and others: Lessons of DABA loss: perhaps lack of expansion or real effort to grow. Each commercial node felt like they were independent, and were happy to be a part of the group, but weren't really interested in leading. People viewed things as a focus on Dogtown only.

Kendal: communication about events, what we do as a neighborhood association, and so on. Website, newsletter, facebook.

Dave: communication as well. Plus get a VP.

Trish: Build membership up again. Thinks we can do that more with these tools.

Deric—especially working on northeast side which has often been neglected.

Scott: Sees the differences between DNA and BNA, and feels like we can really improve our communications. First reason he got involved was because of Whitmer Park. He was really sad to see the shelter of Whitmer Park, and is really excited about the SP's inclusion of WP's shelter. City is supportive of the SP, but generally has no money to get these things done.

Kristina: Newsletter and rental committee are her two big plans for this year. 26th

Eddie: Expanding the newsletter will be helpful. He thinks a large piece of the neighborhood is being overlooked, and the newsletter will assist in increasing the visibility of the neighborhood. Handing out newsletter at Farmer's Market, for example.

Deric: Block parties can be a big deal.

Kevin: Communication will be good. A lot of people think we're anti-landlord, but we're not; we work hard to deal with problem landlords. Also beautification.

Deric: DNA is the #1 neighborhood for high density rentals combined with Sherman Hill. 2010 Census block information will be coming out soon, maybe we can have someone involved come out and talk to us about this.

Deric: House tour survey. About 60% said that it was important but not more so than other events. #1 concern was crime and safety, and #2 was newsletter. Comments also suggested that people would rather we focus on communication than focus on the home tour.

Trish: Newsletter/communication/quarterly meetings/block parties can help people a lot with crime and safety issues because a lot of it is just helping people to know who to contact and what to look for.

2012 Specific Goals

Discussion: It seemed that the big four priorities that people identified for this year were communications, events, commercial, and beautification. Events included block parties, events at both neighborhood parks, scrub day, outdoor movie night, and regular events such as national night out. Outreach seems like a piece of all of the four main priorities. How could we measure it? Look at attendance at events. Looking through SP is a big part of figuring out what we want to be doing. Erica: we need to do the things we need to do to get stuff done. Things like newsletter and such. We need to organize our infrastructure, and then things should flow. Trish suggests committee reports at each board meeting.

Discussion about role of board vs. plan implementation. Deric: Let's focus on ensuring that we have committees organized, and then let committees focus on prioritizing issues in the plan.

DABA liason had been the goal of the Commercial liason. Do we want to form our own committee? John Smith from Drake might be a good person to contact about the West Side Chamber. Board decides to create a Commercial Committee.

Committee Chairs:

The Board discussed the Vice President position. Deric has had a lot of difficulty acting as president because he hasn't had anyone to help. Deric is thinking that maybe we should have two co-vice-presidents. Kristina is willing to volunteer if there are two. Trish is willing to serve for at least a year.

Commercial: Jen S.

Land Use and Zoning: Not a priority for this year, will be dealt with by the Board as needed.

Governance: Deric will chair as President. Kristina and Trish.

History: Jennifer T. and Steve Wilke-Shapiro. Jennifer claims she is not co-chair, but co-member.

Crime and Safety: Bill C.

Housing: Deric. Kristina will be on that committee as well. We'll need to build up this committee.

Rental Community Relations: Kristina and Bill C.

Marketing and Communications: Scott. Kristina will also be on it. Jen S. Trish.

M&C Workgroups:

- Newsletter. Scott.
- Website & Social Media: Kendall. Trish will help, Deric as well.
- Membership. Denise M. and Dean.

Parks and Trails: Kevin and Dave.

- Beautification. Kevin and Dave.
- Community Garden. Eddie.
- Streetscape. This will not be a priority this year. We will revisit when we have redeveloped community relations.

Volunteers: Erica

Events: Trish and Jen S. will co-chair. This committee will focus on finding people to run events, to keep the calendar, and such, rather than necessarily be the event planners.

Water Station: Scott volunteered to organize, and Deric volunteered to help out.

Budgeting Discussion:

We've never really set a budget, we just kind of spend money as things come up. It will be difficult to come up with a line-item budget. We generally bring in \$2500-\$3500 in membership. Grants: Kevin needs about \$1000 to finish off 42nd Street. This might come from Anne E. Casey or MetroWaste perhaps. Our goals put us at \$5500 - \$6000 in income, which is about what we've been having as expenses.

Newsletter discussion. Question was how much to spend on neighborhood-wide mailings. Insurance is about \$1,000, other expenses are another \$1000, events, etc. The website is going to be another \$7000. This seems like well over our expected income. Are we willing to spend down savings? Most people felt that it would be ok to spend down income. Events: \$500 for Jazz in July, \$100 per block party, \$250 for National Night Out, \$500 for donations, Farmer's Market advertising: \$800.

Goals:

Income:

Membership: \$3000-\$3500

Sponsorships: \$2500

Grants: This will be based on needs. Set goal for people to look into grants and report back.

Newsletter costs: \$5600

Operations: \$2000

Events: \$1200-\$1800

Farmer's Market: \$800

Donations: \$500

Shortfall will be \$4600-\$5200, plus \$7000

Kristina moves to approve budget, Jen seconds. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourns at 3:20.

Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 8, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express Meeting Room

Board Members Present (X); term expires as noted					
	Dean Blum (12/31/12)			X	David Courard-Hauri (12/31/13)
	Trish Davis (12/31/12)	X	Kendall Dillon (12/31/12)	X	Deric Gourd (12/31/12)
X	Kristina Johnson (12/31/12)	X	Scott Johnson (12/31/13)		Erica Luna (12/31/13)
X	Eldon McAfee (12/31/13)	X	Eddie Robinson (12/31/13)	X	Jen Sayers (12/31/13)
X	Jennifer Thompson (12/31/12)	X	Eric Moore (NBSD)		Sgt Dave Mulford (NBSD)
X	Teva Dawson (Parks)		Dolph Pulliam (Drake)		

Introductions

Guests: Amanda McReynolds (Drake); Lt. Joe Gonzalez, commander of NBSD, Bruce Wilson

Annual meeting followup: Deric suggested that in the future we should try to have it at the end of December or beginning of January. Kendall asked about identifying committee goals. We got the committees taken care of, but not committee goals. Deric would like annual goals assigned to committees by March meeting. He was also thinking that committee chairs could provide written information to the board before meetings on progress towards goals. We didn't finish setting lower-level goals, so that is something that committees need to work on, using the neighborhood plan as a basis. Starting in April, we can then give committee reports. Often that will help us to identify successes. If we got this done by the March meeting, then we could present them at the March quarterly meeting. The quarterly meeting will be before the March DNA meeting. Committee chairs should bring sign-up information, so that they can sign up volunteers when they discuss goals for the year. This might be a good opportunity to get community engagement.

Financial Report. They are not up yet.

Minutes Kendall moved approval, Kristina seconds, approved.

NBSD. Lt. Joe Gonzalez wanted to extend thanks for DNA's involvement in the community. Sgt Mulford had a stroke, but is recovering. He enjoys getting e-mails, so feel free to send those! Even though Dave is out, the neighborhood has been divided among current officers, so his duties are not being ignored. Sgt. Bernell Edwards (cell 515-205-1312) bledwards@dmgov.org is one whom we can contact if necessary. 21 total incidents of theft in the neighborhood. A few burglaries and two stolen vehicles. No information on whether burglaries seem connected. Burglaries

happen most frequently during the day because people are gone. Don't leave your doors unlocked during the day. Several arrests since summer, catching a person coming out of a house, but burglaries are generally a crime of opportunity so they don't go away. One trick people have used is one person goes to the house, knocks, if someone comes to the door they say they're looking for someone else. If not, they call the burglars who then break in. Dave is hoping to be back in 30 days. Kendall, speaking for the Board, asked that our very deep appreciation for his work in the neighborhood be passed along to him, and that our thoughts are with him. He can be e-mailed at dtmulford@aol.com.

Eric: Anawim's units have been essentially problem-free. Generally the neighborhood has been very quiet. Some graffiti especially between Cottage Grove and Rutland (29th-31st), but getting that taken care of very quickly. Junk and debris is taking a little longer to clean up because of changes regarding due process, so now the notice gives them 21 days of warning. After that, they come out, take pictures, and send certified mail to all interested parties. If the certified letters don't come back signed then they need to publish a notice. This all takes time to get done. What they're going to do in the meantime with the rental properties is to open the case and verbally afford them the opportunity to take care of it. After five days, it goes to the notification process. In the Drake Neighborhood, we have roughly 90% compliance with the 21-day notice, so often it doesn't go through the whole process. This new way of doing things came down from the state and federal level, so we don't have much choice. Emergency Action Notices are still processed within two weeks. Abandoned homes take a long time to take down as well. Cost of removal is up to around \$30,000 due to difficulty in disposing of potentially hazardous materials, so the city can only get through about five a year, and there are perhaps 80 on the list.

If we're happy with graffiti removal, send thank-you to Sharon Neff with Parks and Rec. skneff@dmgov.org

Teva: DM Parks has some money for historical signage for parks (one per park). So far they're doing one for McHenry Park. If neighborhood is interested in getting signage for the park, they'd be interested. We need to get them historical information to put a sign together. There was a grant for McHenry, but for now, if we want a sign we may need to pay for it. Teva's looking for information on what we want regarding suggested site (Drake or Whitmer), dates, and a movie. They're starting to post summer positions online.

Drake Student Volunteers: Erica has been working with Drake to involve students in volunteer opportunities. Mandy McReynolds is the service learning coordinator at Drake, coordinating class work, but also co-curricular opportunities. She's hoping to build more connections between Drake University and Neighborhood with student opportunities.

Jennifer: Central College will have a service day on April 24th, so if we have thoughts for them we should keep them in mind.

House Tour Update: The survey that we sent out suggested that respondents like the House Tour, but it's not their top priority in the neighborhood, and that most would be happy to see it run every other year or so. Interruption was not seen as terrible. Kendall moves to cancel the house tour this year, and focus on other work. Motion carries, eight in favor, one opposed.

Web Site: RFP is up; if we know someone who does that sort of thing, let Deric know and he'll get them a copy of the RFP. We'll have more information in March, and there will be movement on the issue by April. Deric has sent it to a couple of individuals, but would like more. We'll send it to Mandy at Drake in case there might be people interested.

OLD BUSINESS

Jazz in July: Metro Arts will be doing a big Latin Night Jij. We had thought about working with Waveland Park. DNA conveyed to RCD that we weren't interested in doing a solo event, and RCD isn't either. We had conveyed to them that we were interested in talking more about a joint event with RCD and Waveland. Issues with working with Waveland is that it is their big fundraiser of the year, so they expect the ability to utilize the proceeds. A number of people were concerned that DNA would be contributing money and effort, but would get little out of it. The budget for the Waveland event runs into the many thousands of dollars. Mac suggests that perhaps we think about working with Grace United Methodist Church, which is in our neighborhood and already does one. This is already in our neighborhood, so Mac suggested that this might be where we want to focus. Decision was that we decline to participate because this is a rebuilding year for us and we don't really have the resources. Perhaps instead we should think about something more like a joint pot-luck between the neighborhoods, or a movie night at RCD, or some other opportunities to build relationships with them.

Snow Ordinance Proposal: Deric has been to a number of meetings now on this topic with Carpenter and Drake Park neighborhoods and the City. The idea would be to move cars during snow events so that plows can come through quickly. The City found that there would be three areas that would be very adversely affected by the proposal. River Bend, Sherman Hill, and Drake. City will be talking to University sometime this summer about possibilities. There would be alternating days when parking would be allowed. All of this would be on signage. It will be up to us to communicate this information to our residents. Part of the neighborhood would have this type of system, the rest would have no parking on snow days (you could park after the street has been plowed). The advantage will be faster plowing, and money savings for the City.

First Quarter Membership Meeting: March 12th at the Senior Center. There will be a pot-luck. Polk County Housing Trust worked with Wells Fargo on a \$250,000 grant to do rehab on the northeast side of our neighborhood. Deric was hoping a person from PCHT could come and give us an update at the meeting. Kristina agreed to be in charge of collecting membership information.

Adjourned 8:35

**Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 14, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express Meeting Room**

Board Members Present (X); term expires as noted					
	Dean Blum (12/31/12)			X	David Courard-Hauri (12/31/13)
X	Trish Davis (12/31/12)		Kendall Dillon (12/31/12)	X	Deric Gourd (12/31/12)
X	Kristina Johnson (12/31/12)	X	Scott Johnson (12/31/13)		Erica Luna (12/31/13)
X	Eldon McAfee (12/31/13)		Eddie Robinson (12/31/13)	X	Jen Sayers (12/31/13)
	Jennifer Thompson (12/31/12)	X	Eric Moore (NBSD)		Sgt Dave Mulford (NBSD)
X	Teva Dawson (Parks)		Dolph Pulliam (Drake)		

Meeting begins 7:05

Minutes. Kevin moves approval, Trish seconds. Approved

NBSD. The Laundromat at 2703 Cottage Grove was closed due to structural problems. 1000 24th St. was vacated due to noncompliance. It had no working smoke detectors and many other issues. The manager of the building has had a number of issues in other buildings as well, but has been fired. There were some drug issues and prostitution on 21st street (1334 21st), and the owner is working on evictions there. Some of the financing fell through on the Marie Apartments, but they got that taken care of and so they'll be starting those renovations up soon. Dave is making good progress, though there's still no time frame for him to return. NBSD is meeting every month, and Juanita is taking Dave's place for the time being.

Parks: Teva is working with Bill Cappucio and others to determine the best location for lights at Drake Park. We should remind people to call the police if folks are in the park after dark. The parks are doing a lot of hiring for the summer. The wading pool will open up right after school's out. Drake Park's wading pool is one of the least attended wading pool in the city, but still definitely brings a lot of kids out in the summer, especially when coupled with the lunch program. They're looking at new wading pools at McHenry and Columbus Parks. Union and Ashby have renovated wading pools, but they also require a large amount of upkeep and people to manage. Wading pool is open 10-2. There's an attendant there the whole time. Lutheran Services has a list of about 100 people who would like access to land for growing things.

Drake There will be new signs on University Ave., and eventually other places. They should look very nice.

Newsletter There seem to be a large number of people who did not get newsletters. If you did not get one, send an e-mail in. Scott doesn't understand why he didn't get it. Denise is responsible for the membership list, and so maybe she can look into it. Scott doesn't think that they have enough money to do a newsletter every month. There was some discussion about whether we should do it monthly or every other month. There is important content for April, including relays and the water station, community garden, and rock the block. People from Forestdale would like to advertise a garage sale, and we'll probably have a plant sale. Perhaps beginning of April, end of May, then beginning of August (or reassess with the marketing committee).

Subcommittee Reports Deric would like to see us as a group create specific, definable, measurable goals for each subcommittee. That way, each year we can look at our yearly goals and determine how things have gone. Kristina said that she will do this with her marketing and communications committee. This should help all subcommittees. Kristina wants to be copied by Trish, Jen S., Scott, and Kendal on all e-mails they send regarding committee work so that she knows what is going on and can promote it.

Website This is a huge goal for the DNA now. Deric would like us all to review the proposals (they are all in the Dropbox). The committee will be meeting soon to discuss the proposals. If there's anything in the proposals that troubles us or that we particularly like, let Deric know. They'll have a recommendation for us at the April meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Outdoor movies Trish and Jen S. looked through the list of potential movies. It would be cool to get a flyer to King, Perkins, Edmunds schools to let folks know about the move. The board voted to rank the movies in the following order: Kung-Fu Panda, Cars, Madagascar, and G-Force. Patty Daniels might be able to provide a popcorn machine. Perhaps we can look for a partnership with Habitat. Tony Schmidt has some AV equipment, perhaps we can do both parks if we use his equipment rather than the Parks Department.

Snow Ordinance The City will be talking to us some more when they are ready to take it before Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Second Quarterly General Membership Meeting. There is a conflict on June 13th for the community garden. Let's move it to the 20th. Perhaps we can have a half hour board meeting before the quarterly meeting, so no Board meeting on the 13th. The events committee will work out the details.

Downtown Street Painting Dave moves that we paint a square, Scott seconds. Kristina and Scott will be in charge of this. Motion passes.

City Discussion We discussed our NBSD group, and agreed to write a letter of support for our current team.

Adjourned 8:40

Drake Neighborhood Association Meeting minutes, April 2012

Attending: Kevin, Deric, Jen, Erica, Scott, Teva, Jen Sayers, Trish, Mac, Kristina, Dave, Eric Moore, Dolph

Minutes: move approval Kevin, second Kristina

No financials

NBSD update, Eric: House at 920 28th (abandoned), they posted and published this one. This house has five people with various titles, and so the process is difficult. It's been four months under the new procedures, so they're moving forward, but it takes a long time. They changed the 21-day advisory notice to a 14-day notice. The laundromat on Cottage Grove has been shut down and the apartments are vacant now. Carpenter neighborhood is unhappy about the loss of a scrub day.

Scrub Day: There will only be four scrub days around the city, and none in the neighborhood related to Relays. Public Works did not notify neighborhoods about this change. The Board decided to write a letter to Bill Stoh and copy the City Council on the topic. Mac moves approval, Kristina seconded.

Parks, Teva: The vandalism at Drake Park has been fixed, and a broken swing will be replaced soon. The sign will be up in the next month, and the wading pool will open June 4th. Rebuilding Together has asked ideas for the fall, and Whitmer is one of the two finalists. On Earth Day Trash Bash, a DMACC Ecology class will be working around the pond, removing invasives and such. There will be free tennis lessons at Drake Park at some point this summer; Teva will get the dates to Scott for the newsletter.

Drake, Dolph: Drake Relays is coming up. The parade will be Saturday the 21st at 1:00. This Friday, students, faculty, and staff will be working in the Ingleside Hills neighborhood on homes there. The monument sign on 31st for the entryway to campus will be done this year, but costs are high and so they will do signs on the other corners in future years. The signs on 31st will block the farmer's market sign that used to be there, so we should try to find a new location. Mac says he's willing to put the sign up on his lot on 31st. In June, the US Track and Field event will be held at Drake.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2121 University, Deric: Neighbors sent a letter to the City Council about this property, so there was a meeting between stakeholders, and it sounds like some of the issues are hopefully getting taken care of. It seems like things have lately been

better there. There were some concerns that the agreement to have full time security at the site but that has been changed to part time. On the other hand, it seems like the manager has been working hard to deal with the issues, and Deric feels that they are making the right changes. Members of the Board were very concerned because it does not seem clear that improvements have been made.

We need to keep looking at this to ensure that progress continues.

Volunteers, Erica: The service fraternity APO has 230 members and each member is required to do 15 hours of service per semester. This seems like a very useful resource. They seemed excited about the opportunity, so Erica is going to go to the meeting on Sunday to find out what people are interested in and build communications. It seems like they probably need about three weeks of lead time to organize events, though they can put out a last-minute call if necessary and see if people are available. Community Partners (Mandi McReynolds): looking for longer-term projects for students in service-learning classes. Erica will go to the next meeting to see what they can offer. Erica also sent e-mails to some churches in the area to see if we could build a network, but got very little info back. She did get some contact names put up, and will continue to build this database over time so that we can look at it even if Erica isn't around. The document is up on Dropbox. If we find contacts, we can just put them in the document ourselves.

Rental Committee, Kristina: Flyers from the City have all kinds of important phone numbers. We discussed ordering 500 to hand out at Rock the Block and have for future events.

They had 10-12 people at the rental committee meeting. There were a lot of people there who felt like we weren't doing much to actually help yet. They were hoping for things like a neighborhood packet, or a place to put contact information for people moving into the neighborhood to be able to find rental properties run by good landlords. She thinks that the committee will evolve into a useful tool. They will be meeting once a month, and may organize a rental fair, which Kristina will update us about how that goes.

There's really nobody in the county doing this kind of thing, so it may get large very quickly.

Marketing, Kristina: The committee was talking about ways to market the neighborhood. The May newsletter is going to have the info on movies, the farmer's market, and so on. So it seems like that would be a good one to hand out, but it seems unlikely that we can get students to do this because it's exam week. April 25th will be downtown street painting. We're also making a couple of banners for Rock the Block. We will have at least six members there to hand out coffee and donuts and talk to neighbors.

Events, Trish: They've worked on publicizing the movies. We can partner with the PTA at Perkins as long as we have a disclaimer that it is not a DMPS event. There are a few options for popcorn machines, but we haven't yet determined issues like whether to give popcorn away or sell it. Movies will be Madagascar and Kung Fu Panda. Trish would like to suggest that we have our second quarterly meeting on June 13th, and move the date that we will meet at the community garden to September.

OLD BUSINESS

Web proposals, Deric: There have been a few proposals to read through, and Trish, Kendal, and Deric did interviews with three finalists. All three proposals were top quality, and it's a shame that we can't choose all of them. They recommend the team of Chris Snyder and Patrick McCoy. This team had a programmer and a designer, and Chris teaches web design at Drake, and perhaps we can create some service learning opportunities. The cost is \$5,000 for the initial bid; we can choose different plug-ins, but they will be more expensive (on the order of \$60 each). Deric doesn't think it could exceed \$6,000 even with overruns. This team had modules for each of our needs, and really seemed to have a good sense of what we needed and how to implement it. If we have any needs for the website, e-mail Trish or Kendall ASAP so that they can include them in the discussions. We will be able to do the content updating. Mac moves approval of the bid, Jen seconded, motion passed.

9:00: Adjourned

Present:, , Dave, Dan, , , , , , Erica, Bruce,

Called to order 7:07.

Introductions

New Board member: Erica Luna 940 37th St.

Minutes: Dave approve, Bill second. Passed

Financials. These are in e-mail. \$300 in sponsorships for House Tour. Cindi move, Derek Second Approved

NBSD: Shots fired in from of Anawim property, but had nothing to do with Anawim, from Forest Mart instead. Owner is aware. Special Enforcement Team will be there starting in June. Parks are getting extra patrol starting in June as well. ED, Goode, Drake, Prospect Park, and some others potentially. Been relatively quiet. 2900 block of CG, 2900 block Kingman, drug busts. 2101 C.G. (Brick building south of CG). Wednesday early outs are still a problem in the parks.

Sub-Committee Reports:

House Tour: Going well, realtors will have open houses on the day of the tour. Shaping up nicely. Will need volunteers. Cross-promotion with Greek Food Fair (both groups will give \$2 off of tickets if someone brings ticket from the other one).

Ingleside Hills Initiative: Investment by Wells Fargo to Polk Co Trust Fund. Has been a lot of activity. There will be a large “rebuilding together” project, probably sometime in late September. It sounds like this will be a very positive thing for that part of the neighborhood.

Rental Committee: This is starting up. Home Inc (a sponsor of renters) would like to partner with the committee. They have information for landlords and renters that may be helpful.

Website: Technology task force. They’re looking at website, e-mail, trying to improve communication. Is there something that might be more effective? They’ll be looking at this over the next few months. Expect to reach out to the Marketing and Communications committees.

Old Business:

1) Vice President Search: We need one! If someone is at all interested in the position, send Derek an e-mail.

2) As we get into the neighborhood plan, we will be using software to let subcommittees keep in touch about what they’re doing.

3) Farmer’s Market Mailing. For a four-page newsletter. DNA might have half a page? Maybe there will be room for a little more with the House Tour. Cost: 4745

households. Leaves out businesses and PO boxes (would cost \$5800 to include them). Expected cost is \$1697. If we split it in half, it's more like \$850 each. This would be a good deal because Church has nonprofit status. There was discussion about whether it would be turned around quickly enough, but it looks like residents should have it by June 1. Kendal will help with putting page together. Discussion of whether we needed two meetings. Trish argued that because this was for DNA we didn't need two meetings—only if we were giving money away. \$848.20 Dave moves to give the money and waive need for second vote. ? seconds. 11 in favor, Mac abstained.

4. Jazz in July Sponsorship. Derek suggests doing \$500 co-sponsorship (up from \$250 last year). This will be held at parking lot behind Shops at Roosevelt. Roosevelt Cultural District and DNA. Will be held on Monday, July 18. More food vendors than before. Metro Arts would like other artists in addition to music. Derek moves so support with \$500. Kevin seconds. Trish makes amendment that this will be the only sponsorship we would have this year. 11 in favor, Dave opposed.

New Business

Kyle and Amber from the city were here to talk about the neighborhood plan. Kyle or Amber are planning to come to meetings on a quarterly basis to discuss plan progress. Twice a year we will give updates from committees, which will go into information packets for Council. First one will be in August, after that every six months. We will need something by the Tuesday before the second meeting in August. This will also help city to keep DNA up-to-date on what they're doing with respect to the plan. Derek—we will have to be careful to be able to fund the tasks that we have identified. We will need to do fundraising to make this happen. Trish—perhaps we should put together a foundation for plan implementation. Have the governance committee come up with a proposal by August meeting. Mac offered to take Claudia's position, and Cindi would like to help. City would like to know how we want to work: through Derek, working with individual chairs? For now, go through Derek. Question: are the committees ready? Bill: some committees are critical to get started, like communication. Start one by one and get them going. Derek: We have made a start with rental committee and some others. Amber: start with the low-hanging fruit.

There were 26 people at our quarterly meeting in May at Grace United Methodist, with good food, conversation, several speakers.

Tim Lang from DSMove talked about the event where University Ave is closed off from Dog Town to the 42nd Street Shops, so people can walk or bike and local vendors or organizations set up booths. The Drake Neighborhood event, September 28th from noon to 4, will close off an expanded season with three events happening elsewhere in the city earlier in the month. Last year our event was quite successful, bringing a large crowd even though it was put together by a small group with very late notice on the street closing. With more time to plan, this year should be even better, with more activities, more media coverage, and more participation. One fun activity that Tim mentioned is that the Science Center will have a booth on the street and make rocket cars with Mentos and sodas. We will need volunteers to go door-to-door to let people know that the event will be happening, and also volunteers during the event itself. If you would like to volunteer or have a display, contact Jen Sayers at jen@bijougrafx.com.

Kelly Lidon spoke about the Des Moines Rehabbers Club, founded in 2007. The mission of the organization is to promote the restoration of older and historic homes through education, support, and networking. They help people understand what buildings may need. If you appreciate or want to learn about rehabbing, you can currently join for free (though there will probably be a fee in the future). They focus on homes, but are also interested in businesses, churches, and so on. Kelly talked about how embracing older homes helps us connect our future with our past: cities are once again moving toward walkable communities with people demanding nearby amenities, front porches, social connections, and so on. As anyone in the Drake area knows, older neighborhoods do those things well. The club does a lot of hands-on workshops: for example, they had 20 people from around the state come to take a weekend-long class on how to rehab original wood windows. To learn more, check out www.ReovateDSM.org, where you will find a calendar of events open to the public and a schedule of monthly meetings. They also have a contractor list, articles, how-tos, and more. You can follow them on Facebook and they maintain an e-mail forum where you can get your questions answered quickly.

Jason Stuyvesant, a Des Moines realtor who lives in the neighborhood, gave a presentation on improving your home's resale value. If you're selling an older home, he said that it is important to consider things that would speed the sale up, even if they don't increase the price, because a \$1000/month mortgage can cost a lot if it takes you a few extra months to sell. One rule of thumb: "If it's broke, fix it!" Keep this in mind if you have loose locks or door knobs, cracked windows, water damage, and so on. Remember that buyers can't get an FHA loan if the paint is peeling, and inspectors love to pick on things like older HVAC systems, even if they work fine. Buyers also like windows that work, so see if you can finally get those painted-shut windows to open! Also, many people expect things like driveways, garages, updated kitchens, and multiple bathrooms. Do be aware, though, that even high-visibility projects often only give a 40-60% return on investment, so the best time to make an improvement is now, while you can enjoy it, rather than right before you sell.

Drake's NBSD officer told us about a useful page online: www.crimemapping.com. You can type in an address and see crimes that were reported in the area. Sgt. McKinney warned people to be a little skeptical of the results—often firecrackers get reported as gunshots, for example—but that it can help you to know some of the things that are going on in your area. Also, he pointed out that the DMPD uses a complaint-based system for much of their work. If you make a complaint about a specific house where you suspect drug activity, somebody *will* come to check it out. For example, if you see a number of cars without license plates coming to a building near you, call it in. If you can get pictures, that's even better.

All-in-all, it was an informative evening! Our next quarterly meeting will be National Night Out on August 5th.

Join the new Drake Neighborhood Garden Club

Whether you extemporize for hours about what to grow in dry shade, enjoy a few tomato plants in the summer, would like to share perennials with neighbors, or just want to talk with friends about how to spend less time weeding, the new Drake Neighborhood Garden Club is for you! The Drake area is full of lovely gardens and landscapes, and a number of us thought it would be fun to formalize some connections through a garden club. Ideas for what a club might do include: identify neighborhood gardens for a garden tour next year; hold perennial exchanges; trade ideas about plant sources or types; help new gardeners get started and older gardeners with some of the jobs that are no longer easy to do; and explore the gardens of neighbors. But this is a new group, so if you have some thoughts about what you'd like out of a club, join us in getting started! Our initial plan is to meet monthly during the warmer seasons, hopefully at a different garden every month. We will be having a kick-off pot luck at 1112 29th Street on Tuesday, July 17th at 5:30 pm. The garden featured this month focuses on edible landscaping in a double lot, with a small orchard, currants, grapes, elderberries, and other fruits, as well as some shade flower gardens and a pergola installed this spring. With questions or to RSVP, contact david.courard-hauri@drake.edu, 277-6885.

August 18, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this **Letter of Intent** to accompany the Drake Neighborhood Association's (DNA) application for your Year-Round Grant Program.

The Drake Neighborhood is located within the City of Des Moines, between MLK Ave to the east, I-235 to the south, 42nd St. to the west, and Franklin Ave to the north. We represent what the City defines as a "transitional" neighborhood, with a median household income of about \$32,000, according to City-Data.com, and a housing stock with strong representation from around the turn of the last century.

One thing that sets the Drake Neighborhood apart from some of its more suburban neighbors is our commitment to beautification through reforestation projects. The DNA has at numerous times in the past planted shade trees in public areas within the neighborhood, and has even planted a free neighborhood orchard with about 30 fruit trees that is open to and cared for by all members of the community.

However, the DNA has not planted new trees in a number of years, and we need to do so if we hope to sustainably maintain our urban canopy. Thus, we are asking for \$500 that we can use to purchase trees for public areas in our neighborhood, such as the parking region between the street and sidewalk. Two of the trees will be used to replace trees planted six years ago near Drake Park that were damaged. For the other trees we intend to focus as much as possible on parts of the neighborhood where trees might not otherwise be planted, for example because the owners of nearby properties do not live in the area.

As we have done in the past, we intend to work closely with the Des Moines City Arborist in order to ensure that we select trees that are suitable for public spaces and that we find locations that will provide the most benefit while not interfering with overhead power lines or lines of sight.

Beautification through the planting of trees in an urban environment fulfills MWA's mission of "environmental stewardship" in a number of ways. First, there are direct benefits that trees provide, including air quality improvements, water conservation and runoff reduction, habitat for urban wildlife, and the mitigation of temperature fluctuations (especially heat in the summer). However, they also provide indirect benefits. For example, by making urban neighborhoods more appealing, trees can reduce pressures of urban decay and sprawl, with concomitant environmental benefits. As a community project, tree planting also helps to bring neighbors together and foster community, which has been shown to provide stewardship benefits as well.

The Drake Neighborhood Association commits to matching MWA funds, to bring the total budget to \$1000, and we also commit to planting the trees and watering them

for the first two summers until they can survive on their own. \$1000 will be sufficient to purchase 10 large trees at \$100 per tree. Our experience has been that in urban areas it is necessary to purchase large trees in order to deter vandalism and improve the success rate. The DNA has sufficient funds to pay for this project and await repayment of the MWA share at a later date.

We expect this to be a sustainable project in two ways. First, it is part of our long-term effort to find funds to continue to replace and add trees to our urban canopy. In addition to money from the MWA, we are seeking funds for further planting from other groups. In order to sustain an urban canopy it is necessary to replace trees that are lost to age, disease, and accident, and thus the project is part of our overall efforts at developing a sustainable canopy. Second, as mentioned earlier, urban trees contribute to environmental sustainability in many ways.

The project's success will be measured directly in the successful growth of the new trees. While some loss of trees is expected in the first couple of years, we will consider this project to be a success if nine or more trees survive through their first five years. MWA's role in the project will be recognized in articles about the project in our bimonthly newsletter that is sent to all DNA members, and on our website (www.drakeneighborhood.org).

Thank you for your consideration.

David Courard-Hauri
For the Drake Neighborhood Association
david.courard-hauri@drake.edu

Budget:

Expenses:

10 trees @ \$100/tree = \$1000

Funds:

\$500 from MWA

\$500 plus labor and water costs from the DNA

Go to home then to

/admin

That will bring you to the admin site.

Elu69