



Want to join the Drake Neighborhood Association? [Click here!](#)

Meeting Agenda: Wednesday, May 11, Polk County Senior Center, 6:30pm

In attendance: Annelise (V), Carl, Colin, Colleen (V), Courtney, Eddie, Jason, KJ, Lori

Absent: Ken, Stephanie, Jess, Alec, Destinee

6:42pm - Board Business

- Approval of May Agenda
- Approve April Minutes: Jason Motions, Courtney Seconds | Motion Carries
- Welcome Elected Officials
- Old Business
 - Review of Financial Activities - KJ
 - Savings:
 - Beginning balance: \$ 15,619.18
 - Trans to Checking: (\$ 1,500.00)
 - End balance: **\$ 14,119.18**
 - Checking:
 - Beg Balance: \$ 928.82
 - Deposits:
 - Transfer from Savings: \$1,500.00
 - New members: \$ 40.00
 - Cashier check: (\$ 1,300.00) - grant money for triangle signage
 - Proc Fee: (\$. 3.46)
 - End Balance: **\$ 1,165.36**
- New Business
 - Significant Committee Updates:
 - Secretary Update
 - Website, able to add the minutes to the site, need minutes to be approved quicker from the board (Annelise will work to follow up more), to transition to Google Drive (and the gmail emails) I will need to work with a former board member for permissions. Can add events to the website (we should do the same to Facebook also). Volunteer form is getting updated, but need to learn how to specify more.
 - Communications Committee
 - Increase Capacity/Membership Committee
 - Business memberships is the goal now. Reach back out to people who have committed in the past to renew. They will be sending out a list of businesses in the neighborhood and split it up among the board to bring people in. \$50-\$500 different benefits listed out at the levels.

- Create door hanger. Info/benefits sent to Stephanie for Stephanie's team to make.
- Social event was less successful mostly due to less social media push. Currently already pushing the next one. Stephanie has also given Courtney access to the socials so they can share that load.
- May 23rd is the next Membership Committee meeting - Dough Co. at 5:30pm.
- Safe and Inclusive Neighborhood Committee
 - 150th Celebration: We are scheduled to kick off the celebration on Sunday, June 19th (Father's Day) with an Art Porch Crawl. We will need volunteers to help man a DNA Booth down in Dogtown to sell merchandise and memberships. We would need volunteers for 2 shifts (3-5 and 5-7). Please review your schedule and be ready to sign-up at the meeting.
 - In addition, we have established a date for the Cottage Grove 150th Block Party. It is going to be July 30th from 5-9. Please save the date on your calendar. Colin has a task sheet put together, but that will be sent around.
 - Possible walking tour on University with Drake and a parents weekend walking tour. Have materials ready for parents and a student membership level ready and into the website by then.

7:02pm - Neighborhood Updates

- NBSD Updates
 - Mark McKinney:
 - Drake Relays went well. Having stuff on Forest with no traffic helped a lot, even with construction. Homicide: 3326 University (got them in custody quickly. details?). Domestic up and Catalytic Converter thefts up. Drake neighborhood having boots on the ground helps.
 - Traffic study for the 3200 Block of Cottage - they are waiting to hear back from Lori
 - 35th and Iola. His wife died. This house is too big and the house went up for sale. Someone thought it would be a good idea to start the brush on fire.
 - Call the police if you see any fire. Fires get out of hand if people aren't watching.
 - Tuesday 4-9 neighborhood presidents for request for national night out. get all the requests next month empirical data for reports.
 - No stats this month. There was a domestic on 29th and Rutland. A lot going on recently, but there may not necessarily be increased calls.
 - Clearing all the trees on the levy downtown from SW9th to MLK
 - Homeless camps being removed
 - Eric Barker:
 - Backlog of rental cases that got lost in the mix - go through two or three years so they can maintain rental certificates. Some have lapsed for rental certificates.
 - A lot of junk debris, Mac is pretty good on messaging Eric.
 - For landlords that aren't keeping things up contact Home, Inc. There is a complaint form on the city of DSM website. They then have 10 days to fix it, tenant calls them back and they schedule the inspection. If they don't keep them up to code as the new landlords, the city will step in.
- Parks and Recreation Update

- Laura Murphy:
 - [Des Moines' Park System Ranks 25th Nationally](#)
 - [300 seasonal positions still available!](#)
 - The Shelter at Drake Park: after summer camp, the shelter will be open for the public
 - Witmer Park - June 23rd dedication
 - Firestation 4 replacement - Public meeting: Thursday May 26th via zoom - Moving the station to a new location
- Special Introductions:
 - [Grace Van Cleave - Candidate for Iowa Senate District 17](#)
 - She has lived in the Drake Neighborhood, 28th and Kingman since 2018. She loves the city, felt very surprised during COVID watching the politics around her, she wants to fight for and protect our neighbors, our diversity. Moved here 12 years ago, from Washington DC in national Democratic politics. Moved here for a campaign, but stayed. Started businesses, bought a house here on her own. She wants to keep that possible.
 - People told her not to talk about abortion. She talks about it. Yes maybe immediately in the state we will be fine, but that's not guaranteed. Need fighters in the Senate who will put their neck out and talk about this issue. Extending childcare, paid leave. Fix the benefits and you will see people stay in jobs.
 - Education system: amazing that it's affordable to have a high quality of life. Des Moines has the potential to have what the suburbs schools do.
 - Small Businesses – need to help women and minority business owners get started and keep moving. Should be able to do it all from our state.
 - Voting for this new district is June 7th.
 - Connie Boesen
 - City meeting on Monday. P&Z: Mother-in-law suite approved... within space of a certain distance from the bus route - owner must live on the property - building one with Invest DSM
 - Franchise fee also discussed. Mid American energy, collect on businesses for those who use energy, benchmarks for energy resolution discussed.
 - Flooding will hopefully not be an issue. Ingersoll construction includes sewer construction. Bus route and bike lanes will all be done at the same time - we appreciate everyone's patience. These are commitments we made with the sale tax. Also more walkable - sewer fixes are amazing for homeowners. That whole corridor will be transformed. More greenery, more trees, and less backup.
- Drake Report Update - Ryan Arnold - emailed update
 - Drake University requested a letter of support from the neighborhood regarding the review and approval of an 8th amendment to the University Square PUD Conceptual Plan to change the use of the building at the property located at 1140 24th Street from a previous hotel to a college dormitory. This will be reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission on May 19th.
 - KJ motioned, Eddie seconded | Motion carries
- Drake Student Update - Lesly/Marguerite
 - Paul Morrison spruce up day: terrible weather. But after the increasing number of COVID cases, to protect community members and students, it was canceled for this year. SAA is done with events for the semester. But next semester they have the scavenger hunt during the Welcome Weekend.

- Harvest Party in the fall: get the produce from the Sprout garden. Opportunity for students and community members to get together. Produce goes to local community fridges, Boys and Girls club, food pantries.
- Student Senate: resolutions: [statement of support for the trans community and condemning the recent house bill.](#)

Meeting Adjourned 7:53

Upcoming Events

June - Open House at the Drake Park Community Center (Final date to be determined)

June 6th - DNA Social?

June 19th - Art Porch Crawl on Cottage Grove (3-5:00)

June 23rd - Witmer Park Dedication (Noon)

July 30th - Cottage Grove 150th Celebration Block Party (4-9:00)

September 15-17 - Rock the Block in Carpenter

Fall 2022 - Eat. Drink. Architecture. University Corridor

Fall 2022 - Historical Walking Tour - Cottage Grove

Upcoming Meetings - Polk County Senior Center @7:00 pm

May 11th

June 8th

July 13th

August 10th

September 14th

October 12th

November 9th

December 14th - Annual Board Election and Holiday Potluck