



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

TO DO LIST | SPECIAL DATES | ATTACHMENTS | QUESTIONS

Meeting Agenda: Wednesday, November 8th, 2023 on Zoom and Polk County Senior Center

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Courtney Ackerson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Coryell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
James Anthofer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristina Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Colin Ashwood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eddie Robinson, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ken Auge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason Stuyvesant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lori Calhoun	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annelise Tarnowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6:30pm - Board Business

- Zoe from Drake was present to take photos this evening as a part of a class project. She will be taking pictures of Dogtown Lights as well and we will have access to these photos.
- Drake University SAA - Eli Benson
 - He is the new President, they are in the middle of I <3 Drake Week, thank you for attending Halloween Hoops (huge turnout, one of the biggest, being a part of the volleyball match was great.
- Drake University - Ryan Arnold
 - Drake basketball game tonight
 - Don't forget that as a neighborhood resident, you have a punch card that you can use to come to men and women's basketball games
 - Drake women's soccer played in the Missouri Valley Conference (which we hosted). We lost in the final right at the end, but this new stadium is going to be really amazing.
- Welcome Elected Officials - none
- Old Business
 - Review of October Financial Activities - Lori
 - We paid for our hosting for the website.
 - Did apply for the city grant and we got it (\$1,000), waiting for the check.
 - Renewal series is working, but James had an odd error in his that we need to look into
 - Bylaws Review
 - Reviewing the Conflict of Interest policy, board members will all sign this once approved.
- [Parks and Recreation Update](#) - Charles Zanders (Recreation Superintendent)
 - He worked for DMPS for 20 years, was the activities director at Roosevelt. He was the coach when Hoover won state basketball in 2006. His parents were members of the DNA when he was

growing up. He spent a lot of time playing basketball at Drake Park. He joined City of Des Moines in July.

- Right now, they are doing a [Toys for Tots](#) drive – we can have someone sign up to host a collection box.
- [Letters to Santa](#) – kids write to Santa, Parks responds to the letters
- Can't build ice on Brenton Skating Plaza yet, will be December when they can open and make ice. But they will have the [tree lighting ceremony on November 17th, plus some games on the rink](#).
- He oversees Grays Lake, Brenton Skating Plaza, dog parks, equitable services, youth and adult sports,
- 40-60 kids that are getting free, educational programming - MLK Park Shelter, Pioneer Columbus and Fourmile community center
- Youth sports have started (basketball, pickleball, wiffle ball...)
- Redoing the Birdland basketball courts and tennis courts, shaded seating
- Stone Park getting pickleball by 2025.
- Keeping the park services active keep positive activity in the neighborhood
- DM Parks and Rec Activities Guide ([attached here](#))
- Dogtown Lights event is this weekend – [Saturday, November 11th, flipping the switch at 6:00 pm](#)
- [NBSD Updates \(Neighborhood Based Service Delivery Program\)](#):
 - Mark McKinney
 - 104 calls for service, 24 cases, 12 arrests
 - He's very embedded in the Drake Neighborhood personally and professionally and he's not hearing much that's very concerning
 - The Drake campus has been quiet
 - Most calls are suspicious activity – they get to verify a lot more because folks have such good cameras now
 - [You can become a part of the camera program](#) – can tell the force that you have a camera, they may call you if something happens for you to check your camera (no requirement to respond)
 - [Crime stats are available always online here](#)
 - Can pick your neighborhood in the small map and you can see stats there. Can zoom in, can add date ranges.
- Chris Coleman - Ward 1 Representative - current email address: colemanseven@mchsi.com
 - He has two sons on different neighborhood association boards in Des Moines.
 - "I am now your employee. Give me work to do."
 - Parks are probably his favorite part of the job, and the most important
 - Important because the parks are filled with culture, diversity, families and are often free
 - Courtney will forward him a conversation about a citizen request to have soccer nets added at Drake Park
 - James said that it's important that we keep talking about active transportation. Chris said that we have plenty we can do without eliminating parking. James mentioned that it makes sense to focus on adding active transportation options whenever we're already under construction.
 - Some of the DART solutions will be things the council will vote on. He wants our input in the DART conversation. It's hard to argue that DART isn't really broken right now. Will we be rebuilding from scratch? Should we be separating from the suburbs? Just to fund DART may be a larger cost than most of our other services.

- There was a great funding plan proposed 5 years ago, but the suburban representatives said they would allow that if the board could be made up differently. The board was then no longer focused on serving primarily people from Des Moines and the vulnerable, poorer people who rely on it. Chris was one of the few people that voted against that, wants to make sure DART is equitable.
- DART update
 - DART has funding challenges, wants input from the neighborhoods
 - Information on DART funding: <https://ridedart.com/funding-our-future>
 - Public commission meetings are a [great place to provide citizen feedback](#). They will use your feedback in 2024 and make determination for changes by Nov 2024.
 - If they cannot implement needed changes, services will be cut (likely frequency will be something like once an hour instead of the current every 20 minutes). The lines they may cut are ones that have not been used much since before COVID lockdowns.
 - 3.2 million rides/year – very similar to the airport
- Lead Service Lines update
 - Courtney got a message from a neighbor, Diana Sickles, who talked about this with us a few months ago
 - She met with Assistant City Manager Jim Hoff and City Engineer Dave Kamp.
 - They all agree that lead is a detriment to the health of all, especially infants and young children and that the LSLs need to be replaced.
 - Dave mentioned that some LSL are automatically replaced when they have the street torn up. This replacement is from the water main to the stop box. To complete the replacement the homeowner or property owner would need to do this.
 - Lead Service Line replacement can be a part of your Invest DSM projects
 - More resources from Melissa Walker at Des Moines Water Works:
 - The lead service line lookup on Des Moines Water Works website: https://www.dmww.com/water_service/service_lines/lead_lookup.php
 - Information about the lead replacement pilot program currently ongoing in the River Bend Neighborhood: https://www.dmww.com/water_service/service_lines/lead_reduction_pilot.php
 - FAQ about lead in drinking water: Lead In Drinking Water FAQ (dmww.com)
 - There are an estimated 20,000 lead service lines located on residential properties in Des Moines. This could be an owner-occupied home or rented by a tenant. This is at least a \$200 million project.
 - Water is lead free when it leaves Des Moines Water Works' three water treatment plants and as it travels through the distribution system that Des Moines Water Works owns, which is the water main. The possible lead components are the service line, which the property owner is responsible for, as well as plumbing fixtures within the home. [The attached graphic explains ownership.](#)
- Transition and Onboarding Document Review
 - Board discussed additions and changes to the transitions activities and documents
 - Courtney will pull a list for each of the committees that members signed up with
 - Courtney will try to book the January transition meeting at the Harkin Center – with it starting at 5:00 pm (early)
 - Courtney will send us the e-newsletter for review
- New Business

- Significant Committee Updates:
 - Communications Committee
 - Print Materials Meeting that Lori went to
 - Many associations do different quantities and frequencies
 - It does take time to pull off
 - City Source will start featuring each neighborhood association, there's a training to help the boards deal with influx
 - Let's fund reaching out to the SW quintile – \$500 budgeted
 - Lori, Courtney and Annelise working on it
 - Lori: lists and mail stuff
 - Annelise: check that postcard works
 - Courtney: postcard design
 - James: copy editing
 - Increase Capacity/Membership Committee
 - 17 lapsed members
 - No applications for the board yet
 - Poster will be hung tomorrow by Courtney and Lori
 - Annelise to send an email about joining the board
 - Safe and Inclusive Neighborhood Committee
 - Dogtown Lights - November 11th - lights on at 6:00 pm
 - They are making a tunnel this year, still not sure about weather
 - Some things going on in restaurants
 - Lori, Daniel, Courtney maybe Annelise

Meeting Adjourned 8:47 pm