

Westwood Neighborhood Association Meeting
Tuesday, October 16, 2007
Merrill Middle School

1. Call to Order:

President Brad Sammon called the annual meeting of the Westwood Neighborhood Association to order at 7:10 PM. In attendance: Brad Sammon, President; Vicki Heiken, Treasurer, David Barzen, Social Committee Co-Chair, Sharon Murphy, Des Moines Neighbors Liaison, Thomas Kisch, Secretary. Also, Amy Zuck, Kris Sutton, Margo Hutcheson, Mark Melton, Jeanette McGreevy, Thom Heiken, Jack & Maxine Clemens, and Marti Huber.

2. Review/Approval of September 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes:

Mark Melton moved the minutes of the September 18, 2007 business meeting be approved as written. Sharon Murphy seconded the motion. All approved.

3. Treasurer's Report—July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

Income

Ending Balance at June 30, 2006	\$ 8,363.15
Dues	\$ 1,680.00
Newsletter Ads	\$ 25.00
Donations	\$ 100.00
Total Income	\$10,168.15

Expenses

General	
Printing Newsletter	\$ 600.00
Hanawalt, Donation	\$ 300.00
Memorial	\$ 42.09
Signage Art	\$ 700.00
Neighborhood Signs	\$1,495.13
Subtotal	\$3,137.22
Events	
Art Center Function	\$ 500.00
Ice Cream Social	\$ 141.11
Jazz in July	\$ 20.00
Pool Party	\$ 30.86
Subtotal	\$ 691.97
Total Income	\$10,168.15
Total Expenses	\$ 3,829.19
Year End Balance—June 30, 2007	\$ 6,338.96

4. **Membership Committee:** The association has 79 members. These include individuals, families, and one business.
5. **Bylaws Amendments:** Brad Sammon explained that all neighborhood associations must have bylaws. Our association's bylaws were developed in 1999 and last amended in 2002 to add 44th Street to our association boundaries. The proposed amendments are for the purpose of aligning the bylaws with current association circumstances and to clarify certain language within the bylaws. A copy of the proposed amendments and a copy of a summarizing rationale for each proposed amendment were shared with members. Mark Melton moved the proposed amendments be adopted as written. David Barzen seconded the motion. All approved.
6. **Signage Committee:** Brad Sammon reported for Barbara Bell, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Other neighborhood associations have been in contact with Brad to inquire about which business printed our new neighborhood sign. This was done by Kness Signs, 3100 86th Street, Urbandale.

There are two signs that will be installed on the portion of the Walnut Creek Bicycle Trail that is in our neighborhood. Brad will contact the Parks and Recreation Department to determine when they will be installed.

7. **Des Moines Neighbors Liaison:** Sharon Murphy reported that a grant is available for neighborhood gardens, for which Margo Hutcheson is applying in behalf of our neighborhood. Also, Sgt. Todd Dykstra of the Des Moines Police Department is available to meet with neighborhood associations when requested. He would like to speak with all associations in the city. Des Moines Neighbors has a fund raising function for its office which accepts cell phones and printer cartridges for recycling. These may be given to Sharon, who will provide them to Des Moines Neighbors for its fund raiser.
8. **Walnut Creek Gateway Garden Plan:** Margo Hutcheson and Kris Sutton informed members of a neighborhood garden that is being developed on the corner of 56th Street and North Valley Drive, which is near the Walnut Creek Bicycle Trail. It would feature native plants that are easy to maintain and deer / drought resistant. Margo and Kris are completing a plan (with Dave DeBord) for the garden site and an application for a grant from the Lillian Swartzell Perennial Planting Program. Members were offered an opportunity to volunteer to help maintain the garden.
9. **Social Committee:** Dave Barzen reviewed the social events sponsored by the association for neighbors this past year. These were the ice cream social, swim party, Art Center social, and Jazz in July concert.

The Jazz in July concert was particularly successful, thanks to Rob den Hartog's leadership and the many volunteers who helped on this project.

Dave suggested that a date be chosen soon for the winter social at the Art Center. After discussing possible dates, it was members' consensus to table this discussion until the next business meeting of the Board.

10. Nominations:

The slate of candidates / positions for voting were:

Brad Sammon / President, Joe Kobes / Vice-President, Thomas Kisch / Secretary, Vicki Heiken / Treasurer, David Barzen / Immediate Past President, Amy Zuck and David Barzen / Social Committee Co-Chairpersons, Jeanette McGreevy / Publicity Committee Chairperson, Rob denHartog / Membership Committee Chairperson, Sharon Murphy / Des Moines Neighbors Liaison, Barbara Bell / Beautification Committee Chairperson.

Heidi Barr had not confirmed her availability for Historian. There were no nominees for Newsletter Editor and Block Captain Chairperson.

With no further nominees, Dave Barzen moved the slate of nominees as presented be approved. Mark Melton seconded the motion. All approved.

- 11. Recognition:** Brad wanted to specifically mention his and the Board's appreciation for every volunteer and neighbor who helped make the past year so successful for the continuing growth and accomplishments of the Neighborhood Association.
- 12. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at Hanawalt, beginning at 7:00 PM.
- 12. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

