

Westwood Neighborhood Association Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2008
Hanawalt School

1. Call to Order: President Brad Sammon called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. In attendance were Brad Sammon, President, Amy Zuck, Vice President, David Barzen, Immediate Past President, Ed Truslow, Treasurer, Sharon Murphy, Des Moines Neighbors Liaison, and Thomas Kisch, Secretary.

2. Approve November 18, 2008 Minutes: Amy Zuck moved the minutes be approved as written. Sharon Murphy seconded the motion. All approved.

3. Membership / Treasurer Report:

A. Membership: The association has 82 members for the new membership year beginning July 1.

B. Treasurer's Report: Ed Truslow shared a report with the board showing the following:

December 2008--Beginning Balance:	\$3,484.24
Deposits:	\$ 80.00 (Memberships)
	\$ 774.06 (Swartzell Grant)
Expenses:	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$4,338.30
January 2009--Beginning Balance:	\$4,338.30
Deposits:	\$ 50.00 (Memberships)
Expenses:	\$ 0.00
Current Balance:	\$4,388.30 (as of 1-8-09)

Thomas Kisch moved the Treasurer's report be approved. Sharon Murphy seconded the motion. All approved.

4. Neighborhood Liaison Report: Sharon Murphy informed the board that Amy Rodman is no longer with Des Moines Neighbors. The new Program Coordinator at the Neighborhood Resource Office is Shallee Keenan. Des Moines Neighbors is planning a cookbook and invites residents to submit best and family favorite recipes by February 16, 2009. Recipe forms are available at www.dmneighbors.org and may be mailed to the Neighborhood Resource Office, 1620 Pleasant Street, Suite 233, Des Moines, IA 50314.

5. Beautification Committee Report: In Barbara Bell's absence, Brad Sammon shared Barbara's report. It explained a steering committee will meet in March to formulate an agenda for creating a hardscape project for the Gateway Garden on North Valley Drive. Committee members will be solicited in the March newsletter. Following that, a task force will meet to begin planning / design of the project beginning May 3. Barbara has mailed 31 thank you notes to neighbors for property improvements. Brad also informed the board that Bob Cook from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is willing to speak at the April board meeting. Mr. Cook would present information about our city's aging oaks and about garlic mustard.

Discussion was held about inviting contiguous neighborhood associations to the presentation (e.g., Waterbury, North of Grand, Linden, and Salisbury Oaks—as these areas are also part of the oak savannah that covers this portion of Des Moines) and holding the meeting at a nearby larger facility, such as Levitt Auditorium. Amy Zuck moved that a motion be approved as presented. Sharon Murphy seconded the motion. All approved.

6. Neighborhood Sympathy / New Members Cards: Brad Sammon shared samples of cards that Barbara Bell has prepared for the board's review. It was consensus of the board for the New Members Card to include a *Westwood Neighborhood Association Membership Form*. With minor revisions of wording, David Barzen moved the board approve the cards as presented. Ed Truslow seconded the motion. All approved.

7. Jane Hein—Guest Speaker, March 24: Brad Sammon informed the board he has arranged for Jane Hein to speak at the March 24 meeting. She will offer information regarding the state of Des Moines parks, what is needed, and what is planned. The program will include a power point presentation. With this in mind, the board discussed the need for an alternative location for the meeting, as it is scheduled to be held at Pal Joey's. Sharon Murphy moved to authorize that an alternative location be arranged for the meeting and Ms. Hein's presentation. Ed Truslow seconded the motion. All approved.

8. Job Descriptions for Board Members: Brad Sammon shared examples of draft job descriptions for respective board positions that have been prepared by Barbara Bell for the board's review. It was consensus of the board to table the review because of Barbara's absence.

9. Social Committee:

A. Jazz in July: In Rob denHartog's absence, Brad Sammon presented possible dates and priority for having the Jazz in July concert this year.

1. Friday, July 10 2. Saturday, July 11 3. Friday, July 17

Thomas Kisch will contact Rob about possible musicians who may be invited to perform at the concert. Discussion was held about having a \$2,300 budget for the concert and seeking corporate sponsorships. Suggested amounts and benefits were: \$1,000 would be allocated "top billing" on any concert advertising and a 1/4 page ad in the newsletter for four issues. \$500 would be allocated "second billing" in any concert advertising. David Barzen moved that a motion be approved as presented. Sharon Murphy seconded the motion. All approved.

B. January Neighborhood Social: The January Neighborhood Social will be held at the Des Moines Art Center on Thursday, January 22 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The Roosevelt High School String Quartet will provide musical entertainment. It was consensus of the board that a \$50 gift certificate for the Star Bar be available as a prize again this year.

10. Preparing for the Presidential Nomination: Brad Sammon informed the board that Amy Zuck, the current Vice President, has decided not to seek nomination for President at this year's Annual Meeting. As a result, other candidates for the nomination are needed. In accordance with the bylaws, Brad is not eligible for nomination.

11. Other Business: Discussion was held about needing to update material on the website (e.g., newsletters, minutes, and bylaws) related to our neighborhood association. Brad Sammon will contact Mary Mouw about this.

12. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.