

## AGENDA 27 January 2010

**Pot-luck:** First

**Call to order:** 7:30 pm

Thanks to Sleepy Hollow!

**Guests:**

Special thanks to those who showed up last Thursday also!!

Councilman **Brian Meyer** had to leave early tonight.

**Membership list** has been printed and was passed around. Let us know if you can fill in any blanks that are shown.

**Jim Nelson** – 1020 Knob Hill Dr. was in the paper. I was an assessment against the property is probably when it was boarded up. They don't see it as a public nuisance right now. The furnace, water heater, major things are still there. He does a lot of rental inspections now. Some homes that are in foreclosure have become rental properties with the same owners still living there. These are often first time rentals. His territory is kind of a wedge from 235, University, follow Hubbell up. Leave message on cell phone. Don't text. Send email also.

**Tim Fricke**, sub for Vince – We provide services that affect quality of life. If you have complaints: speeding, long term parking, parking in front yards, conflict with neighbors, around school, etc. We can respond and mediate. You can look up what has happened in our neighborhood on the website [www.crimeview.com](http://www.crimeview.com). Also through City of Des Moines website, police department. It is also on our neighborhood website. Leave message on cell phone. Don't text. Send email also.

One concern was raised by the brick house on the hill just up from Sleepy Hollow. There is much speeding on that hill. It is hard to pull out of the driveway because they come around the corner and down the hill so fast. They can't run the speed monitors in the winter because of the temperature, but could do one this summer. They can have a car down there with a speed gun in the winter.

Second concern is speeding on Knob Hill. People are avoiding the stop sign at Williams and University so they come through Knob Hill.

There was a concern raised about the shortage of police officers. They are not doing any hiring. 911 calls are still a priority. It may not be someone from this area, but someone will come. There is an overlap between shifts now so that is a good thing that has happened. Response times to emergency calls have actually gone down. Illegal parking will be pushed down on the list. There are 7-10 officers on duty any given evening.

**Minutes from last meeting** on web pg: Paper copies anyone?

**Treas report:** Summary of 2009 was passed out. Currently: \$667.83 minus about \$150 for recent purchases and plus a few people paying dues (\$10) and helping with Thanksgiving basket. Submit receipts for reimbursement

**Welcome Committee:** Mary has been out some. 812 Knob Hill didn't have anyone there. Daleena is also on the committee. A new certificate for a key copy at Fairground Hardware has been added to the packet.

**Neighborhood Signage/grants:** Harlan needs to have 2 more estimates by Saturday. Probably won't make it, but they are looking to financial options to get signs announcing the entry to our neighborhood. They will be metal and are around \$100 a sign. We need four.

**Accomplishments in 2009:**

- 2 Honey Locust trees in playground area of park removed. 3<sup>rd</sup> tree to get periodic haircuts (will remove thorns when we call.)

- 1<sup>st</sup> pot-luck

- Garage Sale

- SCRUB DAY (This will be a topic at February's Des Moines Neighborhood meeting. Dave will chair again this year and try to attend that meeting. It needs to be moved to somewhere bigger and be organized differently.)

- Picnic

- Holiday lights winners (shown on website)

- Thanksgiving baskets (2 baskets were delivered and they were very appreciative.)

- Street Clean? It is recommended to have an officer or someone to help protect the group with lights and cones. A few neighbors said they do it throughout the year.

**Goals for 2010 and organizers:**

Does anyone want to make changes/additions/deletions? No one said anything so we will run the same projects next year.

**Des Moines Neighbor's January meeting** is tomorrow night if anyone is interested. Harlan will drive.

**Answer City Questionnaire:** WHAT ARE THE 3 BIGGEST CHALLENGES OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FACES IN 2010. Let Harlan know.

**Cookbooks** are available at \$12. Proceeds to Des Moines Neighbors

**Calendars** available. Harlan's wife's work has offered some.

**Leadership classes available.** Classes are basically free because our neighborhood qualifies for 'scholarships'. No age limits. Some options are:

- Listed on website and a flier to hand out.

  - Developing new leaders

  - Holding better meetings

  - Motivating people

  - Navigating county government

  - Navigating city government

**New development**, not in our neighborhood, but close, they are trying to develop land at 41<sup>st</sup> and Indianapolis. First it was a 105 unit senior apartment complex, then 25 senior duplexes.

It is across the street from the flood plain. Some duplexes close need to be razed now. The problem is when the property is sold, the new owner doesn't usually have to maintain the same rules and it becomes low rent and is not maintained. The last iteration of it was a PUD plan (Publish Urban Development) where the city can put strings on it as to what it can be.

Seniors don't usually want living space they have to maintain, they are old/retired and looking for housing where someone else takes care of it. Duplexes are for young couples.

Developer is Victoria Swanson.

**Sewer line** going in by creek is not the responsibility of the city. Water reclamation is in charge. It looks good with the trees gone and cleaned up. There is only a foot of ice so they can bust through that and start the project now. It could be finished earlier than planned because of that.

**Next meeting**: April 15<sup>th</sup> at Four Mile Community Center. 6:30 is the planned time.

**Adjourn and cleanup**: 8:15 pm