



**Downtown Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2014
6:00 pm
Saddlery Building
309 Court Ave.**

1. Call meeting to order... 6:02 pm
 - a. Present: Bradshaw, Rope, Thompson, Rowe, Lampe
 - b. Guests: Sgt. Neely (DMPD), Phil Kreznor (YPC Impact Committee), Christina Anderson (Iowa Downtown Living Meeting), Jess Erdman (Iowa Homeless Youth Centers), Nathan Blake (Democratic Candidate for Iowa State Senate).
2. Police Crime Report (Sgt) Neely
 - a. Discussed: Dart Depot, no cars allowed, security blocks path, cannot back up with trailer, security reported that driver was intending to run over. No criminal intent was found.
 - b. Assault on police officer, arrest made, man was upset, started to spit at officer.
 - c. Robbery at 430 grand, victim counting cash while walking, person starts to steal money, victim tries to block, responds with punch, breaking glasses, pushes victim, warrant out for arrest.
 - d. Robbery at LaGuardia towers, call received from man that he has been attacked by 2 white males, hit over head, lost consciousness, thinks he may have had vehicle, but person stole watch. Officer sees blood. Another officer sent to another scene, searched the scene and followed pool of blood, found black case, found various items. person had borrowed car and wrecked borrow car. Passed out and said he was robbery, he had committed the crime.
3. Old Business
 - a. Motion to approve February meeting minutes: Rowe



- i. Thompson: second
- ii. Motion passed

4. Officer Reports

a. President's Report (Bradshaw)

- i. City council meeting 2/24/14. Bradshaw, Thompson & Rope attended.
- ii. Nancy Brinkman: asked Board to get in touch with city, 5th & Walnut, opposed to demolishing the garage.
 1. Roger Ferris: Parking ramp has reached end of its life, will be torn down.
 - a. Action will be Larry will ask city to provide more information
 2. Walnut Creek Church reached out, hosting annual event end of May, people volunteer, they contact nonprofits, associates, projects
 - a. Refer them to Operations Downtown for volunteer opportunities.
 3. Senate Bill 2304 and House Bill 2331
 - a. Received letter addressing the board, proposed law that would come in and take away city's ability to regulate neighborhood occupancy and density.
 - i. Thompson suggested to create form letter as we would send, ask for people who oppose, if there is no little opposition, if not, sent board recommending we send.
 - b. Form letter was sent, all cities are opposing.
 - i. Motion to move: Thompson. Second: Rope
 - ii. Bradshaw will include into future community updates



4. Bradshaw shared that DNA will pay \$20 dues to the Des Moines Association.
 5. Bradshaw updated annual survey.
- b. Treasurer's Report (Lampe)
- i. Presented February #'s.
5. New Business
- a. Guest: Nathan Blake, (D), running for Iowa State Senate 17th District. Jack Hatch running for Governor, need signatures to be on the ballot.
 - i. Loves Des Moines, wants to run for his family, in 20 years when his family settles in Des Moines. Grew up in Lincoln, NE. Choose Des Moines in 2005. Lives in Sherman Hill. Worked for Sec Vilsack. Worked to oversee nutrition programs, national school lunch program. Work for Tom Miller, assistant attorney, protect Iowa consumers. Priorities are kids (invest in social safety nets, education tuition), families (increasing minimum wage, healthcare, paid time off, focus on middle class who are getting squeezed) and community (advocate for Des Moines, understands the issues Des Moines faces as urban city versus rural communities). June 3rd is primary. Asked board for signatures in order to get name on ballot.
 - b. Guest: Roger Ferris, President SoCo on 4th. Discussed Hy-Vee Development, asked board to remain aware regarding updates.
 - i. Project started in 1998, city acquired property and then sold to developer. Deal fell thru, no financing was completed. Early 2000's the city asked for another proposal. Did not receive. End of November 2013, Opus wanted to develop part of the space. City said they were interested in developing the whole piece. Which opened up other parties who were additionally interested. When it was opened up publically, City received 5 total proposals for the large 2+ acre site. Staff reviewed all, concluded they



were all good. City recommended the Hy-Vee proposal for council to review.

- ii. Roger reached out to Connie Wimmer, owner of the Depot and combined to speak one voice, worked with each developers either before or after proposals went sent in. wanted to ensure the project interfaced well with the space.
 - iii. Two outstanding companies, both qualified, both had financial stability. Hyvee doesn't need financing, doesn't need tenants, ready to build.
 - iv. Shared handouts regarding key negotiation points (additional housing, 5th street frontage, overall architecture, landscaping, south end interface with the Depot and continue to work with neighborhood for their input).
 - v. Roger suggested it is now a good time for someone to designate a point person from DNA to interact with the City. Thompson volunteered to be contact. Rowe volunteered to attend as well.
 - vi. City is meeting with Knapp next week. Council determined they want a preliminary report in 45 days.
- c. Guest: Christina Anderson/Downtown Living Magazine, largest part of the Big Green Umbrella. Each of their 25 communities has their own magazines. 100% market saturation. Free publication sent to each 4,996 PO box receives in downtown. New program to have ½ page articles monthly wrote by DNA. Two programs were proposed:
1. Option 1: 1/8 page ad, 6 months alternating every other month. \$194 per month.
 2. Option 2: 1/8 page ad 12 months with complimentary monthly half page article. \$168 per month.



- d. Guest: Phil Kreznor (YPC Impact Committee) would like to attend YPC and DNA meetings and serve as a bridge between the 2 organizations. Shared that YPC had 600 members. Great opportunity to partner.
- e. Guest: Jessica Erdman (Iowa Homeless Shelter)
 - i. Introduces herself, wants to attend upcoming meetings and share outreach programs for the community accordingly.
6. Old Business (Bradshaw)
 - a. Non-Profit Application Status - still waiting
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership
 - i. Last month: 12 new members (2 business: Infinity Training & Outreach Africa). 18 renewals (no businesses)
 - ii. Current #s: 269 total paid (187 residents; 28 non-residents; 54 businesses).
 - b. Social Media Report (Rope)
 - i. Facebook likes: 812
 - ii. Twitter: 713 following; 2000 followers
 - c. Social Events Report (Bradshaw)
 - i. Upcoming socials: 3/13 Des Moines Social Club at Firehouse, 4/29 at Iowa Cubs skybox, May at Malo.
8. More New Business:
 - a. Proposed flyers print 2 sets, 1 for commercial and 1 for residential. Rowe proposed board vote via email.
9. Motion to adjourn: Rowe
 - a. Second: Thompson
 - b. Motion passed