

Minutes of the September 2, 2009
Downtown Neighborhood Association
Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order: President, Ms. Brooke Avila, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Roll Call: Board Members Ms. Brooke Avila, Ms. China Wong, Ms. Stacy Berenguel, Mr. Nino Toscano, and Ms. Elizabeth Rudisill were present. DNA members Mr. Larry Bradshaw, Ms. Tammy Berenguel, and Sgt. Misti Allison were also present.

Presentations

Doug from Des Moines Parks and Recreation presented the West Riverside Drive Proposed Master Plan. Features of the plan include a four-acre dog park, skate park, playground, bike skills park, and boat dock/overlook plaza. Doug noted that the riverwalk is intended to be a 24-hour park.

Shallee Keenan from the Des Moines Neighborhood Resource Office (www.dmneighborhoodresources.org) shared information regarding the organization. There are currently three employees working to help 54 neighborhood associations around the city. The office helps with grant writing, leadership courses (starting September 17th), logistics (insurance), plans of action, and volunteering. November 5th is the tentative date for a "Friendraiser" at the Des Moines Social Club; the purpose of this event is to attract more young people to participate in their neighborhood associations. For more information, email Ms. Keenan at skeenan@dmneighborhoodresources.org or via phone at 515.280.6185.

Approval of the May 2009 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Rudisill motioned to approve. Mr. Toscano seconded. Motion was approved by the board.

Des Moines Police Department Report

Sgt. Misti Allison noted that a "Women and Safety" class will be Thursday, September 3rd at 4 PM at 1111 University Ave. Sgt. Allison also noted that the Western Gateway sculpture garden will be open September 22nd. A new website showing Des Moines neighborhood crimes has also been launched: <http://polcvweb/crimeviewweb/>

President's Report

N/A

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Toscano noted that the current DNA balance is \$3975. Ms. Wong motioned to approve Treasurer's Report. Ms. Berenguel seconded. The board approved the Treasurer's Report.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee

N/A

Social

Ms. Tammy Berenguel, social committee member, noted that the next DNA social will be September 24th at 5:30 PM at AJ's on East Court. There will be drink specials and complimentary appetizers. The board commended the social committee for organizing a very successful National Night Out in August.

New Business

Mr. Bradshaw read an email from a DNA member, Mr. Bruce Gerelman, regarding odor in the downtown area. The email asked that the board formulate a position regarding this issue. Ms. Wong motioned for DNA to write a letter to the city council regarding this problem. Ms. Avila seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Avila noted that several people asked about buying DNA t-shirts at National Night Out. Ms. Rudisill offered to spearhead t-shirt sales; t-shirts will now be for sale at all DNA events. Mr. Bradshaw will also post information regarding t-shirts on the DNA website.

Mr. Bradshaw will contact PAW regarding DNA window decals for member businesses.

Ms. Avila stated that Ms. MacQuigg will do the mailings for the membership committee. The membership committee needs more members to help (check-in table) at socials. Mr. Bradshaw will post a call for membership committee volunteers on the website.

Old Business

N/A

Adjournment

Ms. Avila adjourned the meeting 8:12 PM.