

# Des Moines Neighbors Monthly Meeting

**When: Thursday February 25, 2010**

**Time: 7:00pm**

**Where: Mickle Center 1620 Pleasant St.**

**Speaker: Greg Cloe- Des Moines Public Works**

**Topic: 2010 SCRUB Days**



## Have you purchased your DSM Neighbors Cookbook yet?

The long awaited Des Moines Neighbors Cookbook is now available for purchase  
Cost: \$12.00

Books will be sold at various locations around the city including Dahls on Ingersoll. They can also be purchased through the board members of Des Moines Neighbors and at the general Des Moines Neighbors meeting the 4th Thursday of the month.

2010 Alice Rodine Awards  
Mark your calendars for the  
2010 Alice Rodine  
Volunteer Recognition Pot Luck!  
**April 22, 2009**  
**7:00pm—Mickle Center**  
Nomination forms are available at  
**www.dmneighbors.org** or you can  
submit your nomination online!

## The future of Neighborhood Based Service Delivery?

**By Brian L. Millard**

During the latest round of budget discussions, the City Manager's office proposed cuts in the Neighborhood Based Service Delivery program. (NBSD) Whether this was a serious consideration or just thrown out there for shock value is unknown, but the affect of a cut such as this would be far reaching and have serious long ranging consequences. Many of us in the neighborhoods could not understand how such a short sighted decision could be proposed.

Some may ask, why retain NBSD? Is it worth the cost or just a frill? A little historical review is in order.

With the implementation of technology, community policing had slowly eroded in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. With the advent of computers, reliable two way communication and 911, the neighborhood beat cop disappeared. With that, the connection between our police officers and the community was severed. No longer was the beat cop seen and known by the community. The trust that was forged over time was gone, replaced by modernization. Crime, Blight and Apathy increased as the neighborhoods became isolated from the city.

In 1999, City Manager Eric Anderson, started the Neighborhood

Based Service Delivery program. This was an attempt to bring the neighborhoods in greatest need due to crime and zoning enforcement issues closer to the city and try to turn them around. Teams made up of City Staff and Police Sergeants were assembled to meet with neighborhood representatives to develop teams to combat issues within each targeted neighborhood.

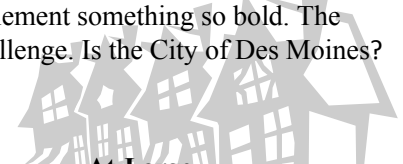
Over the last 10+ years this program has been tweaked several times but we all have seen the successes. The results speak for themselves. NBSD works. It works so well that other neighborhoods ask why they aren't included. That question deserves some thought. When NBSD is well coordinated and crime, code violations and city services are addressed, neighborhoods improve, property valuations increase and people move back in instead of out.

So, to answer the questions posed, the answer is YES. NBSD has value and has been a great success.

I would like to suggest that all of the city's 55 neighborhoods should have a NBSD team assembled and assigned to them. This could be done by redirecting existing city personnel and resources. If properly administered, real savings would be realized and issues that contribute to slum and blight would be addressed and solved. Real leadership is needed to implement something so bold. The neighborhoods are up for the challenge. Is the City of Des Moines?

## Des Moines Neighbors Board of Directors:

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Vice Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_ At Large: \_\_\_\_\_ At Large: \_\_\_\_\_ At Large: \_\_\_\_\_



In attendance: Cindy Christian, Leander Harral, Jim Wickham, Lynn Cutshall, Harlan Donaldson, Paul Sadler, Paul Cole, Tina Payton,  
Brian Millard, Don Vines, Laura Rettig  
NRO Staff: Shallee Keenan  
Approval of Agenda: Harlan Donaldson, Lynn Cutshall

Approval of September Minutes: Brian Millard, Harlan Donaldson

Correction to Minutes: Bus benches- request that Des Moines Neighbors see the bus benches and they were not allowed.

Guest Speaker: Joe Gonzalez City of Des Moines Police Department Neighborhood Based Service Delivery Program Updates  
New program brochure

Joe Gonzales is not new to neighborhood policing, has been working with various programs throughout Des Moines.  
Trying to get more people involved in groups across the city and make sure he knows the face of the leaders.

Questions:

Any changes this year based on the budget?

Answer: It's too early to tell. There will be something in place, but what it will look like may change. It is an important component of the city and the work done in the neighborhood associations.

B. Millard would like to have Sgt. Joe Gonzales back to DSM Neighbors meeting after the budget issues have been decided.

New Union - the vote did pass, negotiations will start in the fall

Injured Officers Update

Sgt. Larina Blad- She is back at work and doing fairly well.

Officer Nick Lloyd- progressive is phenomenal, he is recovering and wants to come back to the force

Officer Todd Roland- It was a deer slug that was shot. Still at work on light duty, making great progress

Neighborhood Resource Office Report

NRLC Program Spring Class Schedule Now available

COPS MESSAGES

Des Moines Neighbors Report

Cookbooks are for sale:

\$12.00 for sale at Dahls

Leander Harral suggested the gift shop at the historical building & the capitol

Where do proceeds go: Des Moines Neighbors

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer is absent

Balance: \$ 718.18 should be the balance

Larry Rogers: Year end stats from Vice and Narcotics are available

\$1,638,214.75 is the total value of Drugs seized in the past year

Who gets the proceeds from the drug busts? Cost sharing?

- the money does get broken down and costs shared.

Retirement date for Larry Rogers- Mid July Request to have Larry at the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting

New Business

Tina Payton on behalf of The Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association brought up discussion regarding:

- Hazardous tree on private property and issues that arise between neighbors.

- If any part of the tree is on his property he should have the right to take the tree down.

- Any concerns over the ordinance?

B. Millard - there is talk about working on an additional ordinance coming up

-CJ Stephens and trees forever are real front people on getting this started again

Medians on University

Viaduct along east university all the way down to the fairgrounds main gates:

- what kind of attention can be put around getting those medians fixed

important that neighborhoods stand firm that grant has to come down quickly

Des Moines Neighbors will watch this subject very closely and report back what can be done and any changes.

B. Millard

Bus bench issue & discussion

Believe that the new ordinance may come up at the next council meeting in February

Paul Cole

Paul Sadler