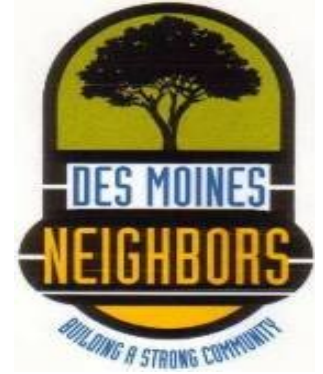


DES MOINES NEIGHBORS NEWS

AUGUST 2010



General Des Moines Neighbors Meeting

When: Thursday August 25th, 2010

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Mickle Center 1620 Pleasant St.

Open Forum to Discuss Neighborhood Issues & Des Moines Neighbors

Des Moines Neighbors

Board of Directors:

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AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS...

We, DMN, double booked speakers for the July meeting. That was a good thing.

We had both P&Z explaining the Payday Lender issue that is before them, and had an opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

And, we had Pat Kozitza from Public Works explaining the "Pilot Neighborhood" snow removal proposal for neighborhoods. Both were relevant and timely topics. Unfortunately the timely part ran us out of time for our elections. That was actually a good thing as well for the following reasons.

Des Moines Neighbors is at a crossroads.

When the issue of our tax exempt status was resolved by separating Des Moines Neighbors (DMN) Not tax exempt and forming the Neighborhood Resource Office (NRO) Tax exempt we created two entities that were meant to compliment each other. With DMN continuing to advocate, lobby, and do whatever it takes on behalf of our collective neighborhoods. And, the NRO providing needed support services to them.

What we failed to do at that time was to define what each is responsible for in terms of each other, what areas should and should not be duplicated, and a myriad of other items.

That is our present opportunity and is why the elections and a basic "town hall" meeting is all that is on our agenda for the August meeting.

We, in a nutshell, need to decide what we want to be when we grow up and who will be carrying our desires in the coming year.

Harlan Donaldson
DMN

Payday Lenders and Our Neighborhoods

A hot topic of the hour is Pawn Shops and Payday Lenders. For years, many have complained about both businesses but little if anything has been done. Quite a few Des Moines Neighbors members have expressed the opinion that Pawn Shops signal that an area is heading down hill and that a Payday Lender draw the economically challenged into a never ending cycle of high interest and possible bankruptcy.

Should the two be linked together and regulated as the City Council has suggested?
Good question. So what can be done?

The problem the city faces is what regulation will answer the concerns of its residents and be defensible in the courts. Banks do not have these restrictions forced upon them. Some would say Payday Lenders are delivering services similar to that of a Bank or Credit Union. If our elected representatives push for something that the courts end up overturning, we will be back where we started but with a lot less money if damages are awarded.

Many of our members have let their thoughts be known asking the city to regulate these businesses. A group has suggested a ratio such as 1 for every 20,000 residents be applied. Others have pushed for regulations that place them in a more restrictive zoning class such as C-2 or M-1. Some want the city to require a separation from like businesses and residentially zoned property.

So what else can you do? Urge those on the City Council to take your concern to heart and find a real solution that holds up in court. Also contact your elected representatives at the Statehouse to look at the regulation of interest rates and “fees” charged. Countless other States have already found solutions so this shouldn’t be difficult.

I’ll see you around our city. - Brian L. Millard



Upcoming Des Moines Neighborhood Events

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| August 24– | Laurill Hill Neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm Willard Elementary School |
| September 1– | Waveland Park Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm College Avenue Christian Church |
| September 7– | Mckinley/ Columbus Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm McKinley School Cafeteria |
| | Pioneer Park Neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm Sutton hill Apartments |
| | Ft. Des Moines Neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm S.S. Senior Center |
| September 8– | Drake Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Holiday Inn Express |
| September 9– | Capitol Park Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Wesley Methodist Church |
| September 11& 12– | Riverbend Annual Home Tour |
| September 12– | North of Grand Centennial Celebration 2:00-5:00pm 40th & Ingersoll Avenue |
| September 14– | Chautauqua Park neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm Member’s Home |
| | Capitol East Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Capitol View School |
| | Highland Park Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Park Fair Mall |
| | Union Park Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Grandview Univ. Humphry Center |
| | Douglas Acres Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Staves Methodist Church |
| September 20– | Mondamin Presidential Neighborhood Meeting 6:00pm Casady School Building |
| September 21– | ACCENT Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Dahls on Hubbel Avenue |
| | Watrous South neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm Southside Library |
| | MLK JR. Park Meeting 7:00pm Logan Community Center |
| | Prospect Park Neighborhood Meeting 6:30pm Broadlawns Medical Center |
| | Westwood Neighborhood meeting 7:00pm Hanawalt School |
| | Woodland Heights Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm Daycare for Exceptional Children |

Des Moines Neighbors Board Elections are August 26th 2010!

Reminder:

Des Moines Neighbors elections were
postponed from July.

Please cast your vote this month!

Date	SCRUB Location	Time	Neighborhoods
Aug. 21	Polk County RiverPlace 2309 Euclid (old Target)	7am-noon	Mondamin Presidential Chautauqua Park Drake Park King Irving Martin-Hickman Prospect Park
	MWA transfer station, 4198 Delaware (trash)	7am-1pm	
	Compost Center, 1601 Harriett	7am-1pm	
Sept. 18	Hy-Vee, SE 14 th & Park	7am-noon	Indianola Hills Mckinley School/ Columbus Park Pioneer Park
	MWA transfer station, 4198 Delaware (trash)	7am-1pm	
	Compost Center, 1601 Harriett	7am-1pm	
Oct. 16	Roosevelt High School north lot (Polk Blvd & Chamberlain)	7am-noon	Waterbury Ingersoll Park Linden Heights Salisbury Oaks Waveland Woods Waveland Park Westwood
	MWA transfer station, 4198 Delaware (trash)	7am-1pm	
	Compost Center, 1601 Harriett	7am-1pm	
Nov. 20	MWA transfer station, 4198 Delaware (trash)	7am-1pm	
	Compost Center, 1601 Harriett	7am-1pm	
	Compost Center, 1601 Harriett	7am-1pm	

Des Moines Neighbors Minutes

July 22, 2010

Location: Robert W. Mickle Neighborhood Resource Center

In attendance: Don Vines, Dave Stephenson, JoAnn Hanover, Jane Linthicum, Karen Shoopman, Leander Harrell, Mike & Marilyn Nizzi, Brian Millard, Paul Cole, Paul Sadler, Charles Lydonn, Viola Christianson, James Wickham, Cindy Christian, Harlan Donaldson

Approval of the Agenda: Paul Cole

Second: Harlan Donaldson

Approval of Minutes:

Correction to minutes: Couldn't understand comments given by group on recorder. Something about Jim Wickham.

Approval with corrections: Harlan Donaldson

Second: Brian Millard

Speaker: Pat Kozitka- DSM Public Works

Brief Presentation about new snow policy and questions.

Grow program where snow patrol better works in residential streets. Equipment will be mounted with different plows that could clear a street in two passes. This is being used in many surrounding communities. They would like to use these plows on main snow routes.

The streets have to be No Parking to use this on them.

Tested the program in the Waterbury neighborhood, Meredith and Douglas Acres have been pilot tested with very positive feedback.

Gets residue off and reduces the amount left. They will be plowed fast and be called Snow Priority Streets. The plows will be there more often.

Action steps they need: submittal to the council by September 27th to have it in play by winter. Up to 22 plows this year.

They are looking to bring on seven more neighborhoods that are looking to do this program.

What happens if you get too many neighborhoods on board? In areas that are additionally after the first come, first serve, they would even try to get the new equipment out to those areas.

Questions about other situations regarding areas with only street parking.

Questions about public works picking up tree branches. The compost park was opened on July 24th and you can take a lot of sizes out there. Picking up at the curb if bundled and stickered, site open for others.

Payday Loans- Eric Lundy Senior City Planner with Planning and Urban Design City of Des Moines

May 17th City of Des Moines enacted a moratorium on two categories of use.

1. Pawn/ Brokering- collateral type loans- Regulated by licensing by the City of Des Moines. Enforced by Des Moines Police. Well distributed, generally on highway corridors. They are fairly well established in most cases.

2. Late deposit services/ pay day loans/ alternative lending services- non- traditional banking entity that charges high levels of interest rates. Short term or emergency type services. Repeat customers can't roll over.

These entities like to be concentrated near each other, so tends to cluster. The close proximity allows customers to go to one after another for loans after they have visited the first one.

Concerns: Because they are seen as predatory in their nature towards disadvantaged individuals, they carry a stigma about them. They may deter other businesses and entities from moving into the areas. Can prove to a great economic impact on an area.

Discussion about regulating these entities by using zoning ordinances to separate them from certain other institutions.

Moratorium will expire on November 9th 2010.

Still in the investigation phase of this right now.

Questions and concerns raised by group.

- Other predatory lenders in Des Moines....

Lengthy discussion regarding the process and input for this topic within the city and formal outlets.

Des Moines Neighbors can put input on other options to help.

- Des Moines Neighbors would like to form a committee to gather options. Cindy will take names.

Marty Mauk, Karen Shoopman and Brian Millard.

Des Moines Neighbors By-Laws Revisions

- No time

B. Millard moves that we suspend the by-laws regarding elections

New Business

On the agenda request for next month: Issue about hours for North side and Forest Avenue Libraries.

NE Neighbors will support negotiating with the Library Board and the City on Hours across the city. Would also like to see Des Moines

Neighbors to take that on.

Dave Stephenson: Discussion about youth offenders all over the city and Meyer Hall. Would like to get something started to combat the disturbances of youth and where they go if a problem arises.

Motion to Adjourn: Paul Cole