



# Des Moines Neighbors & The Neighborhood Resource Office E-Newsletter

July 2008

## In This Issue

- July Meeting
- Flood Clean-Up
- NRLC Fall Schedule
- June Meeting Minutes

## NRO Staff

Executive Director-

*Kimberly Hansen*

Office Manager –

*Ami Rodman*

Interim Thrivent Project  
Manager-

*Sadie Hildebrand*

## DMN Board

Board Of Directors

Cindy Christian – Chair

### Des Moines Neighbors Monthly Meeting-Thursday, July 24th Meeting location changed to the Mickle Center!!

We have guest speaker Mike Ludwig come to talk about the current procedures for removing convenience store canopies.

We will also have an election of officers, vote on the Des Moines Neighbors by-laws and have other updates and neighborhood reports.

**We hope you will join us on July 24th at 7 PM in the Mickle Center, 1620 Pleasant Street.**

### Flood Clean Up Efforts

Last weekend, 23 Des Moines neighbors traveled to Cedar Rapids to wear the orange long sleeve T-shirts, the mark of a “Corridor Recovery Volunteer,” and put in 6 long hours of removing plaster, tearing down ceilings from first floors and removing washers, dryers and water heaters from the muddy cellars with one inch of “muck” on the floors.

While we were in Cedar Rapids, several neighbors worked on recovery in the Birdland neighborhood. Ed Conlow, President of the Waveland Neighborhood and Jack Daugherty, Co-chair of the Union Park Neighborhood coordinated the effort with volunteers from Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Together, the two groups represent the tale of two cities. Des Moines was protected from the

ACCENT Neighborhood

Ed Conlow –

Vice President

Waveland Park  
Neighborhood

Delos Swanson –  
Treasurer

Beaverdale  
Neighborhood

Val Allen- Secretary  
Mondamin Presidential  
Neighborhood

Jeff Johannsen – At  
Large

Downtown  
Neighborhood

**Contact Us**

Mailing Address:

1620 Pleasant Street  
Des Moines, IA 50314

Telephone:

515-280-1807

Fax Number:

515-280-6185

Website:

[www.dmneighbors.org](http://www.dmneighbors.org)

Neighborhood  
Assistance Drop-In  
Times:

raging waters with the exception of a weak levee that should have been replaced years ago. Even though several dozen Des Moines families continue to be anxious about their future, on the whole, Des Moines was saved. It is another story in Cedar Rapids. It was hit by land saturated from the long wet winter and soaking spring rains. This forced the water over dozens of levees and inundated the entire downtown of Cedar Rapids and 60 square blocks of residential homes.

Cedar Rapids volunteers consisted of Kimberly Hansen, Executive Director of the DM Neighborhood Resource Office, Senator Jack Hatch and his daughter Caslon Hatch, Jack Porter, the state’s preservation officer, Marie Steenlage, the state’s neighborhood specialist, Donna & John Hallstrom, President of Sherman Hill, Ryan Galloway, Matt Coen, Larry and Lisa Vavroch, Susan Ellsworth, Charles and Leah Pope, and members of the Vineyard Church, Katie Kisling, Kevin Blocher, Karen and Clayton Kennedy, Rowena and Barry Schweizer, Jay and Issac Ewart, and Pam Reese. The Birdland volunteers included a crew from Westminster Presbyterian Church, along with neighborhood leaders Ed Conlow, John Morrissey, and Jack Daugherty.



**Your Help is Needed--  
ComNet Program Update**

The Indianola Hills ComNet survey has been rescheduled to August 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have a short training on Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 4-5:30 PM at the Mickle Center. On Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at the Archie Brooks Community Center at 7 AM for a short follow-up training and then head out to begin the survey. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Volunteers are needed to help with this survey. Please contact Ami Rodman at 515-280-1807 to volunteer.

Meredith has begun to get their routes mapped out and their survey will take place this September.

There is one last slot left for a neighborhood to get involved in ComNet. We will do the last survey of the year in the month of October. If your neighborhood is interested, contact the Neighborhood Resource Office for your application. Don’t miss your chance to participate in this exciting citizen input program!! Call today!

10:00-2:00 M-F  
excluding holidays or  
by appointment.

## Welcome Two New Neighborhoods

On June 9, 2008, the Des Moines City Council formally recognized two new south side neighborhood associations.

The Gray's Lake Neighborhood Association makes up the northern half of what used to be the Greater Southside Neighborhood Association. Their neighborhood boundaries are Fleur Drive on the west, SW 9<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Raccoon River on the north, and Watrous Avenue on the south.

### Subscribe

To be added to our electronic mailing list, please send an e-mail to [dmneighbors1@aol.com](mailto:dmneighbors1@aol.com) with "subscribe to e-newsletter" on the subject line.

The Watrous South Neighborhood Association makes up the southern half of what used to be the Greater Southside Neighborhood Association. Their neighborhood boundaries are Fleur Drive on the west, SW 9<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Watrous Avenue on the north, and Army Post Road on the south.

Welcome to these two new neighborhood associations! Best of luck in all your community work!

### Unsubscribe

To be removed from our electronic mailing list, please send an e-mail to [dmneighbors1@aol.com](mailto:dmneighbors1@aol.com) with "unsubscribe to e-newsletter" on the subject line.



## Neighborhood Summit

The 5th Annual Neighborhood Summit is Thursday, September 4 and Friday, September 5th in Omaha, NE. This event brings the neighborhood leaders from Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha, and Minneapolis together to discuss neighborhood issues, concerns, and solutions to problems. The event is sponsored by Bank of the West. If you are interested in attending, please contact Ami Rodman at 280-1807.

## New website!

Check out our new website at [www.dmneighbors.org](http://www.dmneighbors.org). This website will be updated weekly. For information on upcoming events/meetings, be sure to check our website often. We have a new master calendar for all neighborhood associations meetings, so please be sure to check and make sure that the information for your neighborhood is accurate.

---

## Neighborhood Resident Leadership Certificate Program Fall Classes Start September 16<sup>th</sup>!!

We are proud to announce the new fall class schedule for the upcoming semester. Call the Neighborhood Resource Office today to find out if you qualify for a scholarship!

### CORE CLASSES:

#### **Power of Working Together (Core 5) 4 Hours**

CRN 15301—Tues/Thurs—Sept. 16 & 18, 2008

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Discover the characteristics of a successful team—understanding the goals, placing people in the right positions, and building in diversity. Focus on developing and improving decision-making skills

#### **Leadership Building Blocks (Core 6) 4 Hours**

CRN 15302--Tues/Thurs—Sept. 23 & 25, 2008

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Learn when to hold and not hold a meeting, the importance of an agenda and minutes, and how to avoid meeting hijacking.

#### **Knowing Me, Knowing You (Core 3) 4 Hours**

CRN 15303—Tues/Thurs—Sept. 30 & Oct. 2, 2008

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Understand how interaction styles and cultural differences impact the effectiveness of groups. Learn how to harness the similarities and differences to set and achieve community goals. **Class will meet 7-9:30 pm on Tues. and 7-9 pm on Thurs.**

#### **Communicating for Results (Core 1) 4 Hours**

CRN 15304—Tues/Thurs—Oct. 7 & 9, 2008

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Emphasis will be placed on relationship development, public presentations, building consensus, leadership styles, and the three crucial variables of negotiation.

#### **The Art of Influencing Others (Core 2) 4 Hours**

CRN 15305—Tues/Thurs—Oct. 14 & 16, 2008

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Discover influencing strategies and how to package ideas to gain commitment from even the most skeptical person.

#### **Handling Conflict & Change (Core 4) 4 Hours**

CRN 15306—Tues/Thurs—Oct. 21 & 23, 2008

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Urban Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 103--\$65

Topics include conflict resolution styles, the steps of anger management, non-verbal responses, and natural reactions to change and how to deal with them.

## **ELECTIVE CLASSES:**

**Name of Course:** Multi-Neighborhood Collaboratives

**Date(s):** Oct 28, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** Collaborative efforts can make a positive outcome in dealing with commercial corridors, transportation, crime, safety and many more. Learn how to effectively build collaborative efforts with business and other neighborhoods to enhance your neighborhood's goals.

**Name of Course:** Networking In Neighborhoods

**Date(s):** Nov 6, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** Effective networking skills can enhance volunteer recruitment efforts in your neighborhood, especially when done regularly. Students will learn techniques in listening, communication, and engaging individuals in neighborhood association activities.

**Name of Course:** Neighborhood Fundraising

**Date(s):** Nov 11, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** What techniques are needed to effectively fundraise for your neighborhood association? How do you best prepare your neighborhood association to be ready to raise funds? Students will study how to create a statement of need, create interest for others to give and establish a positive fundraising track record.

**Name of Course:** Mature Neighborhood Issues

**Date(s):** Nov 13, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** Mature neighborhood associations face sustainability problems in recruiting new volunteers, maintaining leadership and institutional knowledge. Learn how to deal with these inevitable needs that all mature neighborhood associations struggle with.

**Name of Course:** Neighborhood Political Relationships

**Date(s):** Nov 18, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** Neighborhood associations deal with political issues and elected officials on a regular basis. To be effective, neighborhoods need to build working relationships with elected officials. Students will participate in a panel discussion in identifying how to best utilize these relationships to help meet your neighborhood goals.

**Name of Course:** Neighborhood & Nonprofit Links

**Date(s):** Nov 20, 2008 **Time:** 7:05 – 9:05 pm

**Description:** How can working with nonprofit organizations enhance your neighborhood goals? Are there non-profits working in your neighborhood already? Learn how to identify the right nonprofit connections to positively develop your neighborhood outcomes.

---

## **Iowa Disaster Victims Program**

At MidAmerican Energy Company, we understand the difficult challenges residents may be facing as a result of recent flooding. MidAmerican is making every effort to lessen some of the concerns residents may have with your utility bills.

During the next two billing cycles or approximately 60 days, MidAmerican will implement the following measures for all customers residing in areas impacted by flooding:

- Waive late payment charges
- Suspend collection activities
- Extend an additional payment agreement option
- Provide a 60-day extension on final bills

To help with equipment replacement costs, MidAmerican has increased its 2008 rebate amounts on qualifying energy-efficient equipment and insulation for customers in areas impacted by flooding.

Please contact MidAmerican for specific information who will qualify for this program and the list of replacement equipment and associated rebate amounts. Call 888-427-5632 - Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

---

### **By-Law Review Committee Update**

The final set of Des Moines Neighbors by-laws will be voted on at this month's Des Moines Neighbors Meeting.

---

### **Citizen's Police Academy**

The Citizen's Police Academy is full and it looks like classes will begin in August. The DMPD would like to look at doing a special academy for just members of Des Moines Neighbors again next year depending on interest! Watch for more information in early 2009!



**Our 62nd Summer  
Free Sunday Evening Concerts  
at the Iowa State Capitol Building**

July 27 – Iowa Military Veterans Band  
August 3 – Des Moines Municipal Band

The concerts will again be held at the State Capitol on the West steps beginning at 6:30pm. If you have any questions, contact the Des Moines Musicians Association at **255-1398**.

---

**Des Moines Neighbors Meeting  
June 26, 2008  
General Membership Meeting  
Minutes**

**In attendance:** Jo Corigliano, James Wickham, Jane Linthicum, Don Vines, Holly Olson, Nadine Hogate, Kristi Malone, Larry Rogers, Don Shaw, Ward Iutzi, Marie Steenlage, Jeff Johannsen, Ed Conlow, Sharon Murphy, Kimberly Hansen, Sadie Hildebrand, Dave Dunn, and Cindy Christian.

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

Approval of agenda by Nadine, second by Jo Corigliano. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes of May, move to approve by Jim Wickham, second by Ed Conlow, Motion carried.

**Guest Speaker Foreclosure Presentation**

Dave Dunn, neighborhood planner with the City of Des Moines, talked about foreclosures in Des Moines. Dave gave a PowerPoint presentation. Dave talked about how foreclosures worked. Foreclosure can cause eye sores in neighborhoods because people in this situation typically give up on the maintenance and upkeep. Dave talked about how the mortgage industry has changed over the past 10-15 years. Holly Olson, Neighborhood Finance Corporation, talked about the various options now available to homeowners. The increase in foreclosures in Des Moines was low compared to the national average. The south and east sides of Des Moines are where the highest concentration of foreclosures is taking place. Dave presented some maps with statistical data. These maps can be emailed out to the neighborhood associations. The one thing people have to know is that people facing foreclosure need to ask for help. Bill Roach from the Attorney's General Office, talked about the Iowa Mortgage Hotline which was created by several different groups that partnered in response to this crisis. This is a free and confidential service. Right now, they are really trying to get the word out and get people to call the hotline at the earliest possible time in the foreclosure process. Bill also mentioned the website: [www.iowamortgagehelp.com](http://www.iowamortgagehelp.com). Bill's phone number is 281-5536. The Neighborhood Resource Office will send out Dave Dunn's handouts via email, and will place on the website.

**Thrivent**

Kimberly Hansen introduced Sadie Hildebrand, interim Project Manager for the Thrivent Builds Neighborhoods. Sadie talked about herself and the Thrivent planning process. Kimberly talked about the hiring process for the person that is going to replace Sadie. Applications are being accepted until 6/30/08.

**Business Record**

The new 2008 issue is out. Please feel free to take some back to your neighborhood. There are still some errors, but we are working on finding a way to make sure issues have no errors.

**ComNet**

Kimberly passed around a handout on ComNet. The survey for Indianola Hills was canceled due to the flooding in the City of Des Moines. We will let you know when the survey is rescheduled because we will need some volunteers. We still have an open slot for a neighborhood survey to participate in ComNet October 2008, please cover this with your neighborhood and get your neighborhood signed up!

**NRLC**

Kimberly presented stats from our last semester. The class schedule is out for the upcoming fall classes and classes start in September. Please pass information out in your neighborhoods. Registrations will start on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Neighborhood Summit**

Des Moines was the host city last year with over 200 in attendance! This year the Summit will be in Omaha on September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Bank of the West sponsors this event. If you are interested in going, contact the NRO office at 280-1807. Thursday is about 11 AM-8 PM and Friday goes from 8 am to Noon to give people to drive

back home.

### **Iowa Department of Economic Development**

Kimberly introduced Marie Steenlage. Marie is working on a new neighborhood project on the state level. She will probably be visiting various neighborhoods throughout the City and doing research.

### **Convenience Store Canopy Removals**

Ed Conlow asked if the membership wants to pursue canopies removed once the gas station has closed their doors. This issue has come up through the work of the Convenience Store Ordinance committee last year. It was decided that we should invite a speaker next month to discuss the current procedures with the City and what we need to do to ensure these canopies are removed and don't become eye sores.

### **By-law Review Report**

The most current copies of the revised by-laws were passed out.

Discussion was held regarding the following items:

Nadine Hogate had a question about committees.

Cindy will take the extra committees if others are not available to chair them.

There was clarification that the bylaws current affairs and legislative could be combined into one committee. No Financial Committee since this is the job of the treasurer and no computer programs committee since the lab is self sufficient now. The event committee is busy two times out of the year with the Alice Rodine & December holiday potlucks. Committees will bring reports to the general membership when there is activity. So each committee wouldn't have reports each month.

Jim Wickham commented that the legislative & current affairs have combined descriptions and thinks this is acceptable.

We need to amend Article 7, Section 5. Nadine Hogate suggested the three at-large Board Members should be the chairpersons of the standing committees. Cindy called for a motion amend Article 7, Section 5. Friendly amendment by Jim Wickham made to motion to accept the bylaws with corrections as discussed tonight. Motion was seconded by Jo Corigliano.

Cindy called for a motion to amend Article 8 The standing committees will be Development, Legislative/Current Affairs, and Events. Ed will move the friendly amendment, Jo will second, motion carried.

Cindy talked about the schedule for the Nomination Committee because the Board's interim period is over in July. Discussion reverted back to the by-laws and the new terms set for the Board of Directors. No Nominating Committee was established. Someone from the current Board will be serving on the Nominating Committee.

**Treasurer's Report:** DMN Balance \$1,160.79

### **Call for new business:**

Jo Corigliano mentioned that the agenda was way too long and we need to figure out a way to shorten the meeting. A suggestion was made to limit guest speakers to 30 minutes and enforce the limit, and possibly have a timer to indicate when time is up. Speakers tend to go over and we need time to conduct our business after the guest speakers.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm**

*Our newsletters made possible with the support of:*



*It's our name . . . and our promise.*

**FIRST AMERICAN  
BANK**

*Helping you succeed*

**515-226-9998**

**Firstamericanbankia.com**

Member FDIC

Equal Housing Lender



*Serving all your insurance needs!*

**Vines Insurance**

Donald Vines

1531 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50314-1912  
Phone: 515-282-5233  
Fax: 515-284-6563  
Email: vinesinsurance@msn.com

*Auto, Home, Renters, Health, Life,  
Medicare, and Business*

**OVERMANS  
INDOOR COMFORT  
SYSTEMS**

*Jerry Overman Kathy Overman*

Des Moines, Iowa  
Phone 266-4009



Furnace and Air  
Conditioner Repair and  
Installation

*Licensed-Bonded-Insured*