

**Drake Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express Meeting Room**

Board members present (X), term expires as noted					
	Deb Austin (12/31/10)	X	Barb Freeman (12/31/09)	X	Vince Rubino (12/31/09)
	Dean Blum (12/31/10)	X	Kendall Dillon (12/31/10)	X	Claudia Schabel (12/31/09)
X	Bill Cappuccio (12/31/09)	X	Eldon McAfee (12/31/09)	X	Deric Gourd (12/31/10)
	Bonita Crowe (12/31/09)	X	Dolph Pulliam	X	Kevin VenHaus (12/31/10)
X	Trish Davis (12/31/10)	X	Betsey Qualley (12/31/10)	X	Bruce Wilson (12/31/09)
X	Eric Moore, NBSD		Officer Mulford		Ed Leedom, NBSD

1. Call to Order

Kendall called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Woody's Smoke Shack

Proposed zoning request for expansion; has no plans to make the building large enough to require additional parking. Would like a letter from us supporting his request. Bill C. proposed we write a letter of support and Kevin seconded the motion, passed with aye vote.

4. Residents with Landlord Concerns

Rose Scott and Eddie Robinson who live at 1083 27th (duplex) discussed the illegal activity they have observed in nearby buildings: 2640 Cottage Grove (specifically unit #1) , 1087 27th & 2650 Cottage Grove (a second level apartment specifically). Ms. Scott believes she has seen drug deals and has called police and her landlord numerous times. Neighbor Heather Comacho was also present to support the concerns expressed by Rose & Eddie. All would like our help dealing with the landlords because they are renting without doing background checks. Eric Moore reported that he has sited some of the properties owned by this landlord. Bill C. suggested that we call a meeting with this landlord similar to what we have done with Critelli. Neighbors are also encouraged to continually contact the police as well as the landlords as long as the illegal activity goes on.

Claudia will update the residents who have expressed concerns about what progress is made by NBSD. Discussed possible actions that could be taken.

5. Community Garden

Eddie Robinson who runs the community garden would like to open up more space for the garden because they have such a long waiting list for it. Kevin is working on some additional spaces that might be available for community gardening.

6. Neighborhood Based Service Delivery/Nest Update

Officer Ihde will open up Cottage Grove as a speed zone and therefore will be stationed there periodically.

Eric Moore reported that there was a fire at 3204 School yesterday. 26th Street issue with Critelli properties has been under control lately. A couple of the vacant properties owned by Jack Stuart on 26th have been vacant for almost a year now which would mean they will lose their grandfathering for rental.

7. Intro of our new board member, Deric Gourd

8. Neighborhood Planning-

Updates from subcommittee meetings:

Parks & Trails- Vince & Kevin chairing, only had a few who attended the first meeting. Starting by looking at Drake Park and Witmer Park. At the second meeting will discussion bike and walking trails. Would like more people to join this committee.

Housing- Barb & Deric chairing, had good attendance. Have 3 informational areas that they would like to go over and then one meeting with the city. See attached handouts. Would like landlords to attend future meetings. Dolph let us know that Drake would like have representatives sitting on the various committees as well. Drake University does want to support our efforts with this.

Drake Relationship- Bill C. & Claudia chairing, had great attendance. Wanting to have involvement from area businesses too. Have been discussing "branding" the neighborhood and how it is perceived. Discussed partnering with area schools.

- 9. Website-** Trish gave an update on what the website committee is working on. DNA now has a facebook page. Working on administrative changes to the site before the redesign takes place. Researching different ways to update the site.

10. Quarterly Meeting/ Plant Sale-

Kevin has everything ready for the plant sale, which will be held in the Papa Johns parking lot on April 25th & 26th.

The quarterly meeting will be on April 24th at 6:30pm at 40th & School. Will allow Save The Green to speak for 15 minutes at the quarterly meeting. Will also update on the planning process. All plants will be 25% off to those attending the meeting.

Will need to have volunteers to work the sale both days, each day is 7 hours.

11. Scrub Day is April 18th

Would like a few people from the neighborhood to come and work.

12. Meeting with Critelli-

Had a follow-up meeting with Critelli today. He has established a criteria for rental applications now. He is doing background checks now and says he has declined 6 people in the last month.

Discussion of amount of crime in our neighborhood. Officer Ihde and Eric Moore let us know that we are not a high on crime in our neighborhood, especially compared to other neighborhoods.

13. Relays Parade

Bill Lahay is heading it up again and will send us information.

- 14. Water Station-** need volunteers for the Relays Marathon. Station will be at 32nd & Kingman and the marathon will start at 8:00am.

- 15. Drake Farmer's Market-** Will start in June. Expect to have more vendors this year.

16. Adjourn

Kendall adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.