



Board Members Present (X)					
X	Ibrahim Ali (12/18)		Deric Gourd (12/18)	X	Jen Sayers (12/19)
X	Nadia Ali (12/18)	X	Kristina Johnson (12/18)	X	Erin Sears(12/19)
X	Lori Calhoun (12/19)	X	Eldon McAfee (12/19)	X	Mark Schneider (12/19)
	Michael Christl (12/19)	X	Nichole Aksamit Purcell (12/18)	X	Todd Slaymaker (12/18)
X	Amy Clark (12/18)	X	Eddie Robinson (12/18)		John Smith (12/19)
			Mark McKinney (NBSD)	X	Eric Barker (NBSD)

Drake Neighborhood Board Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, March 21, 2018, Forest Ave.

Note: All votes are in bold italics.

6:00 Board Business

Approval of Agenda and February Minutes ***approved***

Financials – Mark 1996.03 checking 21,346.00 savings

1107 24th st. Mark Critelli property PnZ April 5th at 6PM single family home now wants to make it a 3 plex. This is a smaller home not conducive to bring multi family. DNA opposed to zoning change, Jen will attend pnz meeting to represent the DNA’s position.

Opportunity Zone - 2 zones in Drake neighborhood qualify for a new tax reduction program, similar to TIF credits, went in front of city council Monday night and both Drake zones are approved and the #1 project. Cottage Grove to MLK to 31st, Northeast side of our neighborhood. This cannot be used on projects already underway.

Jen met with Drake President Martin this week.

Grant partnership opportunity with Drake-Lori will meet with Renee on that

Panhellenic Council at Drake contacted Michael and would like to do a walking tour with students and of homes in the neighborhood. Goal of the project is to mesh the students with some of the neighbors and foster a connection to the neighborhood.

June Meeting date change to June 6th

40th Anniversary Planning Committee Update - Kristina no update on hold until after this meeting

Relays Water Station Update- one interested volunteer, not enough interest to commit to the event, will scrap it

Business Partners Program - Nichole negotiated partnership with Copycat Prints gold level partner in kind for printing. Nichole will follow up to confirm.

Jen left partnership form with President Martin and Amy emailed information to John Smith

Nichole has a potential welcoming committee volunteer, Ashley, who is very excited to help out.

Marketing update-Nichole- DNA videos by Locker and Company go live on youtube tomorrow. All 4 cuts will be up, the links are on our website and will be active tomorrow. Hopefully they will be live on Facebook tomorrow too.

Distribute to Nextdoor, NFC, NDC, Drake, Realtors, Hanna, Trish, Patty, commercial realtors, home inc, DM Westside chamber, IPTV, CWTV, Urban Ambassadors, Erin distributed flyers for tonight's meeting to residents around Witmer park.

Nichole updated photos on the DNA website

Compiling email list of former meeting attendees (100 new names) to add to our mailing list

DM Neighbors report- meetings will be switching to Thursday at Evelyn Davis

Rodine Mickle Neighborhood Recognition Diner will be at Ding Darling this year and be potluck. We will need nominations, considering nomination of Playhouse for all of their past support. DNA board members are invited to attend April 24th

Mac working with Amanda at Drake on pre-relays cleanup event 5:30 Wednesday evening

NBSD Eric - trash in alleyways Public Works will do extra pickup in conjunction with neighborhood cleanup events. Illegal dumping call the number on your garbage can for Public Works.

7:00 Neighborhood Updates

Video Debut - showed 3 minute video to much applause and 30 second video as well

Witmer Park Program: Colby Fangman, Parks & Rec - Colby was asked to re-engage the master plan for Witmer Park identify desired features and need. Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant was awarded 252K towards the 500K project. Grant will address the main 16 acres (the park is 19 acres total).

Prior to the 1930s Witmer was a dumping ground and borrow pit. The landscape has been heavily altered over time. The original Master plan was developed in 1939. The new plan includes adding 2 aerators to the pond and an ADA accessible floating fishing pier and trail with interpretive signs. the landscape will focus on Oak savanna and wildflowers.

Sidewalk layout was dependant on slope analysis and ADA accessibility

DNR will restore fish community after project is complete

Very alkaline soil conditions

Max pond depth 13.3 ft average depth is 7 ft

Timeline July 2018-construction phase April 2019-August 2019

Tennis courts will be maintained

No additional parking will be added due to cost and this being a neighborhood park not a community destination park

Neighbor concerns voiced at the meeting-need for more parking, need for restrooms, no sidewalk access, old garbage in the pond will not be dredged out.

Josh Mandelbaum and Bill Gray - they would like to be accessible to the neighbors and let us know what they are working on. Sale tax vote unfortunately did not pass, resulting budget will need to be focused down. Focus on infrastructure like improving road conditions within the city. Need feedback on prioritization of projects.

Bill-239 census tracts with in the state, investment for tax cuts. Tool that attracts investment in a specific area. Drake has top priority in two locations one on each side of University. Still many unknowns at this time, first step was just to be a designated area to be able to take advantage of the program as it develops. 10 year project.

Jen - call-to-service and board introductions, KJ, Nichole, Lori, Todd, Amy, Mark, Mac, Erin, Ibrahim, Eddie, Nadia

Polk County Supervisor Mauro Running for office platform includes: hunger - opened 3 new food pantries and funding employment there opened a mobile pantry added extended hours; minimum wage and mental health - opened crisis center at Broadlawns, mobile crisis unit bought 9 beds in the ER for 90 days

Mauro will talk to Ben Page with Parks department to fund bathrooms at Witmer park

Claire Celsi- running for Senate District 21 (Matt McCoy's seat) key issues public education, community gardens, Statewide affordable housing, mental health, clean energy.

Endorsements, Teamsters, Bill Stowe, June 5th primary

Drake Report – John not in attendance - Dave Remind – Drake Communications - record enrollment this fall. Boys and Girls Club project update, groundbreaking will be this spring with 8 month timeline for construction. Ray Promenade project in planning phases garden space, small concerts trying to create inviting park like space for the neighborhood.

Meeting Adjourned _____ 8:20 _____