

**NORTHEAST NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS
EAST SIDE LIBRARY
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015**

Minutes of the Northeast Neighbors and Friends meeting held on Monday, March 2, 2015, at the East Side Library. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Linda Westergaard, Chair.

Carolyn from the library wanted to thank Northeast Neighbors and Friends for the computer that we purchased for the library. She said it was in and running and we could come and see it if we would like.

Linda Westergaard introduced and welcomed Jonathan Gano, Des Moines new Public Works Director.

David Jahn, the Municipal Arborist, was speaking this evening regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. David said that 44 other species depend on the ash. The emerald ash borer lays eggs and the larvae is what kills the trees. The eggs are laid in May and June. The trees fail at the trunk or three feet from the ground. David told how you would know if you have an ash tree – the bark has a diamond pattern; branches are arranged as opposites.

How to know if your ash tree is infested with EAB – If the tree has a thinning crown or dying branches; if there are sprouts/suckers growing on the trunk; cracks in the trunk, under which tunneling is visible; is there a lot of flecking where a woodpecker has stripped off bark.

Jonathan Gano spoke regarding his first days in Des Moines and the first snowstorm. He also gave insight on the future of the City and what they are checking to use on the streets prior to the snows.

Marge gave the Treasurer's report. The bank balance as of the end of February is \$612.50 and this is our operating expenses. All grant money has been expended and the Summary Report has been submitted. Marge also submitted a new Polk County Betterment Grant in the amount of \$3,400.00 for 2015.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Norm Kamm to approve the minutes as written. It was second by Carole Westbrook. Motion was then approved.

Linda has been out of town and is waiting on hearing about the sweatshirts that we ordered.

Donna Bell from Sheridan Park needs approval from the board to install a free little library. Northeast Neighbors and Friends has seven free little libraries. Dennis will update the website to reflect this.

Hy Vee Restaurant was not a good spot for the board meeting. So Linda suggested and will finalize the details of using the room that the Financial Plus Credit Union has offered to us to use for our board meetings. It is located at E 29th and Euclid and our board meeting date will be April 4th at 9:00 a.m.

Candice announced that Capitol Hill Christian Church is having two fish fry in March. One will be held Friday, March 6th from 5 to 7 p.m. and the other one will be held on Friday, March 27th from 5 to 7 p.m.

Jill Watrous, our speaker about the butterfly habitat and milkpods was ill and could not make the meeting today. Hopefully, she will be there next month.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Ramsey

Marge Ramsey
Secretary/Treasurer