

**NORTHEAST NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS  
EAST SIDE LIBRARY  
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014**

Minutes of the Northeast Neighbors and Friends meeting held on Monday, March 3, 2014, at the East Side Library. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Linda Westergaard, Chair.

Doua Lor from the Des Moines Police Department was our first speaker. He spoke about home invasions telling us to be careful. He talked about the Neighborhood Watch that the Police Department is starting up again. It would cost \$40 for a sign and the City would put them up. When asked how many they needed, he said the more neighbors we could get involved, the better. It would only consist of one block – not a whole neighborhood.

Connie Eason, from AARP, Des Moines Age-Friendly City was our next speaker. Des Moines University, Aging Resources, and AARP joined together to become the Des Moines Age Friendly City with the approval of WHO (World Health Organization). Des Moines is the third city in the United States to become this. Portland and New York City were the cities before us. People are wanting to stay in the neighborhood. Transportation is a problem and has to be addressed.

The Treasurer's report was given next. We have a total of \$490.14 in the bank as of the end of February. This is our operating expense. The amount of the grant has been zeroed out.

The minutes from last month's meeting was then reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Valerie Madison; second by Carole Westbrook. Motion approved.

Next was Connie Boesen to tell us what was going on in our schools. The school board has been working on the school boundaries that haven't been changed in 25 years. Goodrell will have bigger boundaries. Four grade schools, one middle school, and Hoover and Central Academy schools are the IB schools. All schools use the same curriculum but how they teach them if the difference of the IB schools.

Also, there will be a "Coming Home" fundraiser at the Historical Center for the purpose of buying or renting musical instruments for students who cannot afford to pay for them. The cost of this event is \$40.00 per ticket and the time is 6:00 pm until 10 p.m. on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

The next item discussed was the voting on the Franchise Fee tomorrow. Ward 4 which is south of University will also vote on a new City Council person. Get out and vote.

Marge explained that the Betterment Grant was submitted to the Polk County prior to the deadline of February 28<sup>th</sup>. Grants will be approved sometime between March 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Linda then talked about the Free Little Libraries that Northeast Neighbors and Friends had made for them by a man in Eagle Grove. We paid for three and he delivered them and they are in Linda's garage right now. We cannot put them in the ground until the frost is gone. We want to place them in strategic places. If our grant is approved, we will purchase more.

Candice Brown mentioned that her church, Capitol Hill Christian Church, will have two Lenten Fish Fry days – March 14<sup>th</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup>; time will be from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. and a suggested donation of \$10.00 per person.

At our next meeting on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, the speaker will be from Relay Iowa talking about phone system for the hearing impaired.

Our next board meeting will be Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. at Dahl's on East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marge Ramsey*

Marge Ramsey  
Secretary/Treasurer