



# July Board Meeting

Wednesday, 7/30/25 ♦ Central Library Meeting Room 3

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## Attendees

- Deb Madison-Levi, President,
- Jordan Locke, Treasurer
- David Jennings, Social Chair
- Christine Comito, Secretary
- Luke Ifland, Membership Chair
- Julie Feirer, Board Member
- Jennifer Bright, Board Member
- Sgt Hemsted, Des Moines Police
- Julie Hempel, Park Superintendent, Des Moines Parks & Recreation
- Councilman Simonson
- Community members

## Community Presentations

- Sgt Hemsted reported on downtown police activity. Incidents down slightly this month v last month, calls for service. Driving tickets given out at lower rates; many drag racers have been driven away to other neighborhoods. Higher rate of Larceny & Burglary—"Kia boys" have been stealing cars. Three have been arrested but there might be more.
- Julie Hempel, superintendent from Parks and Recs Dept.
  - City working on 1st Street Bridge by Principal Park/Mulletts
  - Events this weekend: Adult Recess at Capt Roys, Friday 6-9pm
  - Skate Night at Brenton Friday the 1st
  - Zumba at Brenton on Sundays and Tuesdays
  - Sensory swim at aquatic centers
  - Ashworth pool workouts at lunch time 2x/week
  - Yoga Saturday morning at Grey's Lake
  - Sat 9th Star Party, Perseid Meteor Shower, at Ewing Park, starts at 5pm
  - Pickleball M-F at Pioneer Columbus Park, E 5th and Hartford
  - Sat 16th Funkhouse at Brenton Plaza

- Setup for World Food Festival starts Aug 20, festival starts Aug 21
- Sunday Aug 3 Clowns at the Carousel (fundraiser for Carousel)

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## Standing Reports

1. Approval of June Minutes - Moved by Jordan, 2nd by Luke; Approved
2. Treasurer's Reports (June and July) - Jordan Locke
3. Socials Report - Upcoming Events
  - a. End of Summer block party Saturday, September 20, on corner of Water St & Court Ave at Hub Spot. David shared details of plans. Will have food trucks, beer from Big Grove, music by Mike Aceto, some other vendors, games & entertainment, Mayor and Councilman Simonson & Mandelbaum, DMPD, Fire Chief & fire truck tours. Goals: community, new members, awareness of DNA.
  - b. Iowa State Fair Parade, August 6
  - c. Volunteer opportunities—suggestions—CISS, IYHC, Parks&Rec
  - d. Suggestions on various locations for monthly meetings to attract more attendance, less formal, every other month, circular seating instead of presentation style
  - e. New restaurant going into Fong's Pizza location on 4th—Full Court Press owners will invite DNA to opening
4. Building Ambassadors— about 6 people have responded and Luke has worked with them to share information.
5. Marketing / Communication Report
  - a. ISpace in old Panera on 10th and Walnut, Deb will meet with owner
  - b. Economic development meeting August 20 at Ritual Cafe, re pop up shops downtown
  - c. Julie sent a newsletter in June. Will send another now that we have more info about Block party.
6. Membership report – 170 active memberships. Focusing on Block Party as membership opportunity.
7. DNA Governance
  - a. Deb attended a neighborhood associations meeting with Heather Tamminga and shared about Tuesday Together and neighborhood coffees.
  - b. Tax status –looking into difference between 501(c)4 (current, membership-driven, able to advocate for members, no tax deductible donations) and 501(c)3 (public benefit, tax free)
  - c. Expansion boundary discussion . Deb received guidelines how to add buildings. David moved to start the process for boundary expansion to include up to I235 North, Keo Way East (including Town Square apartments and others right nearby). Jordan seconded, all approved.
8. DNA Succession planning– Deb is stepping down as president. Jordan will be ending term as treasurer at the end of this year. Time to start recruiting. VP will fill in as president. Will

need to fill vacancy

## **Business Items**

- None

Adjourned at 7:30 pm