

Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association
October 20, 2011

Call to Order: 6:35 pm

Animal Rescue League - Josh Colvin (284-6905).

If you want details, you can contact them at www.arl-iowa.org or 515/262-9503

- Des Moines Police Dispatch - 283-4811
- 2005 - partnership with the city to house strays
- 2009 - took over animal control contact.
- They don't just enforce the rules, they try to give alternatives. They will help with behavior issues also.
- Statistics for last year. Bites (animal to animal and animal to human) - 76 dog bites, 12 cat bites in our zip. We are at the top. They are mostly unaltered animals and those that are confined on their own property. Top three breeds, pit bulls, Labrador retrievers and german shepards.
- Catsnip program for low income families and in our zip code. They will spay or neuter your cats for free.
- PitStop program to help spay, neuter and train pitbulls

Neighborhood signs are up and looking wonderful! BKM paid for 1/2 of the signs.

Thank You!

Treasurer's Report: \$412.62

City Representatives:

Police - Doua Lor - We have a quiet neighborhood. There were 4 calls in October. 1 fraud, 1 vandalism, 2 burglaries. He normally sees 3 digits for neighborhoods. He wants to encourage us to attend the budget meetings on October 27th from 6-8 pm at the Botanical Center. 8 guys now in 60 neighborhoods. It could go to 4 and there won't be much coverage.

Neighborhood inspector - Dennis Rule
House with truck in driveway on jack stands and has been for 6 months. He will look. Same house parks one vehicle 1/2 on the neighbors. Some solutions offered.

PAM Tech (7 months in parks, 5 months at air port) - Ron Stevens
Probably an 11% across the board cut.
He wants to encourage us to attend the budget meetings on October 26th from 6-8 pm at the Botanical Center.

Christmas lighting contest:

Apartments included? If their window looks good, they can get a prize. Yes!
Brenda will get gifts.

Christmas baskets:

Baskets must be in our neighborhood boundaries
Carol Stewart and Patti Burdette will collect names and organize

Designated Neighborhood status:

- There are copies of our application available, but here are some highlights. We had about 1/3 of the neighbors sign the petition to support our designated status.
- 10 % of the neighborhood is normally active, but we can call in more when we have big projects.
- We got most of what we wanted last time we applied even though we were not accepted. They will work with us as much as possible.
- If we get this, we can borrow money or get forgivable loans.
- Upgrade park. Level ground for gazebo
- Flood and mines - identify problems and get help fixing. If you have/had a problem, you need to contact Harlan soon with your address and contact information.
- Dennis will get us the name of their person who can help with sewer/flood issues. East side of Winegardner on opposite of the park has a large drop to a ditch. Can something be done about that.
- Thank you for everyone who helped with the petitions.
- We will hear the first of November. (We didn't get it.)

January potluck:

Will be at Senior Center just north of University on E 26th. (Behind what used to be Clayton's)

Mary will book it. Thursday, January 19th if possible. Otherwise some time that week.

Planning for 2012:

- **Park** will not need to be trimmed, but we may need to do some work if we get projects.
- **Street clean** is on for next year. City (and/or county) mowed right before Iowa State Fair.
- We did a lot last year and thank you for all your time! Good job!

Membership ideas for 2012:

- Free membership for 2012?
- Bring someone and join for 1/2 price?
- We need to figure out why people aren't joining or coming to meetings.
- City looking at robo dialer

Elections:

President Harlan Donaldson

Vice President Dennis Fry

Secretary Brenda Peel

Treasurer Connie Ballard

Board members Mary Smith, Carol Stewart, Patti Burdette, Steve O'Brien

Adjourn: 8:19 pm