

Meeting Agendas/Info

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

01-251

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

Formal recognition of the Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association according to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

MAY 21, 2001

FISCAL IMPACT -

SUBJECT:

None.

RECOGNITION OF
SALISBURY OAKS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

TYPE:

BACKGROUND -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

On May 24, 1993, by Roll Call No. 93-2026, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Recognition Policy as recommended by the Neighborhood Advisory Board. In summary, this policy provides the opportunity for the City to officially recognize neighborhoods and their organizations located and functioning within the City. This policy requested that any neighborhood organization asking to be recognized submit specific information. The Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association has completed an application for recognition.

SUBMITTED BY:

JIM GRANT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

This application was recommended for approval by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) at their meeting on May 2, 2001 with the following conditions:

1. Residents on 44th and 45th Streets have indicated to Salisbury Oaks and Westwood Neighborhood Associations that they would prefer to be included in the Westwood Neighborhood. They associate more with Westwood because of their proximity to and concerns regarding Greenwood Park, which is located within Westwood's boundaries. Mr. Weitenhagen, President of Westwood, has stated to

44th and 45th Streets and Salisbury Oaks representatives that he was in favor of including the area of concern in the Westwood Neighborhood and would bring it before his general membership for consideration. The NRB recommends that if Westwood does not amend their bylaws to include 44th and 45th Streets by May 1, 2002 that Salisbury Oak be required to represent the area.

2. The following language from Article 4 (Membership), Section 1 be removed from Salisbury Oaks' Bylaws, "and represent the social, economic and ethnic makeup of the area." This language could be interpreted as excluding some members of the community. The removal of this language does not change the intent of Salisbury Oaks' bylaws.

The intent of the Neighborhood Recognition Policy is to assist citizens of Des Moines sharing common identity, goals, and concerns to form an organization which will be formally recognized by City government boards, committees, and councils and will act as an advisory body when dealing with decisions made by the City and its entities. The policy wishes to recognize the fact that the long-term stability of a neighborhood depends on the existence of strong neighborhood based organizations able to demonstrate broad grass roots participation and the ability to provide leadership and command respect in working with the City and other public and private interests.

In order to implement this policy, Planning staff developed a strategy that consisted of providing information about the policy and requested information from the neighborhood organizations. Organizations who wish to become recognized must submit the following information: 1) official name of organization, 2) detailed neighborhood boundaries, 3) a list of the organization's representatives with their address and telephone number, 4) the location and time of their membership meetings, and 5) a copy of the organization's bylaws. The Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association has completed an application and is now eligible for official recognition.

According to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, "Upon official recognition of a neighborhood organization by the City Council, the Mayor shall formally proclaim the recognized neighborhood as an important entity to be utilized by the Council in seeking direction on actions which affect the identified neighborhood, and the City will also seek additional coverage through other press releases." In addition, "Whenever mailed notices to adjoining property owners is required by law or by City ordinance or policy, the City will

reasonably attempt to also provide notice to any effected neighborhood organizations."
