

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date	June 8, 2009
	Agenda Item No. 23 Roll Call No. <u>09-</u> Communication No. <u>09-363</u> Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community Development Director	

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving recommendation from the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) regarding removal of the Gray’s Woods and Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Associations from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of recommendation from the NRB regarding removal of the Gray’s Woods and Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Associations from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations. Leadership from the Gray’s Woods and Kirkwood Glen Neighborhoods have notified City staff that they are no longer active and no longer wish to be Recognized Neighborhoods.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

Amount: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On May 24, 1993, by Roll Call No. 93-2026, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Recognition Policy. This policy sets guidelines for the formal recognition of neighborhood associations by the City of Des Moines. This formal relationship makes it possible for recognized neighborhoods to act as advisors to the City on issues impacting their neighborhoods.

Neighborhood organizations must meet the requirements of the Neighborhood Recognition Policy to obtain, as well as maintain, recognition by the City of Des Moines. The Community Development Department, with the oversight of the NRB, conducts an annual survey of the neighborhoods. The purpose of this survey is to ensure that neighborhood organizations are active and representative of their neighborhood. It is also an opportunity to update the City’s neighborhood contact database with any board changes that may have occurred over the year. This year’s survey was mailed January 22nd, 2009, and was due March 3rd, 2009.

Fifty-one of the fifty-four Recognized Neighborhoods have responded to the annual survey, which is required to maintain their Recognized status. The three neighborhoods that have not returned their survey are Gray’s Woods, Kirkwood Glen, and Westwood.

The Gray's Woods Neighborhood is no longer active and has notified City staff that they are no longer interested in being recognized. Linda Adamson, Gray's Woods President, indicated in a letter dated February 26, 2009 that the GWNA board had voted to disband, effective January 1, 2009.

The Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood has also notified City staff that they are no longer active and no longer interested in being a recognized neighborhood. Mary Wennerstrum, Kirkwood Glen President, stated that she has attempted to recruit new members by going door to door, but this effort has been unsuccessful. The inability to recruit new members is preventing Kirkwood Glen from growing as an organization and limiting the representation of neighborhood residents. Because of this, the Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Association is asking that they be removed from the list of Recognized Neighborhoods.

At their June 3rd, 2009 meeting, the NRB granted the Westwood Neighborhood an additional 30-days to return their survey. If the survey is not returned within this 30-day period, the NRB recommends that City Council remove Westwood from the list of Recognized Neighborhoods.

In accordance with the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, the NRB voted on June 3rd, 2009, to forward a recommendation to City Council that the City of Des Moines no longer formally recognize the Gray's Woods and Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Associations.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): Neighborhood Revitalization Board

Date: June 3, 2009

Roll Call: N/A

Action: Forward recommendation to the City Council to remove the Gray's Woods and Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Associations from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.