

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: July 25, 2011
	Agenda Item No. 15 Roll Call No. <u>11-1281</u> Communication No. <u>11-477</u> Submitted by: Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approve recommendation from the Neighborhood Revitalization Board to remove the Arbor Peaks and Waveland Woods neighborhoods from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Neighborhood Revitalization Board’s motion to remove the Arbor Peaks and Waveland Woods neighborhoods from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations. Both neighborhoods are no longer in compliance with the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

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 Neighborhood Revitalization Board (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 February 14, 2011, and was due March 18, 2011.

Fifty-five of the 58 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 Arbor Peaks, Waveland Woods, and Laurel Hill.

The Arbor Peaks Neighborhood has not responded to the survey for two years now (2010 and 2011). Despite multiple efforts by staff and NRB members to contact Doug Lewis, Arbor Peaks Neighborhood

Association president, no response has been received. A letter was sent to Mr. Lewis as well as the other last known officers of the Neighborhood Association on July 11, 2011 notifying them of the NRB's decision. No response has been received to date.

The Waveland Woods Neighborhood has not responded to the survey for two years now (2010 and 2011). Despite multiple efforts by staff and NRB members to contact John Lepley, Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association president, no response has been received. A letters was sent to Mr. Lepley as well as the other last known officers of the Neighborhood Association on July 11, 2011 notifying them of the NRB's decision. No response has been received to date.

The Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association has responded that they are currently inactive due to a change in leadership, but are attempting to reorganize. At their July 6, 2011 meeting, the NRB granted the Laurel Hill neighborhood additional time to reorganize and come into compliance with the Recognition Policy. If the Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association is unable to respond to the survey in 2012 and meet the requirements for recognition, the NRB will take action at that time.

In accordance with the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board voted on July 6, 2011 to forward a recommendation to City Council that the City of Des Moines no longer formally recognize the Arbor Peaks and Waveland Woods Neighborhood Associations. In addition, the Board asked staff to investigate the possibility of merging this area with an adjoining neighborhood, to ensure the area has representation and a communication link with the City. Staff is working on this request and will make a recommendation to the NRB at their September meeting. Neighborhoods adjacent to either Arbor Peaks or Waveland Woods could consider absorbing these neighborhoods in order to ensure they have representation. If the neighborhoods are de-recognized but wish to be Recognized again in the future, they may do so by following the procedures set forth in the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 23, 1993

Roll Call Number: 93-2026

Action: Approve the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Neighborhood Revitalization Board

Date: July 6, 2011

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Forward recommendation to the City Council to remove the Arbor Peaks and Waveland Woods Neighborhood Associations from the list of Recognized Neighborhood Associations.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approve amended neighborhood boundaries, if an adjoining neighborhood decides to absorb one of these areas.

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