



The Sidewalk

BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: CeCe Ibson
- Vice President: Kimberley Boggus
- Secretary: Chris Friest
- Treasurer: Jay Kozel
- Ed Fishman
- Tom LaPointe
- Nick Mertes
- Brent Millis
- Adam Plagge
- Kate Ross
- Carl Saxon
- Stacey Smith

BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the office of Ibson Law in Beaverdale. Visit www.beaverdale.org for more information. Board minutes are published on the website upon Board approval.

MISSION

The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association is neighbors working together to promote the social welfare of the Beaverdale area by bringing about civic betterment and social improvements for the common good of the community.

MEMBERSHIP

The BNA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. Membership is open to the public, may be tax deductible and could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. To join or get involved, visit www.beaverdale.org or follow us on Facebook @beaverdaleneighborhood.

THE SIDEWALK

The Sidewalk is the Official Magazine of Beaverdale and is published quarterly by the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 30175, Des Moines, Iowa 50310
 Editor: Kate McGovern 515-577-2084
 Email the BNA: bna@beaverdale.org

Hi Neighbors,

I'm writing this president's letter on Monday, April 8, 2019. It is nearly 80 degrees and you've probably seen me driving the neighborhood with the top down on my old Mustang convertible. Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will be this Saturday. I'm told parts of the state will see 12 – 16 inches of snow between now and then. Welcome to spring in Iowa!

I was privileged to be elected to a final two-year term and to a second term as president of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association board of directors at our February 12, 2019 annual meeting. Board members "term off" after three, two-year terms on the Board, not including time spent as an appointed member (filling out an unexpired term). I was appointed to the Board in 2013 and will retire in 2021.

At that same meeting, **Jay Kozel, Eddie Fishman, Chris Friest and Nick Mertes**, all of whom I appointed to fill out unexpired terms this past year, were elected to their first two-year terms. **Tom LaPointe, Brent Millis, Kate Ross and Stacy Smith** were elected to their second terms. **Kimberly Strope-Boggus** was elected to a third (and final) term.

At the Board's February 2019 meeting, we were asked to consider a resolution in support of the **local option sales tax**, on the ballot in March. After first voting on whether we should take a position at all, the Board voted unanimously to endorse the tax as flood-related infrastructure remediation and improvement are among the projects to which anticipated revenue will be allocated. The ballot measure passed, with more than 70% of voters approving.

Also at our February meeting, Board member **Adam Plagge** suggested making meeting minutes, agendas and other neighborhood-related documents, pictures, etc, available on our website. Several months ago, Sean Bagniewski dropped off a number of plastic storage totes, our neighborhood archives in paper form. Adam has taken on the job of scanning all of these materials (which is going to take a good, long time).

On the subject of our **website**, Board members **Kate Ross** and **Brent Millis** are working with our third party vendor on a number of improvements, to both the security and the functionality of the site. Board members have reported off-and-on receiving emails from me asking them to buy iTunes gift cards or reply to schedule a meeting. We believe these emails were coming from or through the website (clearly, I'm not the techie on the Board). Remember, the only e-mail address I use is ibsonlaw@yahoo.com.

As I reported at the annual meeting, for the first time in many years, Beaverdale was a finalist for CityView's **Best Community in Which to Live**, part of their "Best of the Best" party and issue. I'm told that the category was changed from "Best Neighborhood" to "Best Community" because Beaverdale won so often. This year, we finished second. To Waukee. That's about all I'll say on this subject.

In March, the Board unanimously passed a resolution in support of We Can Build It, LLC and Jeff Young's plan for the former **Franklin Jr. High**. Their application for rezoning was approved on April 4, 2019. I am personally very excited about what this project will bring to Beaverdale. Plans call for a boutique hotel, restaurant with outdoor patio space, large auditoriums for concerts and other events and a brewery, among other features.

The **City of Des Moines** continues to communicate with us and keep us in the loop regarding infrastructure repairs and improvements, along with other flood-related and general public work and projects. We do our best to update social media as events, meetings or start dates for projects are announced. City Council members **Bill Gray** and **Chris Coleman** do a great job for us and I thank them for their efforts.

Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival is right around the corner, from a planning standpoint. This year's Festival will be July 20, 2019 at Tower Park starting at 5:00 p.m. As always, **I'm looking for volunteers** to help with set-up, tear-down then throughout the event. Please e-mail me at ibsonlaw@yahoo.com if you can give us a couple hours. Also, we always prefer to "shop local" when it comes to vendors. If you are a local, licensed, **food vendor** and would like to work this event, let me know.

Please join the BNA at our next quarterly meeting on Tuesday, May 14 at 7 p.m. at the Northwest Community Center, 5110 Franklin Ave, Des Moines to hear updates on neighborhood events and projects. All residents are encouraged to attend, listen and respectfully share their concerns on these subjects. By working together, we can make this neighborhood even better than it is today! Light refreshments will be served.

Our guest speakers include:

- Jason Britten (Get-N-Go 49th & Urbandale Ave)
- Dave Kamp (Des Moines Engineering Dept)
- Paul Strome and Colby Fangman (Des Moines Parks and Recreation – Witmer and Ashby Park projects)

On the subject of **social media**, a personal request. Please remember that when you post, particularly on the **Beaverdale, Iowa Facebook page**, your posts are potentially seen by hundreds of people, many of whom don't even live in our neighborhood. Posting about "gunshots heard" when you don't know what you heard, for example, may create the false impression that we live in an unsafe neighborhood. Social media is a great way to communicate, but let's think twice about the impressions our posts might make.

As always, if there's anything I or anyone else on the Board can do for you or our neighborhood, let us know.

CeCe Ibson,
BNA President



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BEVERDALE FARMERS MARKET KICKING OFF ITS 8TH SEASON!

Beaverdale Farmers Market opens for the season on June 4 from 4:00-7:30 p.m. The market boasts Iowa-grown and made items brought to you by 40+ local farmers, bakers and artisans. Several prepared food vendors also offer tasty food, drink and dessert options! Stay awhile and listen to live music with provided seating and a grassy kids play area. We offer free parking in the Acanthus Lodge and Holy Trinity lots and a bike rack is provided on the east side of the Acanthus Lodge. We're open every Tuesday through September 10 on Urbandale Avenue between Beaver Ave. and 42nd Street.



Beaverdale Farmers Market provides complimentary booths for community and non-profit organizations. The Double-Up Food Bucks program is available again this year for those with SNAP benefits. We will also have kids activities and giveaways planned so follow us at Facebook.com/BeaverdaleFarmFest to stay up to date!

Beaverdale Farmers Market is a 501c3 organization, managed by an all-volunteer board of directors. We are always looking for volunteers! If you'd like to join our team on Tuesdays, before, during or after market hours, email info@beaverdalefarmersmarket.org.

Upcoming Musical Acts:

- | | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|---------------|
| June 4 | Asphalt & Stained Glass | July 9 | Rob Short |
| June 11 | Patricia Holly | July 16 | Jake Schrodt |
| June 18 | Ed Kelly | July 23 | Denise Forney |
| June 25 | Big Joe Kinser | July 30 | Andrew Hoyt |
| July 2 | Junction Jazz Society | | |

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BEVERDALE GARDEN WALK 2019

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - SAT., JUNE 15TH



Seven (and possibly eight) delightful neighborhood gardens will be open to the public from 9 AM until 3 PM, rain or shine. You will have a chance to explore gardens with water features, winding paths, unique seating areas, garden art, interesting container plantings, and more. Caroll will be happy to introduce you to her chickens and share with you how she cares for them. You may want to ask Martha about the transition from a backyard pool to a backyard garden. Ann is excited to share ideas for growing veggies in raised beds. Connie's carefully tended plants may inspire you to go home and prune. Jon can advise you on how to water your tomatoes with a rain barrel system. And Dale may reveal historical info about our neighborhood you never knew.

Get your tickets early for \$8.00 at several Beavertdale businesses: Back Country Outfitters, Beavertdale Books, Boesen the Florist, Grounds for Celebration, and O'Donnell Ace Hardware. On Saturday, June 15, tickets will be \$10.00. Tickets will include names, addresses, a description of each garden, a map locating each garden, and directions for parking near each garden. Several gardens are within a few blocks of each other and you may wish to walk between them. Beavertdale Garden Walk has its own Facebook page with lots of photos from past garden walks (be sure to 'like' us!), as well as a page on the BNA website.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this year's event by checking tickets at one of the gardens, please contact Jean Swanson at swanson515@aol.com or Nancy Dunbar at dunbar.nancy@gmail.com.

This event would not be possible without the support of our sponsors. Big THANK YOUs go out to: Beavertdale Neighborhood Association, Boesen the Florist, Green Family Flooring, Back Country Outfitters and Rotary Club of NW DSM. Their support helps us be the BEST neighborhood. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used for beautification projects in Beavertdale.



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- Boesen the Florist
- Back Country Outfitters
- Beavertdale Books
- Grounds for Celebration
- O'Donnell Ace Hardware

Proceeds will be used for beautification projects in our neighborhood.

For more information, visit us at:

www.facebook.com/beavertdalegardenwalk

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CITY SEWER & YOUR PROPERTY SUBSIDIES FOR PROPERTY PROTECTION PROGRAMS

The rain storm on July 1, 2018 that overwhelmed the storm sewer caused heartache for many Beaverdale residents. It brought our antiquated sewer to the fore front and demanded action by the city. The city is working hard to lay out plans to fix the sewer infrastructure and it is offering programs that subsidizes the cost for property protection devices and a program to help reduce storm water run-off.

The first program offers subsidies to help defray the cost for installing property protection devices such as sump pumps and backwater valves:

The Private Property Protection Program

This program will provide a subsidy to property owners within the City of Des Moines who contract with a licensed plumber to redirect one or more of the eligible sources of infiltration and inflow to an outlet other than the sanitary sewer system or to install a backwater valve on the private sewer service to protect against surcharges on the public sewer system.

With this program, the City will make a Private Property Protection Program subsidy reimbursement for 100% of the cost up to \$1,500 to the property owners who meet the requirements of the program. The reimbursement for approved work will be by direct payment to the property owner. Qualifying work eligible for funding include:

- **The installation or redirection of a sump pump to discharge flows from foundation drains and area drains to a non-sanitary sewer outlet such as a rain garden, storm sewer, or the ground surface.**
- **The disconnection of roof leaders from the sanitary sewer service**
- **The installation of backwater valve.**

Contact the city to verify that you are eligible for the program and qualify for reimbursement. See the following website for additional information: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/PublicWorks/Pages/PrivatePropProtectProg.aspx>.

Additionally, the city NEEDS OUR HELP to reduce storm water run-off that enters the sewer. In order to do this, the city is offering the following program:

Stormwater Best Management Practices Program

This program will provide a rebate to property owners who install stormwater best management practices to help to enhance the water quality of the stormwater runoff and/or decrease the amount of runoff that enters the stormwater drainage system.

With this program, the City will make a rebate reimbursement for 50% of the cost up to \$2,000 to property owners who meet the requirements of the program. The reimbursement for approved work will be by direct payment to the property owner in the amount of the qualifying work. Qualifying work eligible for funding:

- **Bio-retention cells**
- **Streambank stabilization**
- **Rain Gardens**
- **Soil Quality Restoration**
- **Permeable pavement**
- **Other similar practices approved by the director**
- **Rain barrels**

Contact the city to verify that you are eligible for the program and qualify for reimbursement. See the following website for additional information: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/PublicWorks/Pages/SWBMP.aspx>.



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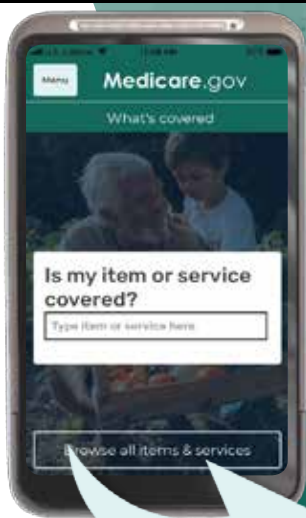
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MEGA SCRUB EVENT MOVED TO JULY 20TH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — COME SEE WHAT YOUR NEIGHBORS PITCH!

Note that the date of Beaverdale's MEGA SCRUB event has changed. This event is now scheduled for July 20th at River Place parking lot at 2309 Euclid Ave. Residents can bring trash, appliances, and hazardous materials to dump for free, from 7am-1pm that day. More information is available at <https://www.dmgov.org/Departments/PublicWorks/Pages/SCRUBEvents.aspx>.

The BNA and other neighborhood volunteers will work this event as a service to our neighbors. (Small gratuities are both encouraged and appreciated!) To volunteer, please contact Mike McCarthy at mikeandjeanmcc@msn.com. You'll be shocked to see what neighbors are throwing away!

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WITMER PARK PROJECT UPDATE PUBLIC MEETING PLANNED FOR MAY 14TH

At its March 13th quarterly meeting, the Drake Neighborhood Association hosted members of the Witmer Park Project committee and staff from the City of Des Moines Parks & Recreation Department for a public meeting detailing the upcoming improvements to Witmer Park. The meeting consisted of a review of Phase 1 of the improvements (beginning this year and funded in part by an Iowa DNR REAP Grant), and the sharing of new information regarding Phase 2 (slated for 2020 construction).

The Phase 1 upgrades, announced in January 2018 by the City of Des Moines, include ecological improvements, a new walking path, a fishing pier, open air shelters, and the rehabilitation (including dredging and re-stocking) of Witmer's signature pond. Phase 2 is a collaboration of the Witmer Park Project (consisting of BNA and DNA members, as well as park neighbors) and the City of Des Moines. Its goal is to develop a restroom facility and new playground for the park.

At the public meeting, City staff shared the final design layout of the park, giving attendees a "birds-eye view" of what Witmer Park will look like after Phase 1 and Phase 2 improvements are completed. Three different playground renderings were also presented, and those in attendance voted on their favorite concept, as well as additional playground features that may be added to the final design. The most popular concept was the "Manta Ray" design.

Since that meeting, the Witmer Park Project committee has confirmed that new picnic tables, grill pits, and bike racks will be included as part of the park improvements. It has also learned that the existing play structure at the playground will be removed at some point this year (likely mid-to-late summer) to allow for the construction of the new Phase 1 trail. The play structure will be removed as late as is possible, and it is hoped that the swing set can be preserved until the new Phase 2 playground can be built. The Witmer Park Project committee and City of Des Moines Parks & Recreation Department would like to thank park visitors for their patience during this time of transition that will ultimately yield a vastly improved park.

Another public meeting about the project is scheduled for May 14th at the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association's quarterly meeting (7:00pm; Northwest Community Center – 5110 Franklin Ave.). At this meeting, City staff will present the final playground design concept in a few different color scheme options.

The Witmer Park Project committee is currently raising money for Phase 2. If you'd like to contribute, please visit gofundme.com/witmerparkproject or make checks out to "Friends of Des Moines Parks," with "Witmer" in the memo line, and mail to:

Back Country, c/o Jay Kozel
2702 Beaver Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50310

If you have any questions about the project, or would like more information, please email Jay Kozel at jay.kozel@gmail.com.





P.O. Box 30175
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Please notify one of our membership coordinators if your address is incorrect or if you'd like to be removed from our mailing list. Please include your contact information in your message.

Cindy Smith:
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BEAVERDALE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL SAT., JULY 20TH — TOWER PARK 5PM - 10PM

The Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival will return to Tower Park for its 6th year on Saturday, July 20th. Bring your friends and join your neighbors for this free evening of bluegrass, newgrass, and Americana music below an illuminated Allen Hazen Water Tower. This year's lineup will be one of the best yet, featuring two national acts making serious noise in the bluegrass scene, and a couple beloved homegrown groups rounding out the bill. Keep your eyes open for the official announcement soon! Food trucks will be on hand, and beer and wine will be available for purchase. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, but please leave the coolers at home.



BOY SCOUT HELPS REMOVE OLD SIGNS NEW SIGNS AVAILABLE TO WATCH GROUPS

On March 23, 2019, the old neighborhood watch signs were taken down. The city planned on removing these old faded signs for several years. Local Boy Scout, Micah Prideaux, while working towards his rank of Eagle, organized and led the project to remove the signs. Neighborhood watch groups interested in obtaining a new sign can apply with the city. Part of the application process involves the neighborhood watch group meeting with the police. If interested in forming a neighborhood watch group or applying for a sign, see Beaverdale Block Captains Facebook Group for more information.



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