

City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP)

The DNA will continue the discussion begun at the April meeting about possible NPP projects for Dawson. Please bring your ideas to the June meeting; however, before doing so, please contact Justin at (512) 974-6439 or Justin.Golbabai@austintexas.gov to first determine whether or not the project would qualify for this city program. The city and neighborhoods share the cost, and, for those groups without funds, volunteer hours are another acceptable matching donation. The city provides 60% of the funds for projects with an estimated cost of less than \$75,000, 75% for those \$75,000 - \$150,000 and 50% for those over \$150,000. Examples of NPP Projects:

- Safety upgrades for pedestrians & bicyclists
- Wildlife habitats & food forests
- Pocket parks & park improvements
- Trails, trailheads & gateways
- Curbs, gutters & green streets
- Street furniture
- Community gardens & garden improvements
- Anything else you can dream up!

For more information about this program, go to: austintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering

Cumberland Community Garden

Whether you're an experienced gardener - or have never gardened before - there's a place for you to grow healthy food for yourself and your family! Here's what's available, free of charge!

- 4' x 8' plots (first come first serve)
- Experienced and Master Gardeners available to help us learn all we need to know to grow our own food
- Rain barrel on site to help supplement watering
- End-of-the-season, onsite demonstrations to help us learn how to make the most of our produce: Recipes, canning, freezing...they may even teach us how to make their award-winning salsa!

Note: if you want a wicking bed there is a one-time fee of \$28.00. The nice thing about the wicking bed is that you will only need to water your plot every two weeks. It will be your garden, your produce and your weeds! We will all be tending our own garden plots, so you might consider signing up with a friend!

If you'd like to have a garden this year, or just want more information, contact Sos Palomo at 512.669.8479 or spalomo@trinityal.com or Mike Pecina at 512.994.9092 or mpecina@trinityal.com

Dawson Neighborhood Association (DNA) Draft Minutes – April 14, 2014

Minutes: Unanimously approved as printed in the newsletter.

New Business: City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program (October 1st deadline) and "Love Your Block, Austin" program (June 1st deadline) were presented by Will O'Neill. After much discussion, Peter D. moved, seconded by Chad C., to hear ideas and proposals and vote on them at the June meeting. Kam M. offered a friendly amendment, which was accepted, to leave open the option to vote at the August meeting to allow more time to consider projects. Motion passed unanimously. Several ideas for the smaller block grants were discussed, but members in attendance were unable to reach a conclusion due to insufficient information.

Old Business: Marisa F. reported that our Annual Creek Cleanup was a huge success. In addition to volunteers from the neighborhood, many volunteers who signed up through Keep Austin Beautiful (Crocket High School and UT students and LCA members) participated.

Dawson Neighborhood Planning Contact Team (DNPCT) Draft Minutes – April 14, 2014

Minutes: Minutes amended to correct street name to Wadford Street. Minutes were approved.

Membership report: Kevin Ball in the Condos on Alpine introduced himself as a new member.

Old Business: Discussion of the potential project for Ruta Maya to move to the Austin Collision Center on Pickle Street; several properties have been acquired and an application for a liquor license has been made. The existing process for Code Enforcement was discussed and the ability to contact TCEQ for air quality issues was stated. CodeNEXT activities were announced for Wednesday, April 16, from 6-8 p.m.

New Business: The potential leasing of 103 La Vista was discussed: is it a legal, loadable structure? Susana Almanza introduced herself as a candidate for Austin City Council District 3. All candidates are welcome to attend DNPCT meetings to learn about issues of the neighborhood; a forum will be held in the future for all District 3 candidates.

Motion to adjourn carried. Meeting adjourned.