

2014 Habitat Challenge Deadline is November 15th

This year's challenge focuses on pollinator gardens. Even if you have certified your yard as a Wildlife Habitat in previous years, your participation in the pollinator challenge still counts toward Dawson's challenge. The pollinator checklist is simple to fill out and submit. For additional information, go to <http://austintexas.gov/departments/wildlife-austin> or call 512-978-2606.

Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Applications for Two Area Streets

Residents of the 500 block of El Paso at S. 1st, and also of the section of Post Road Drive between S. 1st and Wilson are pursuing RPPs for their blocks due to the ongoing problems they have been unable to resolve in other ways. The next step in the process for both groups of residents is to notify the DNA of their RPP applications. After the request is submitted, the City will conduct a viability study and, if deemed to be viable, greater than 60% of the homeowners on the block must agree to the program. For more information about RPPs, go to <http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/residential-permit-parking>

The City of Austin's First Election under the New 10-ONE System of Government

The upcoming change for Austin municipal government to geographic representation, approved by voters November 6, 2012, as Proposition 3, is commonly referred to as 10-ONE.

1. The Mayor will continue to be elected citywide.
2. The 10 other Council Members will be elected by voters in the districts where they live.
3. The Council is expanded from seven to 11 members.

The Dawson Neighborhood is in District 3, and the candidates, in alphabetical order, are:

Susana Almanza

Mario Cantu

Christopher Hoerster

Shaun Ireland

Julian Limon Fernandez

Fred McGhee

Kent Phillips

Jose Quintero

Eric J. Rangel

Sabino "Pio" Renteria

Ricardo Turullols-Bonilla

Jose Valera

Recorded candidate forums are available online and other information is/will be available in public libraries.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

October 6 Deadline to register to vote either early or on Election Day

October 20 First day of early voting by personal appearance

October 31 Last day of early voting by personal appearance

October 24 Last day to apply (by mail or fax) for an early ballot to be voted by mail

November 4 ELECTION DAY

Dawson Neighborhood Association (DNA) Draft Minutes – Aug 11, 2014

Minutes: Unanimously approved as printed in the newsletter.

New Business: Kam announced an informal picnic for Dawson neighbors at 1 p.m. on Aug. 23rd in Gillis Park.

Old Business: After discussion of the Neighborhood Partnering Program, Diana C. moved, seconded by Jake S., that the DNA submit an NPP application to build the first phase (between Cumberland and Gillis Park) of the pedestrian path noted in our neighborhood plan. 11 – for, 1 – against, and 5 – abstentions.

Issues in the Neighborhood: Mary H. gave an update on some Ben Howell residents' ongoing issues with AT&T and asked for and received additional advice.

Other: Eric Rangel, City Council candidate for District 3, asked for signatures to get on the ballot.

Dawson Neighborhood Planning Contact Team (DNPCT) Draft Minutes – Aug 11, 2014

Minutes: Approval of minutes as printed in the newsletter-motion made by Jake, seconded by Ryan.

Membership report: New member, Katherine Brown, introduced herself and offered to distribute newsletters to the Lightsey Road neighbors.

Old Business: 103 La Vista St.-discussed briefly, but no response from city related to its not being an official address. A change of building use must have permit to do so. **Ruta Maya**-Marty Harris is pursuing details re property adjacent to the retention pond (on west side of S. Congress between Alpine and Pickle.) The address of concern is on Pickle Rd. **3114 S. Congress** mixed development plan has so far been reviewed twice by the city, but there remain many permit issues to resolve.

New Business: Michael Danburg (residence on Brinwood) requested support for his application for a variance for an 8x10 building he has constructed that did not meet code requirements. He invited neighbors to attend the Board of Adjustment hearing. Although the issue was discussed, bylaws of the DNPCT did not allow a vote to support or oppose this at the meeting.