Dawson Neighborhood News

The Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association

Proposal to Rename Twin Oaks Library

Paraphrased from John Gillum, the Facilities Planning Manager for the Austin Public Library: The Library Department received a request to change the name of the Twin Oaks Branch Library to the Molly Ivins Branch Library. The newly constructed Twin Oaks at 1800 South Fifth Street is scheduled to open to the public on Saturday, August 21, 2010, beginning at 10:00 AM.

The new building still retains the Twin Oaks name because the residents of the service area expressed a desire for it to do so during the design charettes conducted back in 2003. The community's desire to keep the historic Twin Oaks name for the new facility was based in large part on affectionate regard. After all, our South Central Austin community has been provided library services from the lease space Twin Oaks since 1954. Keeping the Twin Oaks name for the facility demonstrated a desire of the greater South Central Austin community not to name the building after a single neighborhood, as sometimes happens, but to recognize that the library serves a tightly knit family of neighborhoods.

After the initial presentation to the Library Commission on Monday, July 26, 2010, the commission will probably set a later date to discuss this request and take public input on the process. The City of Austin's facility naming process calls for the commission to make a recommendation to the City Council, and, ultimately, the Council will decide what the facility will be named. The Council will often conduct a public hearing of its own to take citizen input before naming a new municipal building.

If you are unable to attend the August 9th DNA meeting but would like to voice an opinion about this proposed name change, please contact Sandy McMillan at smandpd@earthlink.net or 693-2532.

Flu Prevention Campaign

Carole Barasch, with the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department, will give a 20 minute presentation followed by a question-and-answer session about ways in which citizens can prevent the flu and prepare for a flu pandemic. From the HHSD website:

A pandemic is a global disease outbreak. A flu pandemic occurs when a new virus emerges and people have little or no immunity to the virus. Without a vaccine, the disease spreads easily from person-to-person, causing serious illness, and can sweep across the country and around the world very quickly. Pandemics are random, with a few happening every century. It is hard to know when a pandemic flu might strike or how severe it may be. Wherever and whenever it starts, everyone around the world is at risk. On June 11, 2009 the World Health Organization announced the H1N1 Influenza Virus as the first pandemic for the 21st century. Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department has already developed an emergency response plan H5N1 in anticipation of Avian flu H1N1. Currently the city is working with various groups to implement whatever measures that is necessary to help the community through this time.

For more information, go to www.cityofaustin.org/pandemicflu or email <u>PandemicFlu@ci.austin.tx.us</u>. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact Carole Barasch at 512-972-6115 or Austin/Travis County HHSD; Attn: Carole Barasch; 7201 Levander Loop, Bldg E; Austin, TX 78702.

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Please support local businesses!

Next Meeting

Monday, August 9, 2010 6:30 pm

South Austin Multipurpose Center 2508 Durwood

Meeting Agendas

Dawson Neighborhood Association Agenda

- 1. Call Meeting to Order
- 2. Approval of Minutes
- 3. Old Business
- 4. New Business
 - a) Carole Barasch with Austin/Travis Co. Health & Human Services
 - b) John Gillum with Austin **Public Library**
- 5. Issues in the Neighborhood
- 6. Adjourn

Dawson Neighborhood Plan Team

- 1. Call Meeting to Order
- **Approval of Minutes**
- Membership Report
- 4. Old Business
- 5. New Business
- 6. Adjourn

Neighborhood Habitat Challenge 2010

Help Dawson to win the Neighborhood Habitat Challenge by turning your yard into a certified wildlife habitat.

Creating habitat for wildlife is as simple

- Planting native plants that provide nectar, pollen, seeds, and berries year
- Including a reliable and accessible water source to attract a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife.
- Providing places for cover and rearing young such as planting evergreen shrubs, leaving rock piles or putting up a birdhouse.

Residents can certify their properties by visiting the National Wildlife Federation's website at:

www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife, or may request a Pre-Paid Habitat Certification Application (limited quantity) from the Wildlife Austin program: 512-327-8181 x29 or wildlife@ci.austin.tx.us.

Visit www.keepaustinwild.com for more information. Schools and places of business and worship are also included in the Habitat Challenge.

We are also looking for volunteers to participate in a community habitat related project.