

# Dawson Neighborhood News

Nov/Dec 2016 Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood

Next Meeting is our potluck dinner on Monday, December 12 at 6:30pm

We hold elections for both the DNA officers and DNPCT board

2508 Durwood at the South Austin Neighborhood Center

## DNPCT Meeting Minutes October 8, 2016

Marty Harris called the meeting to order and explained the difference between the DNA and the DNPCT.

Minutes approved.

Nominations for the plan team board: Jovita Pardo; Cynthia Medlin; David Haun

2510 S. Congress Hotel Project

Marty reviewed the background and history: Business at location has been vacant for a while, and there is an open field in the rear. Mentioned location and surrounding neighbors. This property is on a corridor route and in a buffer zone on the neighborhood east edge.

DNPCT members had voted narrowly in favor of the waivers at the June meeting. Planning Commission (PC) approved the waivers in June.

The church has since challenged PC recommendations (based on an apparent lack of recognition of the applicable zoning for Civic usage in the original permitting process with the city).

Tym Seay from the Church spoke regarding the issue before the DNPCT. The church is a civic use and the setback requirement applies to the entire property, not just the back half as previously believed. Some neighbors present object to the development so near their properties. Others asked why there is not a compromise made.

Church asks for a revote on the issue to be scheduled.

Guesthouse Hotel reps spoke regarding their development and the needs for the waivers.

No vote was taken at meeting.

Meeting adjourned

**Dawson has a new regional APD District** representative. He is Officer Shawn Rougeou (Region 4: D1,D2) and can be emailed at [Shawn.Rougeou@austintexas.gov](mailto:Shawn.Rougeou@austintexas.gov), or at 512.974.5490.

We are contacting him as to his availability for our next meeting.

## DNPCT elections

Elections for the DNPCT Board are scheduled for the December meeting. Members will vote on the following Nominations:

Jovita Pardo, Cynthia Medlin, David Haun

This is for a two year term that is staggered between two group of board members.

Continuing board members are Marty Harris, Greg Anderson Julie Woods, Peter Davis, and Donna Knapp, and Omar Rivera.

## 2510 S Congress update

Update on 2510 S. Congress Guesthouse Hotel

After the project was pulled at the November Board of Adjustment meeting, the Guesthouse project is now possibly scheduled for the December Board of Adjustment meeting on December 12. This is also the same night as our next meeting, where we will be holding elections.

**There are three ways that the Dawson Neighborhood Association** and Contact Plan Team use to reach out to the neighborhood.

The DNA official website: [www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.com](http://www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.com)

The following two resources require that you sign yourself up in order to receive information from us. We generally use both to reach out.

Yahoo Forum: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/DawsonNeighborhood/info>

NextDoor: [https://dawsonaustin.nextdoor.com/news\\_feed/](https://dawsonaustin.nextdoor.com/news_feed/)

## DNA Meeting Minutes October 8, 2016

Minutes approved

**Green Space - Tree Map** app available from TreeFolks for IOS or Android phones.

**It's My Park Day** on November 5.

**AT&T lot on Ben Howell** might become available as a park. Will come back with more info when we hear more.

Austin Parks Foundation is holding an info session on October 12 for people wishing to apply for small grants to make park improvements

**Thanks to Steve** at the Crow Bar for sponsorship of the newsletter

**Nancy Maclaine from the South Lamar Neighborhood Association** gave a presentation about Foundation Communities, which is opening the Bluebonnet Studios on S. Lamar and Del Cuerto.

**Roseanne Sinclair represents Dawson on the Community Development Commission.** Goal is to provide housing via federally funded programs. Cactus Rose mobile home community is one area of concern; land sold to developers and residents have been displaced. CDC is working to find them new housing as a community. Looking to address veteran homelessness and environmental degradation in low income communities.

**Officer nominations:** Julie Woods nominated as Secretary; Peter Davis nominated as President; Becky Sheller nominated as Vice President; Eliot Kimber nominated Newsletter Editor

**Go Greene Automotive** has been parking vehicles on Cumberland, inconveniencing neighbors. Motion to send a letter from the DNA asking Go Green Automotive to remove vehicles after a reasonable time.

**Motion** to adjourn

### Dawson Neighborhood meeting, December 12th

The next Neighborhood meeting is our potluck dinner and also when we hold elections for both the DNA officers and new members to the DNPCT board.

After the elections we will have a potluck dinner for all to enjoy. Please bring a dish, dessert, or drink to share with your neighbors. We are scheduled to have a short presentation on transportation while we eat, and hopefully our new APD District Representative, Officer Shawn Rougeou will also be present.

### Residential Parking Permit for Sacramento Drive

Residents on Sacramento Drive have asked to start the application process to get Residential Permit Parking for their street. They are going to reach out to neighbors on Sacramento to see if this is feasible, or desired by the residents that live on that block. They will be notifying us of the progress at our next neighborhood meeting.



From L to R: The King Family, Jackie and Jon Houghton, Marty Harris, Dan Opdyke, Not pictured: Julie Woods, Lucy Kimber, Gloria Lee, Jeff Bindle, Adriana Chavez and Marisa Fushille

Many thanks for another successful It's My Park Day! Thanks to all for sharing in the work, spreading the mulch and building community. Thanks to the dozen volunteers from Dawson, Galindo and other neighborhoods for shoveling and spreading almost 20 cubic yards of mulch at Gillis Park. Thirty large trees in our park are now nourished and protected.

It's My Park Day is sponsored by Austin Parks Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to building public-private partnerships that develop and maintain parks, trails and open spaces in Austin. On November 5, here were 50 park projects across the city. About 5,500 volunteers provided almost \$70,000 worth of improvements at those parks. For those of you interested in improving our park/open areas, join the planning team!

Write Marisa: mfushille@gmail.com

This month's DNA Newsletter sponsor

Go Greene Automotive

2617 S. First Street, Austin, TX 78704

First Time Customer and VIP Discounts!



## TreeFolks

Every year, TreeFolks gives away over 4,300 free trees to Austin area residents through our NeighborWoods program, helping to lower summer temperatures and reduce energy consumption by shading streets and buildings. Trees are great, but they don't plant themselves! We need your help getting them into people's hands.

Currently, TreeFolks is preparing for our January 21st NeighborWoods tree giveaway events. I'm reaching out to you to ask for your help in promoting the program to your neighborhood and community.

Please help increase awareness in your neighborhood of this exciting program and let your neighbors know about their opportunity to receive free trees.

HERE'S THE INFO. TO SHARE --

TreeFolks, a local non-profit organization, is offering free trees to our community through its NeighborWoods program.

Planting trees decreases energy bills, provides cooling shade during our hot summers, and makes our neighborhood more beautiful. Participation in the program is completely free. The only 'catch' is that you have to plant and care for the trees.

To get a free tree for your house, come to one of TreeFolks' upcoming free tree giveaway events. Trees are available at the events on a first come, first served basis, one per person. Bring your friends and family and come early to ensure that you all get your trees. If you can't make it to one of the events, you can fill out this form to request to have trees delivered right to your door (also free). All Austin Energy customers are eligible.

WHO: TreeFolks & Austin Energy Customers

WHAT: Free Tree Giveaway of 1,000 Fruit, Shade and Ornamental Trees

WHEN: JAN. 21, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WHERE: ACC Highland Campus

SHARE: Visit the Facebook event page here.

To learn more about TreeFolks and the NeighborWoods program, please visit [www.treefolks.org/nw](http://www.treefolks.org/nw) For further questions, contact [shade@treefolks.org](mailto:shade@treefolks.org) or call 512-443-5323.

## Shop to Give Back

As the holiday season gets closer, everyone has different moving parts to consider. Maybe you need to update your furniture, appliances, or flooring in preparation to host family and friends. Maybe you need to shop for the DIY handyman/woman in your life and don't know where to start. Or maybe you're ready to embrace the "season of giving" but haven't found time to give back yet.

No matter which of these things you're dealing with, each can be solved in one, simple action - by visiting the Austin Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

The Austin Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a discount retail outlet featuring new and gently used furniture, home goods, construction materials, flooring, tools, etc. If you name it, they probably have it (depending on the day, as their inventory is driven by donations and changes constantly)! Everything in the store is priced, at a minimum, 50% below retail value. In addition, .87 cents of each dollar in revenue is put directly into the programs of Austin Habitat for Humanity. This means that whether you're doing your holiday upgrading or shopping there, you're also doing some holiday giving.

Don't forget – the ReStore is always looking for quality donations. If you're making room for all the new holiday gifts you're about to receive, they'll take what you don't want!

The ReStore is located at 500 W Ben White Blvd. Operating hours are 9 am – 8 pm, Monday – Saturday.