

Dawson Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association
and Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team
www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org

Sept/Oct 2017

Nominations for DNA and DNPCT election

Every October we take nominations for the DNA officers and DNPCT board members. Voting for both groups take place at the December meeting. Requirements for nomination and voting will be addressed at each meeting.

In the DNA, there are four positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Newsletter Editor.

The DNPCT elects Board members serve in staggered two-year appointments. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary are selected by the elected board as officers, and are then presented to members in February.

Be aware that there are different requirements for both groups to become nominees and/or also be a voting member as defined in the separate bylaws for each group.

They are available on the DNA website:

<http://www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org/bylaws/>

Revising DNPCT Bylaws and Last City NPCT Meeting

We are presently revising our DNPCT bylaws to reconcile our bylaws to the new city NPCT bylaws template. We will again present our progress at the October meeting, and present to vote on this at the next meeting, if progress is made. There are a few changes made by the city that need to be addressed, which will be addressed at the meeting.

DNPCT members need to be informed of the city Neighborhood Plan Contact Team September meeting that DNPCT board members attended with topics on: NPCT ethics, TOMA open meetings requirements, and Fair and Affordable Housing in all of Austin, and what transpired.

This is the power point presentation we saw: ftp://ftp.ci.austin.tx.us/npzd/Austingo/EthicsFairHousing_and_BestPracticesNPCT_Training_Sept_12_2017.pdf

It's My Park Day, Fall 2017 at Gillis Park

Saturday, November 4th, is the Fall date for It's My Park Day 2017. We will be mulching the trees again and start removing the non-natives, mainly ragweed, from the park and creek. We will pick up trash around the park, time permitting. Meet at 9:00 a.m. near the playscape. Register here if you can help: <https://www.austinparks.org/volunteer/impd/>

Thanks to our newsletter sponsor!



PHOEBE'S
DINER
EST. 2017

BREAKFAST - LUNCH
OPEN DAILY 7AM TILL 3PM
533 OLTORF ST.

Code Next Maps Updated for Second Review Period

The new updated CodeNext code maps were released on September 15. There were changes to the text coding of interior residential and exterior transect designated area properties.

See: <https://codenext.engagingplans.org/codenext-comparison-map>

Please look at these maps. We will discuss and inform at the October meeting.

There are several public planned city CodeNext meetings in the next month or so. See: <https://codenext.engagingplans.org/events>

This is still in the response mode, so we need to look at our neighborhood and respond

Next Meeting

October 9 at 6:30pm, Mollie Dawson Elementary, 3001 S. 1st

Agenda

Neighborhood Association:

1. Approval of minutes
2. Old business
3. New business
 - a. Nomination for 2018 officers
 - b. IMPD fall 2017
 - c. AISD Bond Issue – Tali Wildman

Contact Plan Team:

1. Approval of minutes
2. Old business
3. New business
 - a. Board member elections
 - b. New CodeNEXT maps update
 - c. DNPCT Bylaws update



Detail of mural at Binswanger Glass Company

We meet on the 2nd Monday of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

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Austin ISD's Billion Dollar Bond — Tali Wildman

The Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved a November 7, 2017 bond election for \$1,050,984,000, which will bring 21st century learning spaces to students without increasing the tax rate.

Our public school district faces many challenges, from aging buildings needing repair to schools so crowded that students are in decades-old portable buildings.

Some key projects included in the bond proposition are:

- Districtwide technology overhaul for teachers and students
- Improvements to address overcrowding and critical security and safety needs
- Reinvention programs for 21st century learning

AISD's Board and Administration are trying to do it RIGHT this time, having come to the bond proposition in a community driven fashion. For the last two years, AISD Staff have worked with a Board-appointed, citizen-led Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee (FABPAC) as representatives for and of their respective representational districts.

Early voting is Oct. 23 – Nov. 3 and Election Day is Nov. 7.

For more information or details on a particular school, please visit aisdfuture.com. Have questions or feedback? future@austinisd.org or call 512-414-9595

Dawson Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes 8-14-17

Peter opened the meeting and thanked Ms Jedele for hosting us at Dawson Elementary and Becky Sheller for sponsoring the newsletter. Motion by Donna, seconded and minutes unanimously approved as written.

Old Business: Donna asked about the roadwork promised by the city to finish the drainage project that was expected to start in July. Concerns expressed that the roadwork will interfere with traffic at the school and that Havana is a potholed mess. Recommend contacting Stephanie Lott with the city to inquire about progress; shared her direct number and email.

AT&T park is now closed. AT&T has opted to close the tiny park on Cumberland. The problem with who would provide insurance coverage, since the city of Austin declined to write an agreement with AT&T on the issue, stating that state law exempted AT&T from liability. AT&T's real estate team decided that this assurance was insufficient and ordered the local manager to close the gates.

Public pool closures: Gillis park is on the list of pools needing repairs and recommended for closure if/when it fails. CoA is viewing pools like parks: focusing on usability for events, lessons, etc. Recommend contacting the city to support the pool, perhaps mentioning the pool party with Galindo last week. Motion to send a letter to the parks department and Pio asking the city to keep the pool maintained or rebuild in place with improvements—emphasize that we want the pool to be available until a new one is funded and under construction. Mention that Austin is historically a city with lots of pools and increased density should include maintaining services; also, building newer, fancier pools further apart will increase traffic. Property owners have an expectation that the city will keep its promise to maintain pools, as featured in the neighborhood plan. Given the heavy use at Big Stacy, there is a lot of demand for pools in South Austin.

It's My Park day is coming on November 4. Marty has written the city about a project; recommends a more elaborate project than mulch like last year. Two more projects at the park will mean the neighborhood has adopted the park.

Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team Minutes 8-14-17

Marty opened the meeting. Minutes approved unanimously.

Old Business: CodeNEXT maps haven't been updated since the last meeting. New maps expected September 5. Public comment will be possible on the city website; no requirement for local residents to comment only on their own area. The property for Dawson Elementary was coded incorrectly and should be updated soon. Maps on the website should show green markings where zoning had changed. Recommend vigilance on coding in the neighborhood; some builders have been commenting about changing codes to increase opportunities to build. Suggest checking Impact Austin or other local publications for general information like definitions for "affordability" or "density." The new mechanism of Transect Zones means impervious cover requirements may be reduced along with increased density, such as 4-plexes where formerly only duplexes were available, plus small businesses or home offices, plus a broader array of business uses for residential areas that could lead to commercial uses.

Margaret Valenti wrote notifying of the need for an update on the bylaws to comply with the new requirements. DNPCT's bylaws are more generous than most regarding less onerous attendance requirements and additional meeting notices. Ms Valenti has asked that we have a new draft to the city by the end of the year. Peter recommended that the board have a draft available to the membership by the October meeting and then hold a membership vote on the issue at the December meeting. Various matters for possible revision include membership requirements, notice, etc.

New and Changed: Papalotes on S Congress may be open by the end of next week. Mrs. Ps fried chicken is now just called "Diner." 512 Tequila is now occupying one of the houses near Torchy's on S. 1st. Paws vets on S. 1st has now opened in their new building. Pokey Pokey has changed its name to Honeyfish Pokey. Toss Pizza just had their one-year anniversary.

Motion to adjourn.