

Dawson Neighborhood News

March/April 2016 Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood

NEXT MEETING APRIL 11 — 6:30PM TO 8:30PM

AT SO. AUSTIN MULTIPURPOSE CENTER, 2508 DURWOOD

Going Green & Getting Involved by Carly Yansak

Spring is finally in the air! The wildflowers are blooming; the greenbelt is flowing; and your storage is probably bursting. Consider donating items you'll spring clean away to our neighbor at 500 W Ben White Blvd, the Austin Habitat for Humanity ReStore. They are able to provide unique, discounted goods and materials to the community because of the generosity of those in it! Your donation to their drop-off drive-thru is a donation for hope. The increased inventory leads to increased sales, and all revenue from the ReStore directly supports Austin Habitat's community initiatives. Every chair, painting, dish, cinder block, etc. helps build affordable homes!

Committed to promoting sustainability by encouraging the preservation of existing material, the ReStore is a community wide recycling effort. Through the ReStore alone, 19 million tons of reusable materials have been diverted from landfills since 1992. Donations of time can be as equally important as physical donations. Celebrate the spirit of Earth Day by spending a day lending them a hand in the month of April. The ReStore has endless volunteer opportunities for those looking to support their mission build strong, stable, and self-reliant communities while encouraging sustainability.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, as well as information on how to donate, please visit austinhabitat.org/restore.

Thanks for recycling!!

87% of Austinites recycle!

Here are a few reminders:

Keep the following items out of the blue recycling cart:

Garden Hoses

Plastic foam (cups, egg cartons, take-out containers)

Plastic bags, films and packaging

Fabric, clothing and textiles

Wire clothes hangers

Pizza boxes (put in composting cart)

Syringes

Trash

Electronics

Food (composting cart)

Yard trimmings/leaves (put in composting cart))

Helium tanks

Large metal items (such as frying pans and metal pipes)

DRIVE LIKE YOUR KIDS LIVE HERE

Every day in the United States an average of 4 children are killed in motor vehicle accidents!

Every day in the United States an average of 500 children are injured in motor vehicle accidents!

Every day in the United States motor vehicles kill more children than any disease and are the leading cause of death for children 14 years of age and younger!

A few years ago, Petulia Pugliare, of Wethersfield, Conn, was fed-up with these horrible statistics and decided to appeal to the hearts and emotions of drivers. She printed bright red signs with bold, block letters saying, DRIVE LIKE YOUR KIDS LIVE HERE. Her classic "empathy" campaign worked as drivers slowed-down, thinking of their own child or ones they know. There is now a campaign to Drive Like Your Pets Live Here. (Now available on Amazon.)

Neighbors can help stop distracted, aggressive and reckless driving and save a child's life. Besides the obvious issues of speeding through school zones and never passing a stopped school bus, it's important to stay cautious when driving in residential areas. Be especially alert when turning corners, since kids have been known to run into streets. Back-up with care, because kids can disappear in blind spots or sporadically jump from shadows. Stay alert at all times since children can be anywhere.

Dawson Neighborhood has resorted to speed humps to convince drivers to slow down, but many don't work and others are really severe. Spread the word and please drive like your kids live here.

Volunteer for our Creek Cleanup on April 9th!!!

Join Keep Austin Beautiful and your Dawson Neighbors for Clean Sweep – Austin's annual city-wide service day on April 9th where over 4,000 volunteers join together on an ordinary Saturday morning to make an extraordinary difference. Dawson neighbors will clean East Bouldin Creek from 9AM-11AM beginning at Alpine Pond (meet on Alpine St.). Meet your neighbors while having fun and making a noticeable impact.

Volunteer sign-up at:

<http://keepaustinbeautiful.org/program/clean-sweep>

Our site is listed under:

Bouldin Creek Cleanup with Dawson Neighborhood Association

Don't forget to give us your T-shirt size! For questions contact Marisa at mfushille@gmail.com

Twin Oaks Branch Austin Public Library

1800 S. Fifth St., Austin, 78704

512-974-9980

Sunday: Closed

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Thanks Crow Bar for sponsoring this newsletter.

OPEN
365 days
Sun 2 til 2
Mon-Thurs 4 til 2
Fri-Sat 3 til 2

**Happy Hour
Specials
Daily**

Nightly Specials

SUNDAY: \$3 Pints Night @ Main Bar & \$4 Wine

MONDAY: \$2.50 Tallboys & \$3 shots of Talcott Dew
Deep Edgy Vodka & Fireball plus FREE POOL

TUESDAY: HAPPY HOUR PRICES ALL NITE

WEDNESDAY: \$3 A.B.W. CANS & \$3 WELL DRINKS

THURSDAY: \$3 PINTS Night & \$4 WINE

**Crow's Nest
Rental**

Room Rates Start @ \$75 Hour
Bar Area & Lounge Area w/seating
Private Bartender & Security
Personalized Selection of Beer & Liquor
Choose your Theme & Music
Affordable & Great for:
Birthdays-Graduation-Holidays-Office
Bachelor/Bachelorette Parties

STAY IN TOUCH

Yahoo Forum =

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DawsonNeighborhood>

Website =

www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.com

Neighborhood Association

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Old Business
3. New Business

Planning Contact Team

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Membership report
3. Old Business
4. New Business

Projects in the Neighborhood by Martin Harris

While there have been no new Neighborhood Plan variance permits requests brought forward to us, there are still many projects proceeding in the neighborhood, and along our edges.

Both Popeye's and Church's Chicken on the outer northern edge of our neighborhood are gone, maybe a Starbucks for one of the locations; and the pawnshop and restaurant on South 1st Street plans seem still up in the air.

The convenience store on South 1st and Sacramento is being rebuilt to expand and modernize. The property just south of this has had a cosmetic done to the front exterior recently.

It seems Toss Pizza, just south of Torchy's (our President visited there) on South 1st is still in progress.

On South Congress there are still plans for a hotel pending for the old Chinese drive through in progress (they have met at meetings with us several times), and the property just north of the Crow Bar is rapidly moving forward.

Pickle Road will soon see a new climbing center to join Infinite Monkey Winery. It also seems that the Buzz Mill will now not occupy the 121 Pickle Road property.

And rumors abound for what will eventually take place on the property that was once the drive through Beverage Barn.

We recently became aware that the Greater Outdoors had old unsettled problems with the city permitting process, and many have gone online to voice their opinions on this.

It seems HEB recently bought the Twin Oaks property that is kitty-corner from their present location. (It doesn't seem that long ago that the store was a part of a strip mall where it is now.)

And all of this mentioning is commercially oriented.

There are a lot of property in the area on the market and many presently under construction.

ADAPT America recently finished placing sidewalks on the north side of west Alpine from South Congress to South 1st. This is the last east-west major street in our Neighborhood Plan to finally have sidewalks continuous from South Congress to South 1st.

Also please note: The city has still not passed forward any changes to what their plans are for the neighborhood plan contact teams (NPCT), the new bylaws template they are creating, but they are on the next City Contact Team meeting agenda.

Lulu B's Vietnamese Restaurant

Lulu B's had a food truck since the days when the skyline of S. Lamar was free of condos and afternoon traffic was only reasonably bad. We had to walk in mud, rocks, or park illegally in Office Depot's parking lot to get what we wanted for lunch! Naturally I was excited to learn that the trusted oasis of Vietnamese food in south Austin was getting a brick and mortar.

Lulu B's is now on the west side of So. Congress, across from SoCo, about a block north of the Post Office.

They have basically the same menu of Banh Mi Thit, Viet Sandwiches and Bun Thit, the Vermicelli Bowl, with several vegetarian choices. Choose between Lemongrass Tofu, chicken or pork, but my favorite is the grilled pork.

There are also a variety of Goi Cuon, Summer Rolls with the lemongrass choices, including shrimp, grilled lamb, avocado or Chinese sausage. A choice of drinks are offered, including Viet Coffee, hot or cold, Green teas and Bubble Teas.

BYOB if you want beer or wine.

Everything is cooked to order, with excellent service.

Look for the chartreuse roof, next to the Mobile Station, and enjoy the best of Vietnamese food.

Lulu B's; 3632 S Congress Ave; Austin, TX 78704; ph#(512) 921-4828

Dawson Neighborhood Association Minutes: February 8, 2016

Introduction of new officers: Eliot Kimber, President; Chad Cosper, Vice-President; Julie Woods, Secretary; David Haun, Editor
Approval of minutes: motion to approve, seconded. Motion passed.
Old business: none

New Business: New recycling stickers from the city made available for members.

Alpine Pond cleanup proposal: chair recognized Marty Harris.

Applying for a city grant to take care of the pond, which the city has not been trimming or maintaining aside from trimming Johnson grass three times a year. Grant would provide funds for improvements; the neighborhood can contribute money and/or volunteer hours to match funds (30% of total) provided by the city for improvements. Need to get adjacent neighbors to agree.

Related: It's My Park Day on March 5. Can volunteer on website: www.austinparks.org Goal is to address invasive species at the Alpine pond.

Jovita Pardo spoke on behalf of Sally Hernandez, running for Sheriff. Chad Cosper reminded neighbors that the marathon is coming up next Sunday and will interfere with traffic, give folks an opportunity to go out and cheer for runners. Should be over for us by 9 am or so.

DNPCT Minutes: February 8, 2016

Meeting called to order by Peter Davis

DNPCT board members elected new officers as follows: Chair Marty Harris, Vice Chair Greg Anderson, Secretary Omar Rivera.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as published.

Continuing discussion of the proposed hotel at 2510 S. Congress
Developers of the Guest House Hotel at 2510 S. Congress presented proposed waiver requests:

- *to reduce the setback on the South edge of the property for a driveway.

- *to reduce setback where a pool is be located.

- *for a liquor license required within 300 feet of a church (adjacent property).

Church in Austin (adjoining property) representatives oppose the variances, as:

- *they forever change their rights to prescribed setbacks,

- *The pool would be disruptive to the residents and missionary quality of life on the Church grounds as there are no limits to hours and activity.

- *city code requires alcohol sales cannot occur within 300ft of their property.

Restricted Front Yard Parking Application discussed and voted to opt out by 18 to 2 with 2 abstentions.