



NORTH UNIVERSITY
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Letter from our NUNA President

By Laurence Miller

It's time to get your Stars and Stripes out and get ready to celebrate our nation's birthday with our ninth neighborhood parade and 4th of July party. So come one, come all, bring your kids, bring your dogs for a fine celebration.

Carole LeClair who has put on such wonderful events for us over the last few years is not able to take the lead this year. Thankfully Kim Coffin has saved the day and has graciously agreed to take charge of the celebration. It is very much a volunteer effort and we definitely need volunteers. Please contact Kim (kcoffin1@austin.rr.com or 512 527-4646) if you would like to help.

We are off to a good start. Our very own firefighters from Station #3 will be there to lead our parade; after the parade we will have refreshments and I think there will be a water slide again this year. While the kids splash, we can take advantage of this great opportunity to visit and get to know our neighbors.

So decorate your favorite mode of transportation (feet, stroller, scooter, bike or vehicle) with the red, white and blue and meet at the corner of 32nd and Hemphill Park by the bench at 10 am sharp on Monday, July 4th.

NEXT NUNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY

June 8, 2011

5:30 - 7:00 pm

First English Lutheran Church



Neighborhood Notes

About Parking

Chris Dial reports that the signs for Residential Parking Permits will be going up soon on West 33rd and 2900 Hemphill Park. Enforcement will begin as soon as the signs are up and so far only 3 residences have applied for permits.

www.nunaaustin.org

We still do not have a manager for our website. We need someone who will post notices and keep our website up to date. This requires very basic computer skills. Rob Moshein (our web master) said that he thinks it would take at most an hour a week. If you have any interest or know anyone who might, please email Judy Willcott at nunanews@gmail.com. We still have only 41 people who have signed up for the discussion board at www.nunaaustin.org.

Lee Elementary School Notes

The last school day of the year is Thursday, June 2. School reconvenes on Monday, August 22.

Hyde Park Historic Homes Tour

The Hyde Park Historic Homes Tour will be held on Fathers' Day Weekend on June 18-19, 2011. The theme

NEXT NUNA MEETING

June 8, 2011
AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Reports

ANC - Bill Bednar
CANPAC - Robert Morris
Historic District- Grooms, Aldridge Place
Development Review- Steven Tomlinson
Membership - Kimberly Renner
Newsletter- Judy Willcott
Parks - Mark Feist & Doug Plummer
Parking - Chris Dial & Doug Plummer
Treasurer - Jan Moyle
Quadrant Leader's Reports- Dick Holland, Mike Riley,
Kimberly Renner, and Rick Iverson

IV. Items Recommended for Action

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

VII. Adjourn

this year is "Back to Hometown Austin: Hyde Park." There are 9 structures on the tour including an 1890's home under restoration and Historic Baker School.

Commander's Forum

The Austin Police Department is holding a forum on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 from 6:30 to 8pm at the Austin Cornerstone Church, 1101 Reinli Street, Austin, Texas 78723. All of our district reps and other police personnel will be present to discuss what's going on in our neighborhood, information about crime and various issues. It's an opportunity to meet our reps and ask questions.

Zinger Hardware

Zinger Hardware plans to open in the old Bookstop space by Central Market. They said they hope to be open by the middle of June.

The Parks Committee

By Mark Feist

The Parks Committee had its first meeting to discuss the Master Plan for Hemphill and Adams Parks on Tuesday, April 4, at Kim Coffin's home. The Committee determined that our top priority should be the installation of an irrigation system in Hemphill Park. This would not only help the older trees but it is also a requirement for the City to help in planting new trees. PARD will supply the labor and the water for new trees if there is an irrigation system in place for the first two years.

We have an older irrigation system in the park, but no one remembers when it was last in use. Some members of the committee who have lived here a while remember hearing the sprinklers in the early mornings. We have asked PARD to do an irrigation audit to see if we can use any of the old system. Unfortunately we are still waiting for this to be completed. When we have the results of the audit in hand, we can proceed by getting bids on completing the system and getting it installed.

NUNA General Membership Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2011

First English Lutheran Church



The meeting was called to order by President Laurence Miller who introduced Officer Joshua Metteauer, the NUNA liaison officer with the Austin Police Department attending the meeting as a guest.

First on the agenda Karen McGraw, architect and advisor to the NUNA Planning Committee, was asked to comment on the issue of Trudy's parking lot which the city has said must be paved. Trudy's will apply for a variance and NUNA is already on the record as supporting that request. Karen reported that the request for a variance for a triplex on East 33rd has been withdrawn but added that the issue will probably come up again.

The next item involved a proposed pocket park development at 38th and Duval where city money can be used to improve the aesthetics of a small unused track of land. Although technically not in NUNA boundaries, the parcel is cater-cornered from NUNA and support for the proposal was granted.

Karen McGraw has been appointed by NUNA to represent us in filing our proposed amendments to our NCCD with the City of Austin. These amendments would permit garage apartments on smaller lots.

A motion to oppose a zoning request for a condo proposal for East 34th and Helm passed.

President Miller requested a large round of applause for the work of the Development Review Committee.

A problem about parking on the bridges was brought up but tabled for further review.

According to the Treasurer's report, NUNA is solvent.

In the quadrant leaders report, Dick Holland told the group that dead trees had been taken down on Walling St. and Rick Iverson mentioned the need for sidewalk repairs in his area. Joan Burnham spoke in support of cleaning the columns at the entrance to Aldridge Place. Honk Texas was applauded for its success and hope was expressed that it wouldn't get much larger.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kever

Note: Trudy's application for variance on parking lot paving has since been granted.

2010-2011 NUNA OFFICERS

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NE Quadrant Representative

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SE Quadrant Representative

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Parking Permits

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Newsletter Distribution:

Daphny Ainsley, Bill Bednar, Jack Brannon, Joan Burnham, Pat Campbell and Don Carnes, Jim Creswell, Vicki Ford, Maryrose Galluzo, Alegria Hibbits, Rick Iverson and Joe Sosa, Carole LeClair, Susan Morgan, Jan Moyle, Homer Parsegian, Michael Riley, Naomi Trejo

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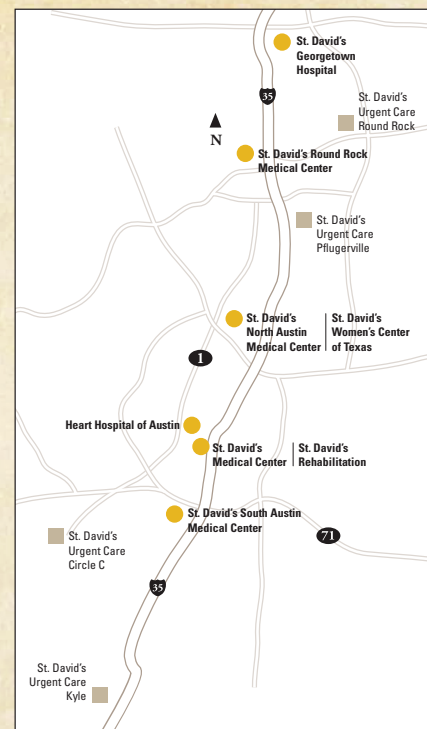
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About Baker School

The Austin Independent School District has put Baker School up for sale. Baker was founded in 1911 as Hyde Park's original 1st through 8th grade school and this year is the Baker School Centennial. The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association is asking the Austin Independent School District to take Baker School off the market. It is unlikely that AISD could afford to purchase new land in the future for downtown schools, and it seems very unwise to sell this property.

The following is a letter sent by Karen McGraw (head of Neighborhood Planning in Hyde Park) to the AISD Superintendent about Baker School.

May 21, 2011

Superintendent Carstarphen,

I am resending letters I have written to you and the AISD Trustees over the last year. I have received absolutely NO RESPONSE to any of my letters!

While state leadership is making good efforts at disabling public education in Texas, selling AISD's central city school property is not the answer for Austin taxpayers! AISD has actually spent somewhere between \$2-\$7 million on Baker School improvements in the last 10 years. It currently houses many administrative staff and contains much equipment geared to their use. At the price of \$7.75 million this is a giveaway of public property (possibly to a private school) and a removal of this public facility from our community!

How can AISD justify the cost of replacing facilities and improvements they have made for administrative staff? What will it cost to secure new locations and move everyone? What is the eventual net gain of giving up central Austin real estate? Has AISD calculated these costs?

This property is listed in the City of Austin Hyde Park Historic District and is an integral part of the fabric of the historic Hyde Park Neighborhood. Selling it is unconscionable! Neighbors have put up with its use for AISD offices for over a decade with the great desire to see it returned to school use one day. Administrators' cars are parked every day on the playing surfaces and the landscape is neglected. Neighbors try to use the outdoor space for recreation but facilities are neglected. As the City continues to densify, we believe this property will not only be needed, but can again serve the many families who live

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Jan Moyle, 200 W 32nd St, Austin Texas, 78705.

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in the surrounding homes!

In the City's 1928 plan, schools and their locations were addressed. In Austin we no longer discuss schools and the rest of the city in the same planning effort, but maybe it's time we started to plan comprehensively! In 1928 the goal was to have every home within 1/2 mile of a public school. There is a map of this effort that I have pasted below. If Baker is sold, where would a school be located in the future?

Please take this property off the market now for taxpayers, for history, for the community and for the benefit of all citizens! And please respond to my questions regarding the net expected gain.

Thank you,

Karen McGraw AIA

Chairman, Hyde Park Contact Team

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Ruby's BBQ

by Judy Willcott

"Undoubtedly the best..." Wine Spectator

"best barbecue in America, worth a detour..." Esquire

"Everything here is excellent from their perfectly smoked hormone free brisket to their excellent potato salad..." Austin Magazine

This is just a sampling of the rave reviews which Ruby's BBQ gathers. There are Texans living in NYC who find that a Fedex from Ruby's is the only way to assuage their longing. Ruby's always ranks high on lists of best barbecue joints. And, lucky us, it is located right here in our neighborhood near the corner of 29th and Guadalupe.

Ruby's was founded in 1988 by Pat Mares and her husband Luke Zimmermann. Pat grew up on a farm in Nebraska and came to Austin for graduate school in Latin American Studies. Luke came from Minnesota as manager of a music group. They met working at the Kerby Lane Café and both loved the Austin music scene and Antone's where it was all happening in the 1980's on Guadalupe Street. When the small store front around the corner from Antone's became available, they decided that they wanted to make delicious homemade food to go with great barbecue and they jumped into the restaurant business. Immediately Ruby's became a local favorite where you could always spot musicians.

The pits at Ruby's are modeled after Krenz's Market (now Smitty's) in Lockhart, made of brick and mortar with a firebox off to the side. The hormone steroid free beef is prepared with a dry rub of mixed spices and is smoked over oak for 12 to 24 hours. This yields tender juicy brisket with a great smoky flavor.

Besides brisket, there are baby back ribs, smoked chicken, and Elgin sausages. They serve a wide variety of sides including two potato salads (one mustard and one mayonnaise), cole slaw, and beans. All are all made fresh daily from Pat's homemade recipes.

Ruby's makes some great sandwiches with a brisket, Elgin sausage, or the spicy chopped beef. There is Gregory's chicken salad (includes mayo and mustard, celery, almonds, and spices) which is labeled the "House Favorite." And then my all time



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favorite, the Rooster Andrews, smoked chicken served with Ruby's wonderful sauce and mayo, lettuce and tomato on the side. Order it with dark meat and I promise you won't be disappointed.

Sadly Luke died last year. Despite her loss, Pat has continued to grow the business. They have a large catering business and sell their BBQ sauce at several local grocery stores. They keep musician hours from 11 am to 11 pm Sunday through Thursday, and 11 am until midnight on Friday and Saturday.

NUNA's Development Review Committee: What Do Those Folks Do?

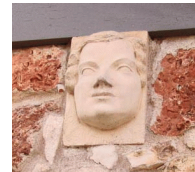
by Steven Tomlinson

If you haven't been to a Development Review Committee (DRC) meeting, you've missed passionate debate, level-headed thinking and some surprisingly inspired solutions to the challenge of respecting the rights of property owners while preserving the historic character of our neighborhood and improving NUNA's quality of life.

The DRC consists of five NUNA volunteers appointed by the association president. Their task is to make recommendations to NUNA's Executive Committee and General Membership on matters related to development in the neighborhood. The committee typically meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the First English Lutheran Church. Since the meetings never run more than 90 minutes and the agenda is sometimes packed, things can get aerobic.

The DRC hears three kinds of cases. First, NUNA property owners who plan to seek permits for additions or demolitions visit the DRC to make sure their projects conform with the zoning requirements laid out in our NCCD, the special ordinance that governs development in NUNA. Committee members are familiar with the ordinance and can advise neighbors at the earliest stages of their projects. In some cases, prospective buyers contact the DRC about a property they have under contract, just to make sure that their plans fit within the NCCD guidelines.

A second kind of case involves neighbors wanting to work with NUNA to resolve development puzzles. For instance, when the City demanded that Trudy's pave its parking lot on 30th Street (which would have eliminated two dozen parking



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spots and send more cars onto neighborhood streets), NUNA DRC worked with Trudy's and the City to craft a plan to leave the lot unpaved. NUNA's General Membership voted in favor of the plan, which helped Trudy's win the variances it needed from the Board of Adjustment. The DRC looks for ways to uphold our NCCD while at the same time adding value to all our properties.

Finally, the DRC tackles violations of the NCCD on behalf of NUNA. Committee members visit City Staff, Council and the BOA to lobby for code enforcement and to call attention to provisions of the NCCD that City Staff may overlook. Several of our members have solid reputations with the staff and elected officials who can help us enforce the rules that protect NUNAs unique charm. Anytime the Executive Committee or General Membership have voted on an issue, NUNA's president writes letters to inform officials of our positions and recommendations.

Everyone is welcome at all DRC meetings. The agenda typically goes out on the neighborhood list-serve the Monday before the meeting. All NUNA members who attend are eligible to vote on any issue before the committee.

If you'd like to get a development issue on the DRC agenda, write to nunadrc@gmail.com. One of the committee members will follow up to see how we can help.

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