

# August Meeting

**When:** 7:00 p.m.

Monday, August 5, 2013

**Where:** Trinity United Methodist Church  
4001 Speedway

*Note: HPNA general meetings usually take place on the first Monday of each month.*

## HPNA General Meeting Agenda for August 5<sup>th</sup>

- Announcements. Please bring information and announcements for our neighborhood.
- Voting on resolution to increase funding for Austin parks.
- The annual ice cream social. Come hungry!

**All Hyde Park residents are welcome.**



Calling all chickens to the November 10 Hyde Park Homes Tour

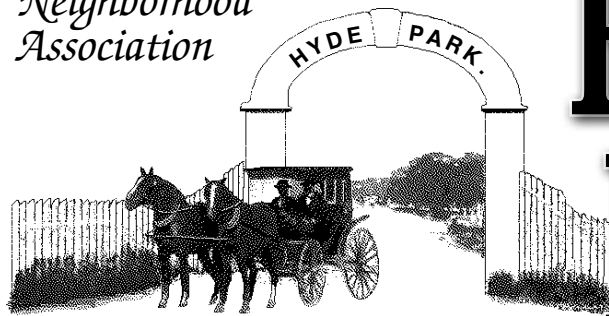
## Hyde Park: Inside and Out

There is nothing better than being out of the Texas heat in August, so let's think about how much nicer and cooler the weather will be in early November. That is when we will enjoy the homes and gardens of our 37<sup>th</sup> Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour.

The tour selection committee once again identified a stellar group of homes for the November 10 walking tour. There will

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*The Hyde Park  
Neighborhood  
Association*



# Pecan Press

August 2013 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 39, No. 8

## Rethinking Development in Hyde Park: The Infill Option

**infill (in'fil) n.**

The use of vacant land and property within a built-up area for further construction or development, especially as part of a neighborhood preservation or limited growth program.  
<[www.thefreedictionary.com/infill](http://www.thefreedictionary.com/infill)>

The land use strategy pursued by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) for the past 30 years has been to preserve the existing housing stock at all costs. The challenges we are facing now and in the near future as a neighborhood suggest that some type of rational infill policy would be a valuable tool in responding to ongoing pressure for increased inner city density.

### How we got here

Close-in neighborhoods in Austin were under development pressure in the 1970s and early 1980s, especially areas like Hyde Park which were close to UT. Their over-zoned properties (single family homes on multi-family zoned lots) made them a prime target for developers of small, dense apartment complexes. The fact that Hyde Park housing stock had deteriorated during a period of neglect prior to that simply exacerbated the pressure. On the other hand, in the mid-1970s, there was also a growing awareness that these inner city neighborhoods were good places to live, raise families and become engaged in a community.

Although the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the Austin City Council in the 1970s, included strong policies and

objectives to protect and improve the image and character of neighborhoods, the city's antiquated zoning ordinances often thwarted efforts to protect the neighborhoods. Change occurred with the adoption of a new comprehensive zoning ordinance in the early 1980s, which provided for compatibility standards, neighborhood conservation districts, notification processes, and so forth. These land use and zoning regulations have provided the tools that have pretty much stopped the replacement of single family homes with dense apartment complexes on over-zoned properties.

HPNA, reacting to the overdevelopment of the past, eagerly adopted its own strict development regulations designed to preserve the existing housing stock, in spite of city staff

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# From the President's Desk

It's hot, really hot. I've lived in Texas my whole life and every year I am still surprised just how hot it gets here in the summer. The good news is that we can all cool off at Shipe Park in the pool, enjoy the beautiful and newly completed mosaic mural, and visit with neighbors who are also trying to beat the heat.

At our August HPNA general meeting, which will also serve as our annual ice cream social, our Vice President Mark Fishman will be presenting a resolution to HPNA, asking the City of Austin to include \$4.75 million in additional funds for the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) budget. \$1 million of this additional funding will be for aquatics. If you enjoy the Shipe Park pool and believe we should always have this community facility in Hyde Park, I would encourage you to sup-

port this resolution. A few years ago, the City threatened to close a few neighborhood pools, including Shipe, because of lack of funding for the aquatics division. Additional funding for aquatics can only help in keeping our pool open for the long term.

The recently completed reclaimed water irrigation project at the Hancock Golf Course has the greens, fairways, and tee boxes looking great! This is the time of year when the Hancock of old would start to look brown and rocky with all the grass dying, and quite frankly, not much fun to play. This is the first summer in years that I've seen Hancock look nice and lush, and very playable. In my opinion, Hancock is the perfect golf course for beginners, or even more experienced players who only have time for a quick 9-hole outing. Hancock offers a laid back, non-intimidating environment for golfers of all skill levels, which isn't the case at many other golf courses around town. It's also cheap to play, especially if you walk the course; but it is reasonably priced for playing with a cart as well. If this summer is indicative of how the course can actually be nice and green, upcoming years of golf at Hancock should be even better as the reclaimed water brings enough water to the course during the hot months, keeping it in good shape with thriving green grass. Get out and play a round if you haven't played Hancock in the past few years.

Development, particularly in the north section of Hyde Park, is starting to be a big issue again.

There are a number of single family residences that have been purchased by developers over the past several months. Some of these residences have already been demolished, with more likely to be demolished in the upcoming months. The concern is that developers will replace the original single family homes with dorm duplexes.

This should come as no surprise because now that the economy in Austin is booming

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## Pecan Press

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*Note: Each month's ad and editorial deadline is the 15th of month preceding publication.*

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## Hyde Park Neighborhood Association P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765 <http://www.austinhypark.org>

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again, developers are back in the game and these dorm duplexes have proven time and again to bring in nice cash flows for the developers or their investors once they move in six to eight college students willing to pay a premium for a bedroom in close proximity to the university. There are no easy answers for what to do with this undesirable type of housing, but one solution that has worked pretty well in the south part of Hyde Park has been the creation of a Local Historic District (LHD). One main goal of the LHD is to prevent demolition of a contributing structure, which makes development of a dorm duplex very difficult. Many of us in HPNA feel that now might be the time to start discussing a Local Historic District again for some of the northern sections of Hyde Park. The fear is that if nothing is done, development will drive out many single family residents, replacing them all with college students. We love the college students who live in the neighborhood, but there are more appropriate ways to bring them to the neighborhood other than seeing true single family homes

demolished for multi-student housing. Some good news on this front is that the Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) is addressing the topic and working on solutions for this type of development, but a lot of work needs to be done to address it. City Council needs to hear that central Austin residents don't want their neighborhoods overrun with dorm duplex developments.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that we have six confirmed houses for the 2013 Hyde Park Homes Tour to be held on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all the homeowners who will have their houses on the tour, and we will be sending out volunteer requests for help with the tour in the next few months.

— *John Williams*  
HPNA President



### Big Shipe Pool Schedule

**June 11 - Aug 2**

Mondays Closed

Tues - Fri: 7am - 10am Lap Swim  
10am - 8pm Rec Swim

Weekends: 10am - noon Lap Swim  
Noon - 8pm Rec Swim

**Aug 3 - 23**

Mondays Closed

Tues - Sun: Noon - 7pm Rec Swim

### Shipe Wading Pool Schedule

**June 11 - Aug 11**

Mondays Closed

Tues - Sun: Noon - 6pm

**Aug 12 - 23**

Mondays Closed

Tues - Sun: 1 - 6pm

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Enrollment		2012-13 Membership	HPNA Membership Info
Name _____ Phone _____		Bring to an HPNA meeting, or send to:  <b>HPNA Membership</b> P.O. Box 49427 Austin, Texas 78765  Make checks payable to HPNA.	All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.  ✦ Membership in HPNA is open to all residents aged 18 years or older who reside within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of the designated boundaries.  ✦ New members, and members who lapse in dues for over six months, are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
Address _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> I wish to be notified via email of HPNA meetings and events.			
Email _____			
<b>Dues (per person)</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Standard - \$5/year <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen- \$1/year			
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member			
Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash    Date _____			
<i>All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.</i>			

## ◆ We Welcome Your Submissions to Pecan Press ◆

Send in your articles, letters, and photos (but not your poetry\*) by the 15th of each month to:

**Editor, Pecan Press**  
**<editorpecanpress@gmail.com>**

Please note the recent change of email address.

\*Send your poems to:

**Charlotte Herzele**  
**<herzele@gmail.com>**

Note: The Pecan Press will not publish unsigned/unattributed poetry. All poems (even if written under a pen name) must carry a name and address or phone number for identification and verification purposes.



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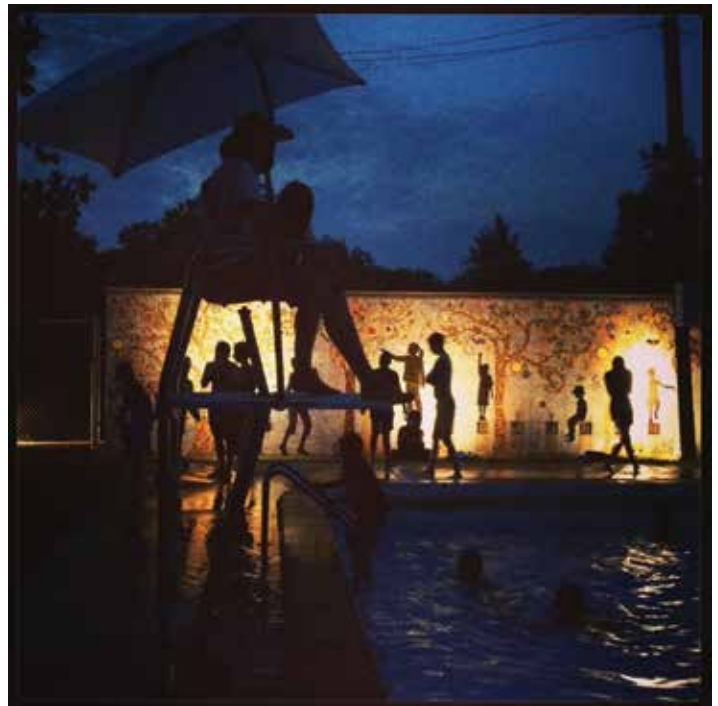
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## A Night To Remember

The Fifth Annual Shipe Park Pool Party on June 29 was a particularly celebratory occasion this year because it included the dedication of the Shipe Park Mosaic Mural. Crowds there were: over 500 people celebrated into the night – neighbors and friends, children and parents, politicians and the media.



The mural as seen at night photo by Deborah Eve Lewis

This beautiful mural, three years in the making, is the creation of two mosaic artists, Pascal Simons and Holli Brown, and hundreds of community volunteers. It covers the 600 square foot pump house wall of Shipe Pool with glittering, colorful glass and displays a stunning parkland landscape – a tree canopy filled with fanciful flowers, birds, bugs, bats, leaves and a variety of other wonderful things to discover.

The most delightful part of the installation is that each small element is the personal creation of a different member of the neighborhood. The mural is awesome as a work of art, but the deeper beauty there is what it represents – the collaboration of a group of people dedicated to their community and the love for its neighborhood park. And, indeed, Shipe Park is cherished public space and the source of a sense of community. It is the place where young children grow up together, new parents learn from each other, teenagers gather, and adults come to relax and chat.

The initial idea for the mosaic mural emerged from discussions by dedicated leaders of Friends of

**Continued on following page**





**Mosaic artists Holli Brown and Pascal Simon**  
photo by Lorre Weidlich



**Eddie Collins and the A-List Players** photo by Lorre Weidlich

Shipe Park about ways to improve the park. In fact, the project was born from a small “back of the napkin” sketch three years ago. Amazing! From there it took more than \$40,000 of donations from community philanthropists and generous neighbors, the creative leadership of the mosaic artists, and the planning, facilitation, and oversight of Friends of Shipe Park. Gratitude is also owed to the other major partnering organizations: Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, Austin Parks Foundation, Griffin School, Blue Moon Glassworks, and Austin Parks and Recreation.

Entertainment at the event was provided by the bluegrass band, Eddie Collins & the ‘A’ List Players (thanks to Mary LaTouf from Book Austin Music) and an under the stars showing of the film, “The Pirates! Band of Misfits” (thanks to Grande Communications).

The evening, however wonderful, had to end; but what doesn’t end is the idea of parks as vital sources of community. To ensure continuation of the benefits they offer, support for adequate funding is crucial; and it just so happens that a resolution to increase funding for parks is up for a vote at the August general meeting (see the Agenda on page 1). Support for local parks can be shown by joining HPNA (there’s a Parks and Public Space Committee) and Friends of Shipe Park.

– Mark Fishman and  
Adam Wilson



**Shipe Pool and the completed mural** photo by Lorre Weidlich

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## Around & About the Avenues

**Update on Upper Airport Boulevard Initiative:** The Austin City Airport Boulevard Planning Team and a cross-departmental team of over thirty city staff completed the comprehensive review of the first draft of the Airport Blvd. Form-Based Code (FBC). Over 380 comments were generated, touching on a wide range of issues, large and small. Airport Boulevard FBC Consultants are now working on revising the draft in line with staff input. The revision process will include several internal interdepartmental meetings to coordinate and resolve key issues. The aim of consultants and staff is to make the draft as workable, coordinated, clear, and compact as possible in advance of the Citizens' Advisory Group (AG) review later this summer. After review by the AG (possibly in late August), the revised FBC will be presented for further review at community roundtable meetings this fall.—Doris Coward, HPNA representative to the Airport Boulevard FBC Initiative Citizens' Advisory Group.



**Hyde Park Homes Research Workshop:** Back by popular demand, Coldwell Banker Realtor® and Hyde Park Homes Tour chair Carolyn Grimes will offer a workshop on "How to Research Your Historic Hyde Park Home." If you always wanted to know the history behind your home or what famous people (besides you, of course) lived in your house, this is your opportunity to learn how to find that information.

The workshop will take place on Sunday, August 18 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church's chapel, 4001 Speedway. The program is FREE, but space is limited. Please RSVP and send any questions by August 16 to <cgrimes@cbunited.com> or 512-426-3559 (cell/text).



**An Invitation:** Part of the mission of the *Pecan Press* is to serve as a forum for the views of readers about matters of import to the neighborhood, whether in the form of letters and articles. In this issue there are a number of matters meriting further thought. Among these are the ideas expressed in the provocative lead article on development by Larry Gilg, a longtime Hyde Park resident and a past president of HPNA. In his challenge to current outlooks, the author himself calls for dialogue and debate. Within limits, these pages would seem to be one excellent place for engaging in that conversation. Whether about this or other matters, lively debate in this publication, with an emphasis on respectful learning from each other, would, this editor thinks, be a sign of an engaged, vibrant community.



**Volunteer Needed:** The *Pecan Press* needs a distribution coordinator for the southwest quadrant of Hyde Park. This unsung hero receives several boxes of newsletters monthly and delivers copies to the 12 or so individuals who deliver door to door in the area. Please contact Rimas Remeza at <rimasx@yahoo.com>.



## Inside and Out...

...cont'd from page 1

be homes of vastly diverse sizes, periods, and styles. We have a landmark Victorian, a Tudor revival, and classic, updated, and Austin Energy 5-Star rated bungalows.

I am always thrilled when we are able to share our neighborhood with friends and guests during this annual event. It gives us an opportunity to explain the wonderful history and architectural characteristics of our unique, historic neighborhood; and it also features some lovely and spectacular homes.

During the next few months, we will begin treating you to hints of the tour to give you a taste of what you will see. Watch for photos and descriptions in the *Pecan Press*, on Facebook, on the Hyde Park Yahoo Group, and through additional media sources.

As always, neighborhood volunteers manage and operate the tour, and we need YOU and your assistance! All volunteers are greatly appreciated and receive FREE admission to the tour. At this time, we can really use people to research the homes that will be on the tour. (Look at this issue's Around and About the Avenues for details of an August 18 workshop on how to research the history of Hyde Park homes.) And, of course, we always need docents to help show our tour homes. To help with the tour in any way, contact Homes Tour Volunteer Coordinator John Williams at <jawilli@grandecom.net>, 512-350-1094 or contact me at <cgrimes@cbunited.com>, 512-426-3559 (cell/text).

— Carolyn Grimes  
2013 Chair, Historic  
Hyde Park Homes Tour



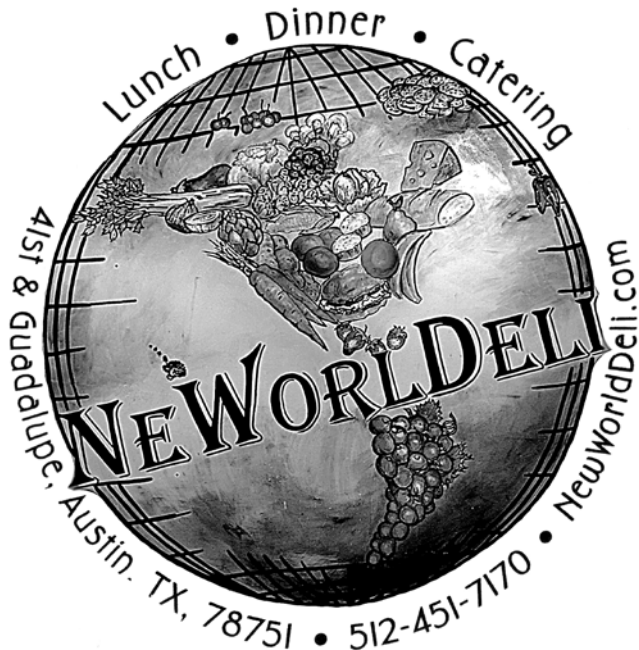
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## The Infill Option... ...cont'd from page 1

recommendations to make accommodations for growth in terms of infill development.

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan's goals and priorities make no provision for new development or infill. In fact, "infill" in the plan is dismissively defined as "a new building or use such as a park, built on a vacant lot(s) in an otherwise developed area."

The HPNA approach of "just say no" to development in the neighborhood has been judged a success by its proponents. The population of Hyde Park has remained almost constant since the zoning ordinance of 1985 went into effect. The population of Hyde Park in the 1990 census was 5608 people, and in 2010 census it was 5,894 people, a gain of approximately 5%, while the population of Austin has increased by 70% during that time. However, there are now signs that this strategy has run its course and will become increasingly ineffective in promoting the quality of life that neighbors have come to expect.

### Challenges to Current Strategy

The no-growth strategy embraced by HPNA is facing three significant challenges today. First, the staff in the planning department and building permits offices of the City of Austin are swamped with regulations, ordinances, building standards, codes and directives from council. They simply don't have the time or background to apply the special overlay codes that are part of the HPNA development requirements. To permit a new project in Hyde Park, city staffers are tasked with ensuring compliance with the zoning ordinances, compatibility standards, McMansion ordinance, NCCD regulations, LHD restrictions, and Neighborhood Plan recommendations, not to mention technical regulations such as plumbing standards, electrical codes, and drainage requirements. This increased complexity adds costs, causes delays and stifles creative development that could enhance the future of our neighborhood. Instead, developers resort to low risk, "cookie cutter" designs to simply get them over the hurdles.

The second significant challenge to the anti-growth strategy is even more serious and is exemplified by the current HPNA response to the development of the so-called super duplex or stealth dorm, wherein a large duplex can be permitted on a single family zoned lot, rented out to 6 or more single persons, resulting in demand overload on the infrastructure of roads, waste disposal, etc. The response to these legal but offensive developments has been blanket regulations putting more restrictions on our neighbors' property rights with no guarantee that this will have an effect worth the burden placed on Hyde Park property owners. We should keep in mind that if

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there is enough money to be made, someone will figure out a way around any restrictions we can apply.

The third challenge looming is the soon to be implemented single member district process for electing the Austin City Council. At the moment, the council includes at least 4 members who live in the “inner city” and has been mostly sympathetic to the efforts to restrict development here. How this will play out with the new council structure is not known; but it is highly probable that the balance of power will shift from inner city to suburban interests, which could very well mean a shift away from attitudes that value the preservation of inner city neighborhoods.

**The Infill Option**

In April of 2000, the Austin City Council approved Infill Special Uses, a set of land use options for neighborhood planning areas. These Special Uses are designed to permit a greater diversity of housing types and to improve compatibility between existing neighborhoods and new development. This is an attempt to guide development that increases the potential for infill. The city’s process will link the special uses to the neighborhood planning process so that neighborhoods may select where and what type of infill may occur <[www.austintexas.gov/page/adopted-neighborhood-planning-areas](http://www.austintexas.gov/page/adopted-neighborhood-planning-areas)>.

In the recently completed Hyde Park Survey, respondents made strong, positive statements of the benefits to residents of HPNA activities with respect to building community, historic preservation and protection from overdevelopment. It’s clear that wholesale change of land use strategies is not an acceptable alternative to neighbors. But given the issues above, it is time to reopen the conversation on infill development in Hyde Park. If we can develop a position as a neighborhood that supports some real infill options, we will be in a better place to defend our community interests in terms of patterns and quality of life now and in the future.

During the discussion of a proposal to limit occupancy of single family properties in Austin at the July general meeting, neighbors were urged to support the proposal because “Lubbock and College Station have already passed similar ordinances.” Not to demean Lubbock or College Station, but there are a number of inner city neighborhoods in the U.S. we can look to that have population densities much greater than Hyde Park, yet maintain a reputation for historic preservation and high quality of life for residents (see Figure 1). Many of these began as “streetcar suburbs,” as did Hyde Park.

A good place for us to begin to revisit the thorny issues of infill development is to study these places to understand how they address infill, historic preservation and land use issues. There are also several years of experience with how the City of Austin’s infill process has been working. We can use the city’s processes to understand our options, risks and benefits, as well as implement solutions that have consensus within the neighborhood.

2010	Population	Area (Sq. Mi)	Pop density (Ppl/sq mi)
Hyde Park, Austin	5,894	0.875	6,736
Montrose, Houston	13,061	3.112	7,303
Oak Lawn, Dallas	56010	7.45	7,518
Nob Hill, Portland	2,873	0.194	14,809
Roscoe, Chicago	16490	0.925	17,827
West Hollywood, LA	34424	1.88	18,311

Figure 1: Current population density for “streetcar suburbs” of cities in the U.S.

It’s time to pull our heads out of the sand, and begin to discuss how we can accommodate a higher density of population in Hyde Park while maintaining the quality of life that is supported by the built environment. From a planning perspective, it just makes sense.

– Larry Gilg





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## HPNA Meeting Minutes: July 1, 2013

In the absence of other officers, Acting Chairperson and Steering Committee Member-at-Large, Kathy Lawrence called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The program was changed since the Austin Police Department representative was unable to attend.

Announcements were made. The Texas Observer had its annual Awards Banquet last week. Any donation to the Observer, between now and December, will raise 4 times the amount through a matching grant. Hyde Parkers were encouraged to contribute to this local award-winning news publication and take advantage of this rare opportunity. Also, additional Local Historic District street sign toppers can be ordered. About half a dozen orders have already come in. Recognition in the *Pecan Press* will be given with a \$100 donation to this effort. Another announcement came from the Hancock Neighborhood. Residents near Park Boulevard, from Duval to Barrow, are considering becoming a "residential parking" area, because of overflow from nearby businesses. Anyone with concerns may contact Laura McAfee with Hancock Neighborhood Association. Also, Mark Fishman and all the hardworking participants in the Shippe Pool Party and Mosaic Mural Dedication of last week were given commendations and thanks for making this such a fine event.

The meeting was then turned over to HPNA past-president Lisa Harris who reviewed the Resolution of Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Regarding Dorm-Style Housing in Single-Family Zoning Districts. The resolution was written by Hancock NA members, and has been passed, in some version, by the neighborhood associations in Hancock, Heritage, NUNA, Northfield, and West University. It was published in the July issue of *Pecan Press*. After a summary of the resolution, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution. Discussion included points regarding the number of adult tenants to be allowed in one dwelling, and also the "grandfathering" of existing properties. Explanation was given that occupancy limits apply to new construction. A move was made to table this vote for another meeting when more HPNA members might attend. This failed on a vote of 10 to 8. The Resolution was adopted 11 to 6, with 1 abstention.

A related announcement was made concerning Code Enforcement Director Carl Smart's upcoming meeting with neighborhoods to discuss the rental regulation pilot program in our area. Time, date and

Continued on page 12



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## Kitty Clark Carrot Bread

Many wonderful, moving stories were told at a memorial service in June for Kitty Clark, a long-time Hyde Park neighbor (see Around and About the Avenues in the July issue). Dorothy Richter spoke of a delicious carrot bread that Kitty made for HPNA's very first fundraiser. Dorothy saved that recipe from so many years ago and shares it with us now:

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup salad oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1 cup finely grated carrots
- 1 cup chopped pecans or 3/4 cup sunflower seeds or 1/4 cup sesame seeds or any combination of these.

- Heat oven to 350°.
- Grease and flour a 3" x 5" x 9" loaf pan.
- Cream together the oil, sugar and eggs
- Combine the dry ingredients and add them to creamed mixture.
- Stir in the carrots and nuts or seeds.
- Bake about 1 hour at 350°.
- If you use whole wheat flour, add an additional tsp of baking powder.
- This recipe may also be doubled and baked in a large bundt pan with cream cheese icing. To make the icing, cream together an 8 oz package of cream cheese, 4 tbsps butter or margarine, 1 tsp vanilla and 1 tsp salt, then stir in 3 cups of sifted powdered sugar.

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## July Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 10

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place of this meeting have not as yet been set; however, planning is in progress. The broad topic will be "What Should the City Do About Multiple Offenders." Interested persons may make comments regarding the rental program at the Code Enforcement website.

There will be no Development Review Committee meeting this week. The Contact Team will meet on July 22.

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 8:02.

- Submitted by Michael Pikulski and  
Claire deYoung,  
HPNA Co-Secretaries



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## Proposed Changes to the Bylaws

At the September general meeting, The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association will propose changes to the language found in the Development Review Committee portion of its bylaws.

The City of Austin routinely mails out notices to the president of HPNA, asking the opinion of the NA on particular development cases within the neighborhood. Some examples are notices for hearings by the Board of Adjustments where a property owner is seeking a variance on impervious cover, or a hearing by the Residential Design & Compatibility Commission (RDCC) with a property owner seeking an allowance to increase Floor to Area Ratio (F.A.R.), or cases where property owners are seeking a demolition permit for a structure on their property. With these notices, the City sends a form asking the NA to check off a box saying "I am in favor" or "I object," with space provided on the form for an explanation of its opinion. The HPNA Development Review Committee is often aware of the particular development case because they have had communication with the property owners, or have been presented the case at their regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

Over the past several months, The HPNA Steering Committee has been discussing how to deal with City of Austin requests for opinions on these development cases, and have decided that votes within the Steering Committee are the best approach for offering the opinions. Therefore, a change in the HPNA bylaws is necessary. The new language will ask for the HPNA Development Review Committee to present its findings on a particular development case to the Steering Committee, and then the Steering Committee will vote "I am in favor" or "I object." The rationale behind the Steering Committee voting on this instead of the Development Review Committee is that its members are elected by the HPNA general membership and act as representatives of the entire neighborhood association.

Alternatively, the Steering Committee could decide to have a particular case presented and voted on at a general meeting, so that the opinion comes from the general membership. However, a major problem with presenting and voting at a general monthly meeting is that in most cases the City hearing and deadline for submission of the opinion occur before the next HPNA general meeting.

The last sentence in the proposed bylaw changes gives all property owners the option of having their case heard and voted on by HPNA members at a general meeting, without a vote being taken by the

**Continued on page 16**



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## Bylaw Changes...

...cont'd from page 14

Steering Committee. In providing this option, we felt it would make the development process more transparent to property owners. Again, however, it is important to keep in mind that notices are mailed to the NA and the hearings are often scheduled before the next general monthly HPNA meetings. If property owners still prefer to have their case heard at a general monthly meeting, a request for postponement by the City board hearing the case may be required so that a vote can be taken at a HPNA general meeting.

These proposed bylaws changes will be presented and brought to a vote at the September HPNA general meeting, which will be held the Monday after Labor Day, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Current bylaws:

<[www.austinhdepark.org/wp-content/uploads/HPNAbylaws10-3-2011.pdf](http://www.austinhdepark.org/wp-content/uploads/HPNAbylaws10-3-2011.pdf)>

Proposed additions to bylaws are in quotation marks following existing language in current bylaws:

#### Page 3, IX. VOTING, #6:

6. Adoption of any position of HPNA, including all positions to be communicated to any governmental body, "with the exception of specific narrow development cases for which the City of Austin asks the opinion of the HPNA."

#### Page 6, XII. REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMITTEES, B. Standing Committees, 1. Development Review Committee:

The committee shall report its recommendations to the Steering Committee and to the general membership of HPNA. "If the City of Austin asks the opinion of the HPNA for a particular development case, the Development Review Committee will present their findings to the Steering Committee, and the Steering Committee can vote 'I am in favor' or 'I object' on that particular case. The Steering Committee can also vote to have that specific development case presented and voted on at an HPNA General Meeting. All property owners have the right to have their specific development cases presented and voted on at an HPNA General Meeting."

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# Hyde Park Poets —

## Jamaica

The hibiscus flower;  
 Jamaica is such a better name,  
 Sticks out its tongue,  
 Waves its power,  
 Signals its magic,  
 “Come and get me,”  
 Says Jamaica,  
 “Let us make something,  
 Something, beyond us,  
 Come, bees,  
 Carry my dust,  
 Make love to another Jamaica.”

— Herzele  
02/10/12



## Wooden Snake

My snake, made of molded wood  
 Who knows what the artist has seen  
 That made her think of a snake?

She knew it was a snake  
 This is not the first time  
 The snake has fallen to her demise  
 She was, once before, smitten, broken,  
 But, repaired.

Now, shattered, will she rise again  
 To grace the wall,  
 To be the snake, phoenix-like,  
 Arisen late

— Herzele  
03/01/12



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