

OWANA OWL

Watching over Old West Austin since 1983



DECEMBER 2017

For the past couple of years, it's been rewarding to serve as your OWANA chair. Here's a highlight reel of the work our ragtag volunteer group has accomplished:

- Invested \$250,000 from our Gables at Pressler agreement in Clarksville Community Development Corporation affordable housing, new construction of an alley flat on Theresa Street, and renovations of 1720 West 11th Street Units A&B
- Raised \$30,000 for West Austin Park and \$10,000 for Palma Plaza Park
- Invested \$10,000 in Mathews 100-year celebration time capsule and Mazilla statue
- Successfully pushed for reform of the Historic Landmark Commission ending its supermajority voting requirement
- Organized some hopping community events — an end of the school year party where we went way over budget buying kids snow cones(!), a concert in the park, helped organize the Easter Egg Hunt
- Made our website livelier

Shawn Shillington has volunteered to take over as chair starting in January, and if this one can go to 11, Shilli's the kind of guy who will make it happen.

I also agreed, in a moment of irrational exuberance, to serve as Gina Hinojosa's appointee to the AISD Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee (FABPAC). If you voted for the bonds to improve our public schools, and 72% of voters did, thank you so much! I respect every parent's choice of where to send their kids to school. As for Lucy and me, we could not be prouder to be part of the Mathews community. Those bonds will help a lot of kids and young adults in the years ahead.

Our December meeting next week has a fairly short but important agenda: a report on the Flower Hill Foundation/Smoot House, residential permit parking on Winflo and Brownlee Circle, an annual budget for 2018, and bylaws changes.

Residential permit parking has its pros and cons. Our neighbors will present their case as to why their part of the neighborhood is especially deserving, such as the lack of sidewalks. Cons include permit parking for one area causes more problems for other areas, and Mathews doesn't have a parking lot so our neighborhood school could be negatively impacted at some point if permit parking spreads like wildfire. The steering committee decided not to make a recommendation to the general membership. Other points are sure to be made for and against, so I look forward to the debate.

Ted Barnhill has generously prepared a draft budget for 2018 that he will present to the general membership for approval. The bylaws changes are to reduce the number of members needed at a meeting for a quorum, eliminate the 30-day waiting period to become a voting member, and to authorize the steering committee to use electronic means of voting and hold telephone conferences in lieu of meetings. While it is rare for us to have fewer than 10 percent of our membership at a meeting, we propose lowering the bar so that we are less likely ever to have a quorum problem. We are also occasionally pressed for time on an action item, so email and conference calls are useful ways for the steering committee to act quickly when required.

We are also very excited to kick off the meeting with some live music by Brady Coleman and the Melancholy Ramblers. Hope to see you at Mathews next week or in the neighborhood soon.

Scott Marks, Chair

2018 Steering Committee Nominees

Who won't be there?

First I would like to thank **Kevin Sims** for serving three years on OWANA's Steering Committee. Our by-laws don't permit him to return next year, and he's probably ready for a break anyway. Thanks for all the time, and Kevin, you will be missed.

Also **Serena Bolliger**, **Terry Snider**, and **John Davis** served all or part of 2017 and won't be returning. Thanks to each of you as well.

Who are the Nominees for 2018?

Returning after serving 2016 and 2017

- Scott Marks
- Shawn Shillington

Returning after serving 2017

- Ted Barnhill
- Orlando Castillo
- Brocket Davidson
- Ashley Endler
- Hunt Foster
- Ellu Nasser
- Derek Victory
- Sean Williams

New Steering Committee Nominees for 2018

- Peni Ellis
- Sinikka Green
- Pedro Villalobos

*Thank you,
Mike Sullivan, Nominating Committee Chair*

December 2017 General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 - 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Mathews School Cafeteria (906 West Lynn at West 9th)

- I. Call to Order (7:00)
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget
- IV. Steering Committee Elections
- V. Flower Hill Foundation (Richmond Kelley Smoot House)
- VI. Residential Permit Parking—Winflo/Brownlee Circle
- VII. Friends of West Austin Park
- VIII. Update on Mazilla Statue
- IX. Bylaws revisions – *see attached*
- X. Code Next 2.0 Report
- XI. Committee Reports
 - A. Events
 - B. Zoning
 - C. Parks
 - D. Affordable Housing
 - E. ANC
 - F. Traffic and Safety
 - G. Newsletter/Website
- XII. Other Business and Announcements
- XIII. Adjourn

NOTE: Votes may be taken on any scheduled agenda items.



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West Austin Park Update

Backstop Removal

We'd like to ask the city parks department to remove the backstop at West Austin park, it is located in the open field next to the fenced dog area. We are hoping to open this part of the park up to host more events. There is a beautiful rock wall behind the backstop that, once repaired, could be used as seating/gathering area for families and events. There are also rock steps behind the backstop that are currently "hidden" that can be used to access the "bamboo forest" and swing area. If you feel strongly either way about the backstop please email me at ashendler@gmail.com please include "West Austin Park Feedback" in the subject line or attend the general meeting to voice your opinion.

— Ashley Endler

Support West Austin Park

We are all fortunate to live in Old West Austin and Clarksville, and even luckier to have one of the city's most beautiful parks within our boundaries! The Friends of West Austin Park, in cooperation with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC), Austin Parks Foundation, OWANA, and neighbors like you, are seeking input, recruiting volunteers, and raising money to make improvements to the park we know and love. **Find out more at www.westaustinpark.org.**



Movie in The Park
West Austin Park

Saturday, 12/09
arrive at 5:30
elf (the movie) starts at 6pm

Food Trucks:
Burro Cheese Kitchen, Gold Star Kettle Corn
Better Half Hot Chocolate

Presented by
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Produced by
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Ever as Ever: Flower Hill's first annual fundraising event

Ever As Ever, Flower Hill's first annual fundraising event will take place on Monday, December 11th from 6pm-9pm at the charming Nightcap restaurant just across 6th street from our historic home. In anticipation of opening our doors in 2018, we are looking to raise awareness around Flower Hill and seek out a founding circle of donors. We are combining a soft launch, our fundraising efforts, and above all else, a night of gratitude, into one spectacular evening of food, drinks, stories, and unique experiences all while gazing onto the front lawn of the home. We will have interactive experiences to share the stories of the home, the family, and our current journey to making Flower Hill a vibrant part of W. 6th and the Austin community at large. Tickets include food and drink. There will be a short presentation introducing us and our mission around 7:30pm.

When: Monday, December 11th from 6pm-9pm

Where: Nightcap Restaurant, 1401 West 6th Street 78703

Tickets: \$10, includes heavy appetizers and drinks

Info: www.flowerhillfoundation.org/everasever

About Flower Hill

The Flower Hill Urban Homestead Museum is a celebration of the working class lives of American civil servants, the unsung foundation of our great city and society. By using pieces of the past—including three centuries' worth of furnishings, textiles, and texts; a gorgeous Texas wildscape; and the whole Smoot family story—combined with our unique drive to play an active role in the world today, we will establish an inclusive space where Austin's fundamental beliefs are celebrated and a culture of creativity and civic mindfulness is cultivated to take on the challenges of the future.



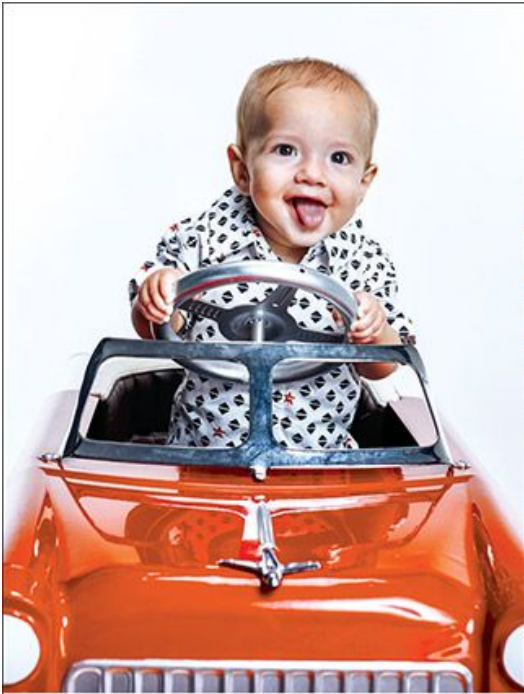
Located at W. 6th and Pressler, Flower Hill, née the Richmond Kelley Smoot House (est. 1877), is a rare single-family historic home in the heart of Old West Austin, and the future space of an historic homestead museum unlike any other in our city. We are the Flower Hill Foundation and you are invited to join us in opening the doors of Austin's first civic museum. Founded by religious leaders, teachers, and journalists, the Flower Hill historic homestead features 1.38 acres of Texas Wildscape encompassing 6 historic outbuildings, rockeries, ponds, and workable land. Established by teacher, traveler, and citizen historian, Jane Smoot, the Flower Hill Foundation exists to celebrate an Austin founding family of civil servants; preserve one of the city's last historic homesteads; and empower, inspire, and engage the diverse Austin community of today and tomorrow. To learn more about the Smoot family, their historic homestead, our current and future programming, and how you can support our Founders' Campaign, please visit www.flowerhillfoundation.org to peruse history and schedule an appointment to walk the grounds yourself. We hope to see you soon.



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December 2017 Zoning Report

New Cases

801 Theresa (NRD-2017-0077) - Proposal to modify and construct a rear addition to a 1932 house in the West Line National Historic District. Not considered by OWANA. Historic Landmark Commission Committee and Staff recommended to approve based on modifications to the plans that reduced changes to the facade. Not considered at the full Historic Landmark Commission on November 27, 2017 because the meeting was cancelled for lack of a quorum.

1102 Blanco (C14H-1984-0011) - Proposal to construct a two-story ADU at the back of the lot in the Castle Hill Local Historic District. Not considered by OWANA. Historic Landmark Commission Committee and Staff recommended



to approve as proposed, but this was not considered at the full Historic Landmark Commission on November 27, 2017 because the meeting was cancelled for lack of a quorum.

1007 Shelley (2017-147360-PR) - Proposal to demolish a 1940 house and replace it with a new house. Owners and architect met with OWANA Zoning Committee. OWANA encouraged maintenance of and addition to the existing structure, but the owners have indicated that they will move forward with demolition. Not yet scheduled for a hearing at the Historic Landmark Commission.

1127 W 6th St (2017-146889-BP) - New owners of old Phoenix Motorworks building expressed interest in meeting with OWANA Zoning Committee but did not show up for meeting. Not clear what new proposal is. Permits for foundation repair have been issued.

1406-1410 W 9th St (2017-142882-PR) - Demolition permits have been filed for several properties around St Philip's Anglican Church. OWANA is reaching out to the developer, JB Cumby, but has not yet made contact.

Ongoing Cases

802 Pressler (NRD 2017-0023) - Request for demolition permit of a contributing house to West Line Historic District and construction of a new structure. Demolition permit pending.

910 Baylor (C15-2017-0028) - Building two new houses on split lot. Owners need a variance to change the setback facing 10th Street from 25 feet to 20 feet. OWANA has agreed to support the setback. OWANA asked and the owners agreed to provide and maintain a path for neighborhood connectivity.



CALL TO ORDER TO GO

Galaxy CAFE

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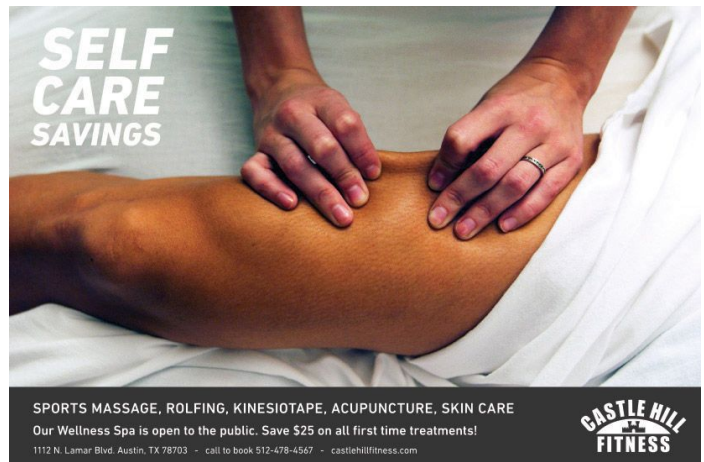


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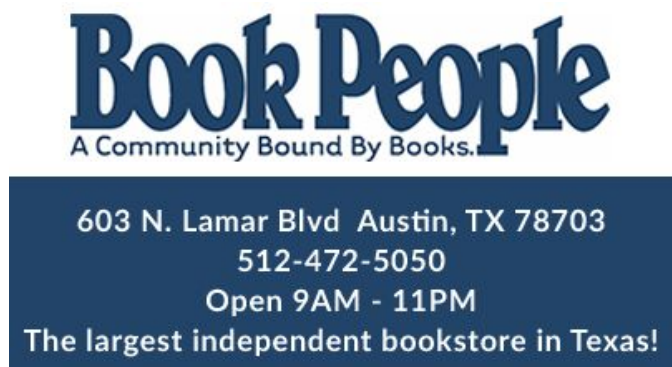
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OWANA 2017 Membership Report

As of the end of the previous month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Residential memberships	266	269	281	286	286	288	287	288	284	286	292	286
Business memberships	24	21	28	28	28	27	27	24	31	33	34	34
Total memberships	290	290 0%	309 6.6%	314 1.6%	314 0%	315 0.3%	314 (0.3%)	312 (0.3%)	315 1%	319 1%	326 2.2%	320 (1.8%)

Join OWANA!

Keep reminding your neighbors and the local businesses you frequent to join OWANA. Send them to www.owana.org/join where residents can join online and business can download an application form.

Thanks for your continued support and participation.

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