

Robindell News



MARCH/APRIL 2019

A PUBLICATION OF ROBINDELL CIVIC CLUB

Letter From The President

Dear friends and neighbors,

We are well into the new year, the clocks have been changed (except for the one in your car), the trees are leafing out—and Robindell’s new board of directors is getting to work. Besides keeping our neighborhood strong and continuing with Harvey recovery, we have some new projects lined up. Here are just a few:

- a kickstart to the detention pond’s repair
- an expanded Beautification Committee to help de-litter our streets
- a Welcome Committee for new residents
- a revamped newsletter to keep you informed about happenings in Robindell and our area

You’ll be hearing more about these projects and other as the weeks go by, and we are open to your ideas for making Robindell the award-winning neighborhood we have been in the past. We are all volunteers, so please consider joining us on a project of your choice.

Our first general meeting with the new board of directors will be Thursday, March 21, 6:30 p.m., at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet. Homeowners, tenants, and guests are welcome!

Hope to see you there,
Marty Lancton

Dates To Remember

Robindell Civic Club Meeting

Thursday, March 21st
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet Street
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Robindell and Friends Dinner

March 22nd (4th Friday), 6:00 p.m.
Happy Lamp Restaurant
9619 Hillcroft Street

Robindell and Friends Dinner

April 26th (4th Friday), 6:00 p.m.
Original Napoli Pizza & Pasta
5266 Beechnut St.

Robindell Civic Club Meeting

Thursday, May 16th
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet Street
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Robindell Civic Club Meetings and
Robindell and Friends Dinners are open to all!**
RSVP for dinners to
robindellcc@gmail.com or 281-861-9474.

City Trash & Recycling



Questions? Call 311

Trash Collection.....Tuesday

March 19, 26
April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
May 7, 14, 21, 29*

Yard Waste Collection (bagged).....Tuesday

Yard Waste must be in city approved compostable bags.

Recycling Collection.....every *other* Tuesday

March 19
April 2, 16, 30
May 14, 29*

Bins and yard waste bags may be placed at the curb after 6:00 p.m. the evening before collection and empty bins removed from the curb by 10:00 p.m. on collection day.

Heavy Trash.....second Tuesday of the month

April 9 (Junk Waste)
May 14 (Tree Waste only)

Heavy Trash items may be placed on the curb after 6:00 p.m. the Sunday before pick up. Tree debris is collected every month. Junk waste is collected during *even* months only.

*Holiday Schedule

Reminder: Deed restrictions dictate that trash bins must not be visible from any street.

A Great Neighborhood Is Not An Accident!

Robindell needs volunteers. Only a couple of hours of your time can have a big impact on the quality of life in our beloved Robindell. Please take a minute to look at the items below to see if something might be a good fit for you.

Architectural Control Committee: The Architectural Control Committee operates separately from the Robindell Civic Club. Members of this committee are comprised of representatives from each section of Robindell and review requests for home improvement plans which are submitted via an online form. If you are interested in being a part of this valuable team, please contact Robert Hastings at acc@robindell.org or 713-870-1767.

Beautification Committee: The neighborhood association pays for esplanade care, but there are other things that you can do to help. If you are interested in being a part of neighborhood beautification, please contact us at newsletter@robindell.org or text or call 832-736-0248 and we will point you in the right direction.

National Night Out: Robindell promotes community awareness by bringing neighbors together during our National Night Out Against Crime event on the first Tuesday of October at the Robindell Park. Are you interested in helping to plan this event? Contact the Robindell secretary at secretary@robindell.org or text or call 832-736-0248 and you'll be pointed in the right direction.

Newsletter Delivery: Our Board Section Directors could use some help distributing the neighborhood newsletter to our resident households. Distribution occurs every other month, on a weekend, and usually only takes about an hour per route. So... even if you are a busy person, you can still help out the neighborhood by giving only six hours of your time each year, AND you can get an hour of exercise in at the same time! To volunteer, please contact the newsletter editors at newsletter@robindell.org or phone Eric at 832-643-1214.

Welcome Committee: Are you a friendly social person? You can help welcome new neighbors to Robindell by delivering one of our new welcome packets, which will include recent newsletter(s), voter registration forms, and other helpful information. Please contact newsletter@robindell.org or phone or text Agelia at 713-249-5404. The Welcome Committee hopes to be meeting in April to organize the committee and design the welcome packets.

Yard Of The Month: Robindell Civic Club recognizes neighbors who put forth an exemplary effort into the beautification of their lawns and gardens by awarding *Yard Of The Month*, which receives mention in our newsletter and a sign for the month. Are you into horticulture? Would you be willing to select our *Yard Of The Month* and write about it for the newsletter? If so, please contact us at newsletter@robindell.org.

Pet Poop Problems

**Your pet's poop is your responsibility.
Be considerate of your neighbors
by plucking your dog's poop.
It's the "Pooper Scooper"
law. It's unsanitary
not to and, well,
it's just plain
nasty!**



Membership Dues

Deadline for submitting your mandatory 2019 property owner's Robindell Civic Club membership dues is March 31st. Dues are \$40 if paid by March 31st. After this date there is a late fee added of \$10.

Payments can be made via the website at www.robindell.org under the "Make a Payment" tab or you can mail to:

Robindell Civic Club
9639 Hillcroft Street
PMB 118
Houston, Texas 77096

311 Smart Phone App

The City of Houston's 311 Help and Information Center has a smartphone app. You can submit service requests via the website, email, or by calling 311, but the smartphone app makes reporting problems to the City of Houston quick and easy. The app is called "Houston 311". The app allows you to quickly report potholes, graffiti, waterline breaks, street light outages, and other issues with your cell phone. It pinpoints a user's location via GPS, so there is no confusion about an issue's location. Users can also submit photos of the problem they are reporting, which helps city departments know exactly what the problem is so it can be addressed more efficiently. So... download "Houston 311" and help the neighborhood out by reporting issues sooner rather than later. For more information go to:

www.houstontx.gov/311/smartphonefaq.html
or scan this blue QR code.



About Robindell Civic Club

Robindell neighborhood was founded in 1954. Since its founding, the Robindell Civic Club has acted to serve Robindell residents through preserving the neighborhood's quality, character, and history. This is all accomplished through the volunteer hours of many individuals by serving on the board and on various committees. It is your neighborhood and, as stated elsewhere in this newsletter, a great neighborhood is not an accident! Consider investing a bit of your time and talent to help keep Robindell an amazing place to live!

Do you have any requests of the leadership? Do you have a recommendation for making Robindell an even better? Do you have questions about Robindell?

Attend our next Civic Club meeting at Bayland Community Center, March 21st, 6:30-8:00 p.m. All owners, tenants, and guests are welcome. We value your input!

Robindell Civic Club 2019 Leadership

President: Marty Lancton	president@robindell.org	
Vice President: Charlie Holcomb	vicepresident@robindell.org	
Treasurer: Josh Graveley	treasurer@robindell.org	
Secretary: Martha Aschenbrenner	secretary@robindell.org	
Section 1 Director: Gayle Nesom	gnesom10@gmail.com	713-591-5627
Section 2 Director: Ravi Patil	ravipatil19@gmail.com	832-275-7228
Section 3a Director: Eric Voûte	ericvoute@gmail.com	832-643-1214
Section 3b Director: VACANT		
Section 4 Director: Trisha Meekins	trishameekins@sbcglobal.net	713-303-8666
Section 5 Director: T.J. Van Auken	newconvention@yahoo.com	832-788-8457
Architectural Control Committee:		
Robert Hastings	acc@robindell.org	
Newsletter Editors:		
Agelia Pérez Márquez	newsletter@robindell.org	713-249-5404
Eric Voûte	newsletter@robindell.org	832-643-1214
Webmaster:		
Laura Preidis	webmaster@robindell.org	

Mailing Address: Robindell Civic Club, 9639 Hillcroft, PMB 118, Houston, TX 77096
Phone Number: 281-861-9474 (for quicker response please text)
General Email: robindellcc@gmail.com
Website: www.robindell.org
Find us on Facebook under "Robindell Neighborhood Houston"
and on Twitter under "Robindell Civic Club"

Keep Houston Beautiful - Keep Robindell Beautiful

Keep Houston Beautiful is the city's leading organization in beautification, litter reduction, and recycling education. For forty years Keep Houston Beautiful has been reaching out to all segments of our community to educate and empower individuals to take greater responsibility for beautifying and enhancing Houston's environment. Every year's successes have created a cleaner and healthier city for all Houstonians, especially its once-a-year Keep Houston Beautiful Day, which is

Saturday, April 6, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

As a part of this endeavor, Robindell would like to designate the same day and time as



Keep Houston Beautiful to beautify our own neighborhood. Let's all join in the effort by working to beautify our own properties and/or meeting at the Robindell Park to fan out in teams throughout the neighborhood. So... dust off your gardening gloves, sharpen your garden shears, and join us in beautifying Robindell! We promise to make it productive AND FUN! Snacks, cold water, and garbage bags will be provided.

Further information will be posted on the robindell.org website and posted on the "Robindell Neighborhood Houston" and the "Robindell Neighborhood & Civic Club" Facebook pages.

Yard Of The Month

Do you have a neighbor whose yard is breathtakingly beautiful?

After you get over the deadly sin of envy, consider nominating your neighbor's plot for Yard Of The Month. This offers recognition to those who make Robindell a little more livable and a lot more beautiful. To make a nomination for Yard Of The Month, email newsletter@robindell.org or call or text Agelia at 713-249-5404.



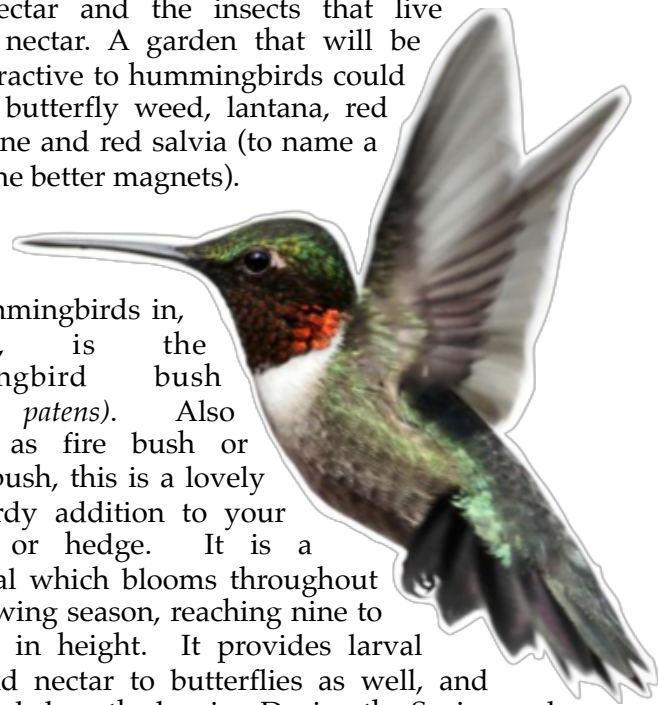
Hummingbird Invasion

It's about time for Houston's annual hummingbird invasion, and definitely time to prepare for them. In Spring you are most likely to see the ruby-throated hummingbird. The red throat is sported by males only: both sexes have green plumage. Half a dozen other kinds of hummingbirds do show in our area, but for the most part in Fall and Winter only.

If you are anxious to hang out your new hummingbird feeder, first put it in a place visible to flight paths. Five or six feet is a good height... You can see them but cats can't reach them. After hummingbirds have found your feeder, move it to shade under trees or shrubs to reduce growth of mold and bacteria, which can kill hummingbirds. In other words, if you have a feeder, follow the instructions on feeder care and the sugar solution you use. The birds will thank you.

Hummingbirds require more than sugar water. They need nectar and the insects that live around nectar. A garden that will be very attractive to hummingbirds could include butterfly weed, lantana, red columbine and red salvia (to name a few of the better magnets).

What packs the hummingbirds in, though, is the hummingbird bush (*hamelia patens*). Also known as fire bush or scarlet bush, this is a lovely and hardy addition to your garden or hedge. It is a perennial which blooms throughout our growing season, reaching nine to ten feet in height. It provides larval food and nectar to butterflies as well, and other birds love the berries. During the Spring and Fall migrations, however, it's the swarms of hummingbirds that amaze.



Planting such a bush in the ground outside your first floor home-office is a guaranteed work killer. You will be staring out at the hummingbirds and ignoring all those letters and numbers and graphs on your computer screen. Those can wait! It's hummingbird season!

Treasurer's Report

January 1-March 12, 2019

Income

Beautification Donations	\$ 475.00
Other Misc.Income	\$ 200.00
Transfer Fee	\$ 1,000.00
Maintenance Fees	\$ 9,505.00
Late Fees	\$ 200.00
Refinance Fee	\$ 50.00
Services	\$ 30.00
Unapplied Cash Payment	\$ (120.00)
Total Income	\$ 11,340.00

Expenses

Postage, Mailing Service	\$ 349.99
Website	\$ 81.66
Beautification	\$ 1,300.00
Insurance-Liability, D and O	\$ 670.00
Other Misc. Expenses	\$ 100.00
Accounting Fees	\$ 127.92
Legal Fees	\$ 160.00
Landscaping Services	\$ 450.00
Mailbox Rental	\$ 150.00
Total Expenses	\$ 3,380.57

Net Operating Income \$ 7,959.43

List of Accounts

Operating	\$ 51,518.00
CD Balances:	
Ending in ...5025	\$ 12,043.93
Ending in ...4384	\$ 12,,052.76
Ending in ...6843	\$ 5,759.50
Ending in ...6846	\$ 11,445.86
Ending in ...6849	\$ 13,147.69
Total Balance	\$105,967.74

Newsletter

- The next deadline for submissions is May 3rd.
- Submissions may be emailed to newsletter@robindell.org.
- Please contact us if you or someone you know may be interested in placing an ad in future issues.

A special thank you to Southwest Business Printers for making our print deadline, to Gayle Nesom for assisting with content, and for all of our delivery volunteers!

City of Houston Police Department

PIP (Positive Interaction Program) holds monthly meetings featuring speakers from different divisions of the police department explaining how each of their divisions operate. Your local SouthWest (Westbury) Division PIP meeting is held the 4th Tuesday of each month (excluding October, November, and December) at:

9009 West Loop South (Aramco Building)
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

with Officer Rossan Smart, 832-394-7520,
rossan.smart@HoustonPolice.org.

Crime statistics can be found at crime.reports.com. It has an interactive map of local crimes, searchable by individual dates and extended periods of time. Robindell News is looking forward to providing crime statistics for the neighborhood in the future.

Neighborhood Pool and Greenspace

The Robindell Neighborhood Pool and Greenspace is owned and operated by the Robindell Recreation Association, a not-for-profit corporation. It is not legally affiliated with Robindell Civic Club. Located at 6231 Reamer Street, it is a members-only facility, offering affordable memberships to individuals and families.

Memberships can be purchased at www.robindellpool.org beginning April 1st or at the pool on April 17th-18th, 5:00-7:00 p.m. The seven month season membership (April 18th through November 30th) costs \$200 for individuals and \$250 for families. Memberships for the three month summer period only (Memorial Day through Labor Day) cost \$125 for individuals and \$175 for families and will be available online the week before Memorial Day.

Membership provides adult-only swim times and numerous community events throughout the season, including a neighborhood-wide 4th of July celebration. The pool is also available for private parties by paid reservation.

More information about the Robindell Pool and Greenspace can be found at www.robindellpool.org and on facebook at "Members of Robindell Pool and Greenspace".

Flood Watch Report

Recent rumor has it that Harris County's Project Brays could be delayed for a traffic study of the entire length of the project and a more thorough study of the bridges to be replaced and intersections to be rebuilt. We can hope that if this happens, the unfinished widening of the bayou will give the neighborhood at least some added protection during the next flood.

Meanwhile, Robindell's Board of Directors is planning to do all we can to kickstart the City of Houston's "rehabilitation" project for our neighborhood detention basin (pond) next to the swimming pool. The poorly designed basin was built in 2006 and has failed to work properly since. The City's geological investigation in March of 2017 confirmed that the basin does not work as it was intended and needs to be reconstructed. However, City representatives have told us that the project is "stalled" at the design phase and has not been sent out for bids.

The proposal includes these and other design changes:

- reconfiguration of the detention basin so that storm water enters it from the northwest corner and exits from the southwest corner
- expanding the detention basin westward towards Braes Timbers
- regrading it to drain more efficiently
- installing a sixty-six inch storm sewer from the detention basin's outlet to a proposed storm manhole
- redesigning and regrading the existing emergency spillway
- elevating the land around the detention basin and the basin itself to be level with the top of Brays Bayou's banks in order to prevent the basin from overflowing before the bayou escapes its banks.

If you haven't seen the video of the flooded basin during the 2016 Tax Day Flood, be sure to find it on Swamplot. You can Google the former real estate blog's archive under "Swamplot Robindell Tax Day Flood" or type in this URL:

<http://swamplot.com/a-slog-through-an-overflowing-robindell-detention-basin-during-the-tax-day-flood/2016-04-26/>

Many thanks to Braes Timbers neighbor Ed Nelson for taking this video (and providing excellent commentary) which was instrumental in bringing the City of Houston's attention to this matter. Watch our Robindell Facebook page for updates and we'll report our progress in the next newsletter.

Robindell Civic Club
9639 Hillcroft, PMB 118
Houston, Texas 77096



Return Service Requested