

**SLNA Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2014
Faith Methodist United Church**

Kassi Oliver, Secretary
Mario Campion, President

Foundation Communities/Bluebonnet Studios Presentation by Walter Moreau

Proposal to build on South Lamar

Will mimic Skyline Terrace currently on Ben White & Bannister-100 apartments (SLNA supported that development in 2006)

Foundation Communities is a 25 year nonprofit—focus in on providing first class apartments for working families with onsite services

Proposing 107 efficiency apartments called Bluebonnet Studios

Avg. rents \$400-650 includes bills

Green built, ground up (goal to be LEED certified)

First class design & construction (in collaboration with Workers Defense Project)

Locally owned and managed by Foundation Communities www.foundcom.org

Units are for single adults, working part time or full time, some may be on fixed income

Credit and criminal checks completed

Not public housing, section 8 or transitional housing

Permanent housing with onsite support services (health and education)

Rare opportunity to build on South Lamar corridor

Residents have very few cars—20% of residents, won't be adding to traffic challenge (5-6 staff cars, plus guest cars)

Prevent more intense development from occurring (another developer may go higher than 107 units)

Dalton Duffy, Skyline Terrace resident and Found Com Board Member, discussed how Skyline Terrace has positively changed his life.

Walter showed architect plans.

Currently property is 98% impervious cover; this project will be reducing that amount

May or may not be passed as congregate living (Walter feels confident this is congregate living and we will not have to have 107 parking spots)

The reason we are here is because Found Com is applying for state funding, must have neighborhood support for funding. Currently applying for state funding for 4 projects, this projects ranks number in two by priority. State process—can only apply for project as it is now, cannot change it after approval.

Why South Lamar? Current affordable housing is all over Austin. Work to build affordable housing all over town. South Lamar corridor is a rare opportunity to build here in central location with good transportation and resources close by.

Cannot vote tonight with conditions, such as only approved if parking spots is 45. Will probably not follow through with project if we have to do 107 parking spots.

Property values have gone up in areas where there are Found Com units, but in general all property values have gone up in Austin.

Nancy Maclaine made motion that SLNA support Bluebonnet Studios
Carol Johnson 2nd

Supported is granted
Vote 42 in support, 8 opposed

Office Barboza, District Representative from APD

Recent events: Car drove into house off of Clawson and Valleyridge.

Gun shots –talked to supervisor from night shift, found 9 mm cases from pistol, 3 incidents of gun shots thus far.

Car incident and gun shots are currently seen as unrelated, in that neither case has any suspects.

2013 to today 20 houses (actually low in an area this big)

Discussed parking issues on Del Curto. Barboza said he would look into it.

Park Report from Bruce Evans

1. Saturday March 1 9am-1pm is "It's my Park Day" volunteers will be mulching and creek cleanup. If you want the free tee-shirt for your volunteer efforts go to www.austinparks.org, click on "It's my Park Day", click on VOLUNTEER HERE, scroll down to Del Curto Park & click on signup. Fill in your info and click 'Send'.
2. If you notice the light is off in the pavilion overnight, call 311 to report it.
3. Bruce is working on the "Adopt-a-creek" process for SLNA to adopt the creek from 1900 Lightsey (on the Manchaca/Lamar side) to Cinnamon Trail. Projects coming.
4. The City Council will choose a name for the Park in March. Right now the city staff is dealing with the fact that there are three names suggested (timely) and one that was suggested after the deadline. We voted Bruce the authority to participate in some joint discussion and negotiation on behalf of SLNA.
5. A neighbor asked if we could get some more benches. Kevin Lewis suggested applying to Austin Parks Foundation for a grant for some more benches. All we need is someone to spearhead the application and project.

Candidates for the Democratic primary for County Judge, Andy Brown and Sarah Eckhardt

They each introduced themselves and fielded a few general questions. If more info about these candidates is desired note there are 2 detailed forums coming to South Austin:

a. Saturday 2/22 4p-6p at Faith Presbyterian Church 1314 E. OLTORF. This forum will focus specifically on the issues surrounding the high deportation rate from Travis County and many County commissioner candidates will also be present.

b. Monday 2/24 6:30 pm at Zilker Elementary 1900 Bluebonnet -- organized by the Zilker Neighborhood Association. A part of this process involved gathering written answers to many questions from both the candidates, so if you miss this one you should be able to review the answers later.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm