



# LAVACA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

*Devotedly Serving San Antonio's Oldest Residential  
Neighborhood*

P.O. BOX 831274 | SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, 78283

PRESIDENT@LAVACA.NET | WWW.LAVACA.NET

## General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 7:00 pm

Via Zoom Conference Call

<b>Officers and Directors</b>	
Cherise Rohr-Allegrini, President	Douglas Mendizabal, Membership Director
Sarah Sorenson, Vice President	VACANT, Transportation & Public Safety
Kat Doucette, Secretary	Billy Lambert, Southtown Business Owner
Vik Gudi, Treasurer	Darryl Ohlenbusch, Zoning & Historic Pres.
Nick Melde, Planning	VACANT, Events Coordinator
Amy Young, Communications Dir.	Nataly Jennings, At Large

Guests: Stanley Brite – Victoria Courts Alumni Group  
 Steve Lecholop – SAISD Bond  
 Bernatte Armendariz - Congressman Lloyd Doggett's office  
 Bethany Gutierrez – Diego Bernal's Office  
 Lawson Picasso – Roberto Trevino's Office

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<b>Meeting Called to order at 7:08 pm</b>
<b>2. Victoria Courts History from Alumnus Stanley Brite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stanley Brite grew up in Victoria Courts. He attended Page Middle School up through 7<sup>th</sup> grade when his family moved away.</li> <li>- When he moved back to Texas from a long time away, he contacted his friends from Victoria Courts to get together and reminisce about good old times together. From there a Victoria Courts Alumni Group was created. On Facebook, the group is called "We Are Victoria Courts."</li> <li>- He is president. Wife is treasurer. They have over 600 members. They have been organized for 3 years.</li> <li>- They meet once a year to have a picnic at Brackenridge Park.</li> <li>- They want to be active in the community that raised them, and they want to give back.</li> <li>- They want to meet the current residents to grow the group and be part of the neighborhood that they loved growing up.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Steve Lecholop on</b>	SAISD's web page for the bond: <a href="https://www2.saisd.net/bond2020/">https://www2.saisd.net/bond2020/</a>

## SAISD Bond

What is happening with the bond and how will it impact the neighborhood?

- Steve is the school board member who represents the neighborhood. He's been on the board for the last 7 years.
- For the last 40 years, the district, until 2010, had not had a long term facilities plan. Funding came from individual donors. In 2010, decisions were made that we needed to engage in a long-term facilities plan because so many of the buildings in SAISD were deteriorating. There was a 2010 bond, and 2016 bond, and they're proposing a 2020 bond.
- In December 2019, as a school district, they appointed a blue ribbon task force with the plan that the task force would evaluate the schools in the most need, fixing the worst problems, completing the bonds, and addressing enrollments needs.
- Because of COVID, they were unable to make as many rounds to neighborhood associations as originally intended.
- They want to increase enrollment and sustain enrollment.
- Bonham is one of the best schools in the district. It is overcrowded.
- Burnet, which currently serves as a de facto office space, will be vacant by April next year. The question is what could the Burnet center look like if they were to reactivate the building as a school?
- First step is it would have to be placed in the bond, second step is that it will have to pass, third step is that district will determine (with community involvement) the best use of the space.
- When the community votes for our president in November, we can vote for the SAISD bond for \$1.3 billion. Even if approved, our property taxes will not be raised. It is being paid for by the taxes on all of the new developments downtown.
- If the bond is approved, all of the SAISD buildings would get upgraded technology.
- His Commitments:
  - o It will be a school that serves the neighborhood of Lavaca
  - o It will be a neighborhood school run by the school district.
- One possibility is expand Bonham's elementary school into a middle school at the Burnet building. Both buildings would be managed by SAISD and handled by the Bonham principal.
- By expanding Bonham's capacity, it would be possible to extend the school lines to south Lavaca, which is currently zoned to attend Green.
- They want this to be a partnership effort with the community to determine the best use of the space for Burnet.
- The idea is that if they remove middle school grades from the St. Mary's campus, they can add Pre-K to Bonham, and then expand enrollment zones to south Lavaca. By having more capacity at

	<p>every grade level, they can expand enrollment to all of Lavaca.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- → What happens to Green if enrollment is changed to Bonham? Answer. They can re-imagine Green. It falls just under the cutoff threshold for buildings that need the most renovation right now. It can be modified in a subsequent bond.</li> </ul> <p>Steve's contact information: Feel free to contact me any time: 210-289-3303 or <a href="mailto:steveforeducation@gmail.com">steveforeducation@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>4. Congressman Lloyd Doggett's Office</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bernatte Armendariz presenting from Congressman Doggett's office. Bernadette.Armendariz@mail.house.gov phone: 210-704-1081</li> <li>- Sign up for continued information: <a href="https://doggett.house.gov/sign-sheet">https://doggett.house.gov/sign-sheet</a></li> <li>- Contact info: (210) 704-1080 <a href="mailto:lloyd.doggett@mail.house.gov">lloyd.doggett@mail.house.gov</a></li> <li>- Monday Oct. 5 is the last day to register to vote</li> <li>- Tuesday Oct. 13 is the first day of early voting</li> <li>- Last day of Early voting is Oct. 30</li> <li>- Nov. 3 is voting day</li> <li>- If you have concern about safely voting, you can register here: <a href="https://doggett.house.gov/voting-safely">https://doggett.house.gov/voting-safely</a></li> <li>- The census deadline is Sept. 30. Don't forget to get counted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Diego Bernal's Office</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bethany Gutierrez – new contact for neighborhood associations.</li> <li>- Her contact info: (210) 816-0906</li> <li>- Her email: <a href="mailto:Bethany.gutierrez@house.texas.gov">Bethany.gutierrez@house.texas.gov</a></li> <li>- Office Number: (210) 308-9700</li> <li>- They have an unemployment liason in their office who can help with TWC.</li> <li>- They can also help with facilitating contact for those having trouble with utility bills.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. District 1 Councilman Trevino's Office</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lawson Picasso, communications director for Trevino's office.</li> <li>- They are working on budget, including sidewalk repair program, which will be renamed sidewalk reconstruction project. In the re-name, they will be able to get additional funding</li> <li>- They are roofing their 1000<sup>th</sup> house.</li> <li>- Homeless Housing Program – They are partnering with DHS and OLLU. They have been able to provide care to 30 individuals to get them care.</li> <li>- <a href="mailto:lawson.picasso@sanantonio.gov">lawson.picasso@sanantonio.gov</a></li> <li>- 361-960-5493</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Adjourn</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm</b></p>