

South
City
Ga. 303

The Weekly

Star

Mayer Allen

The Southside's Own Newspaper

VOLUME FIFTEEN

10¢ COPY

OCTOBER 19, 1967

NUMBER FORTY-SIX

Several Oppose Low Rent Housing

Zoning Board To Hear Proposals

(See editorial on Page 4)

The members of Southwest Atlantans for Progress (SWAP) were urged at their meeting last Thursday night, Oct. 12, to oppose the proposal of the Atlanta-Fulton County Planning Board, made the day before, to place approximately 1,200 "low to moderate-income" housing units in the area between Boulder Park and Cascade Heights.

The West End Business Men's Association, similarly, has passed a resolution which says "we request and strongly recommend that no further public housing be placed in Southwest Atlanta until other sections of our City have taken their pro-rata share of public housing units."

The Association resolution further states that "we believe there is land available which can be acquired for public housing in all portions of the City of Atlanta. . . we feel that Southwest Atlanta has now reached a saturation point in regard to public housing."

Rev. James Costen, co-chairman of SWAP, a bi-racial group trying to stabilize the integrated West Manor section of Cascade Heights, opened the

meeting in the Parrish House of the Church of the Incarnation, Episcopal, on Cascade Road, and then turned it over to Robert Haver, his co-chairman, who brought before the group the decision of the Planning Board. The Board approved four projects containing 1,436 low and moderate-income housing units, 1,256 of which would directly affect the Southwest area.

The three actions affecting the Southwest area are:

1) Approval of 650 "turn-key" units on the north side of Sewell Road, just west of the Atlanta Coast Line tracks. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development has tentatively approved private developers to build the units, then turn them over to the Atlanta Housing Authority for public

housing.

2) Approval of 558 221 (d) (3) moderate-income units the east side of Fairburn Road, north of Sewell Road.

3) Approval of 48 conventional moderate-income units on the north side of Gordon Road, west of Adamsville Drive.

Should the Aldermanic Zoning Committee and the full Aldermanic Board approve these proposals, there would be a total of 1,700 units of low and moderate-income housing between Boulder Park and West Manor.

SWAP members were urged to attend the Aldermanic Zoning Committee meeting at 2 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19, at which the Adamsville Drive proposal comes up, and the meeting at 2 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26, when the proposals affecting the Sewell Fairburn sites come before the Committee.

Mrs. Xernona Clayton, secretary of SWAP, suggested that HUD (Housing and Urban Development) be contacted to let them know that the group disapproves of such concentration of low-income units in this area.

The group generally expressed the feeling that they do not mind having low to moderate-income housing in the area, but that they do feel that other areas of the city should share the housing.

Mrs. Clayton also said that SWAP must do some ground

work before the Aldermanic Zoning Committee meets and that they must also follow up their appeal to the committee so that the Committee does not deny permission for the location of the housing units at the regular meeting, and then turn around and approve them in a meeting generally not known about, as they did with 500 units already approved in the Fairburn-Sewell area.

Mrs. Mary Frances Peters introduced the ladies who participated in the panel discussion, "A Woman's Point of View," the scheduled program. The ladies were Miss Susan Ross, a student of Southwest High School who has attended segregated, long-time integrated, and newly-integrated high schools.

Mrs. H.Y. Hutcheson, who is associated with Audubon Forest

Methodist Church and is also the mother of six children, was the second participant. And Mrs. Lee Shelton, wife of Dr. Lee Shelton and the mother of four, was the third member of the panel who filled in for Mrs. William Alexander who was unable to attend.

The ladies talked briefly on the progress and problems of integration from their own points of view.

The floor was then opened to discussion. The open forum, which lasted approximately an hour and a half, produced questions and answers on the school integration problems, the fears that both white and Negro mothers might have, and what their

(Cont. on Page 5)

Bulletin!

Consideration of over 1,200 low-cost housing units for Southwest Atlanta has been postponed until Nov. 9 by the Aldermanic Zoning Committee, according to Tom Shuttleworth of the City Planning Department.

S. W. B. B. B.