

# Porter-Sesnon plight concerns Aptos CofC

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APTOS — The Aptos Chamber of Commerce this morning expressed concern about the possibility of a partial acquisition by the state of the Porter-Sesnon property.

Last Friday, the state Parks and Recreation Commission approved a \$4 million appropriation to purchase the desired 66-acre parcel near Aptos, despite the question still remaining whether that would be enough to buy it.

An alternative not broached at the hearing, but previously discussed unofficially, calls for a possible partial acquisition whereupon the state would acquire its recreational vehicle campsites and developer Hare, Brewer and Kelley could build some of its proposed housing units.

The Aptos Chamber earlier had gone on record as endorsing the developer's "Wingspread Beach" proposal. It calls for the largest-ever convention center/performing arts complex in the county.

While the chamber stopped short this morning of officially reaffirming its endorsement, it was noted it could be left out in the cold if such a partial acquisition comes to fruition.

Director Glenn Specht said of such a compromise: "We would get more people and more kids in our schools (from the new housing units), but no convention center or performing arts complex."

The chamber's earlier endorsement centered on the increased business that would result from such a convention center/performing arts complex.

Specht, who was the lone person to speak against the appropriation at the parks meeting, also expressed her disappointment that the chamber was not represented there.

"With the amount of income this project will bring to us, we were invisible at the meeting," she said. "We could have at least sent a letter, reaffirming the chamber's position."

Chamber Vice President Audrey Pancake agreed that the chamber had "missed the boat." She urged a "more active stand" in future hearings on the property.

In other business, the chamber unanimously objected to the county Board of Supervisors spending any money to study a proposed municipal takeover of PG&E. A similar attempt in San Francisco in this past election failed by a 66 percent margin.

*See full 11/14/82*