Interest suddenly spurts when zoning talk begins

By CAROLYN SWIFT

After struggling along for several months with a dwindling membership, Live Oak General Plan Review Committee (LOGPAC) has become the center of renewed interest in planning for Live Oak.

LOGPAC was formed last fall as a joint effort of Supervisor Dan Forbus, the county planning department and LOCAL (Live Oak Community Action League), an organization of residents interested in a general plan study for their area. Initially, LOGPAC was organized with a membership of some 47 persons from seven neighborhoods — a format designed by LOCAL to insure maximum community participation in the general plan process.

'Although LOGPAC hoped to complete statements on goals, objectives and policies for review by the county planning commission this summer, it found it had both a tight schedule and a drop in active membership in the neighborhood committees.

Last month, LOGPAC reached some conclusions about the preservation and acquisition of park lands in Live Oak, and prepared to form policies based on these decisions. The group's action caught the attention of a number of residents who said they were previously unaware of LOGPAC's activities, and who now wish to take an active role.

In late June, a group of residents from the Brommer-17th Avenue neighborhood attended a meeting to protest proposed changes in zoning from commercial to residential for their neighborhood. Their concern sparked further interest from other property owners and Live

Oak businesses who said they wish no changes to be made in the present zoning.

Dennis Pisila, county planner assigned to work with LOGPAC, explained that it is now required by law that zoning conform with the general plan. Zoning in Live Oak, he added, is not consistant at present with the planning proposals of LOGPAC, nor does it conform to the general plans of Santa Cruz or Capitola.

Monday night, more than 100 Live Oak property owners and residents met at Del Mar School cafeteria for neighborhood caucuses to discuss the concerns of both incoming and voting members of each area, and to replace those members who have become inactive or disinterested in LOGPAC.

Each neighborhood group made individual decisions whether or not to vote out the present membership, or to add new members.

Since a majority of those who attended the session this week are unfamiliar with the progress of LOGPAC to date, Co-chairman Dick Dugan urged the group to study the LOGPAC's goals and objectives, and to work with members who have been active since November. He also spent a portion of the session reviewing a progress report, to be available this week from the county planning department.

Increased interest in LOG-PAC's proposals and its impact on the future growth and development of Live Oak has encouraged membership from some areas that had sent no active participants in the past. For the first time Monday, there was full representation from the Santa Cruz Gardens area, Neighborhood One, which voted to send five new delegates and 11 alternates. Ray Dick is the chairman.

Another neighborhood — the Opal Cliffs area between Corcoran Lagoon and Soquel Creek — was represented by some 70 persons. This group will also meet before the general meeting next week to select voting members.

A neighborhood session before the regular meeting will also be held by Neighborhood Two, the Maciel-Rodriguez area, Ellen Gruys is the temporary chairman. This group approved the addition of two incoming incoming members, Al Locatelli and Helen Heinze, and seven alternates this week. Although several inactive members from this neighborhood were replaced, it was decided that others now on summer vacation should be allowed to remain listed as active members until they return.

Mike Miller is chairman of the Twin Lakes-Harbor neighborhood, which has approved two new members and one alternate.

new members and one alternate.

Bob Francis will lead the Brommer-17th Avenue neighborhood committee, which had an attendance Monday of more than 30 property owners and residents. Three voting members were added to this group.

George Jercich is chairman of Neighborhood Five, which had a smaller membership of about eight persons Monday. In Neighborhood Six, Santa Maria del Mar area, two voting members attended and an alternate, Joe Southwood, was approved as a voting member.

In Neighborhood Seven, incoming members are Robert Dettle, Frank Bolle, Ollie Roe, Tony Ziro, Francis Lane, Kevin Gugat, Mike Spencer and Harold Beckman. Nominations for membership included present members Dan Landry, LOGPAC co-chairman; Ruth Cowan, Harry Hooper, Birdie Marie Sahatjian and Elena Baskin. This group has not decided whether the active members will be allowed to continue to represent the neighborhood.