

Permit Given To Boys' Club

Site preparation work for the Santa Cruz Boys' club is scheduled to begin immediately, following approval of a use permit by the city council last night.

The council action reversed the city planning commission denial of the use permit last week, when refusal was based on inadequate parking and too little coverage of land by the building itself.

The council vote was 5 to 1 to grant the permit with Councilman Richard Hackbarth opposed on the ground that the council was violating ordinances by its action.

Hackbarth proposed instead that the council begin condemnation action in the area of the club, at Lincoln street and Center street, and make a donation to solve parking and land coverage violations.

The planning staff had recommended that at least 10 to 15 parking spaces should be provided. Building coverage permitted in the zone involved is 65 per cent and the club proposal calls for 72 per cent coverage.

After considerable discussion about how the use permit should be granted — whether it should be hinged on a city donation of land, whether zoning should be changed to conform with club plans, or whether an exploration of the problems should be undertaken — a motion for the permit by Councilman Raymond Goodrich was approved.

Goodrich suggested the council simply grant the permit and wait and see if further study is necessary at an unspecified time in the future.

Bill Fankhouser, executive director of the club, said today that site preparation will begin immediately. He pointed out funds to purchase the lot and erect the building, exclusive of the swimming pool, were donated by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Mallery, 543 High street.

The proposed swimming pool, he said, depends on "the help of the people of Santa Cruz through direct contributions to the project or by gifts-in-kind or donated labor."

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