



Glenn Specht, left, Rich Lopez and Richard Scifferman, on roof, raze an old house in the soon-to-be park.

Wanted: name for Aptos park

Aptos' new park, a grassy, 8-acre glen along Aptos Creek just behind the village, is a "community park and it is hoped the community will be involved with it," Glenn Specht told Aptos Chamber of Commerce directors Thursday night.

Mrs. Specht, herself a director, has been among those working hard for the past several years to get the county to acquire the property for a park. The supervisors finally did so this year, although it was mostly a question of their taking money out of one county pocket and putting it in another. The land was already owned by the county, which was planning to use it for the Soquel Drive by-pass of the village.

When, at the chamber's and other groups' urgings, the board became available for a park, but it took a couple of years of

bureaucratic maneuvering to make the transfer.

Mrs. Specht explained that the county's hope for community involvement in the park was aimed at having most of the development "done by various organizations here."

She did say that some help may be coming from the state in creating a trail between the county park and nearby Nisene Marks State Park. She also said she'd sure like to see a community center of some sort at the new park.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Specht said, the park is there and available for anyone to use. A chain has been placed across the entrance to prevent cars from being driven in. Mrs. Specht suggested this was probably to prevent a recurrence of a mammoth bash held recently by the youthful occupants of an old house on the property to celebrate their eviction.

The house is being demolished. The chamber did discuss naming the park after it was noted county officials would love to be able to call it something other than the "by-pass property."

"Should the chamber sponsor a contest to name it?" Mrs. Specht wondered.

"Sure," director Terry Reeder chimed in, "with the prize a round-trip to Watsonville on the bus."

Eventually the directors decided not to have a contest, but to invite suggestions for a name. The suggestions should be sent to the chamber at P. O. Box 90, Aptos, Calif. 95003.

The directors also agreed it would be a good idea to consult Aptos history expert Vincent Leonard about coming up with a name with historical significance.

In other matters, directors:

—Appointed Del Brandt and Andy Bewley to seats on the board, thereby filling two vacancies.

—Learned that the chamber-sponsored booth at the Aptos Fourth of July celebration showed a net profit of 55 cents.

—Extracted an agreement from director Sandy Hansen to organize, for the second year in a row, the chamber's annual dinner, to be held in the fall, probably at the Bayview Hotel.

—Heard director Chuck Holcomb, a building contractor, wonder whether the current efforts by some county officials to have waste water reclamation made part of a sewage disposal plan wasn't a "no-growth" move. "Is this a ploy by the anti-building element in the community to continue the (sewer hookup) ban?" Holcomb asked. Other directors said they doubted it was.