

Mall

# 90-Day Ad Hoc Mall Committee Is Formed

An ad hoc committee has been set up by the Santa Cruz City Council to recommend guidelines and administrative procedures to govern use of Pacific Avenue Garden Mall.

The committee will be headed by Vice Mayor John Mahaney. Other members will be Harriet Mainis, president of the Downtown Assn.; Jeff Arnett, president of the Chamber of

Commerce of Downtown Santa Cruz; Shannon Scheaffer, chairman of the city parks and recreation commission; Jack Meehan, chairman of the city planning commission; John Huffman, chairman of the city off-street parking commission, and a member of the public at large.

The committee will have 90 days of existence, during which

time it will investigate special and other requirements of the mall and relate these to recommendations designed to enhance the importance of the mall, in terms of uses, as the key business street in the city.

The mall has been a kind of bone of contention between the Downtown Assn. and the Downtown CofC, with the one demanding majority representation on the committee and the other questioning the need for any kind of committee or regulatory body.

Mainis said that the Downtown Assn. has 166 members who have 79 of the 101 stores fronting the mall. She urged that her group be considered as representing the majority of business people in the area.

"This is a business neighborhood district," Mainis said. "We want the same consideration the council says it wishes to give any other neighborhood."

Max Walden, Cooperhouse developer, questioned the need for any kind of committee. He elaborated:

"The obvious problem is some people want to control public property, they want to control it all.

"But I don't think this is the way the council should go. You are not administering the off-street parking district, and I am not paying into that. You are not administering the promotion district, and I am not paying into that. I write letters to you, but you don't answer them. It would be better if you would

clean up your own house."

Ken Marcus, a merchant, countered that although he does not like government bureaucracy either, the city needs a committee because it cannot continue to "shove off on the city manager decisions on mall use."

Marcus said also that it is the business people in the area, not the downtown residents, who contribute to the tax base and the welfare of all the people in Santa Cruz. He urged a committee be formed.

Councilman Bert Muhly, who as mayor worked hard to bring the Downtown Assn. and Downtown CofC members together, went for a type of "blue ribbon" committee to synthesize ideas and to recommend "something that might be permanent."

Several council members, Carole DePalma in particular, seemed uneasy about establishing a permanent committee, but she and the others went along with forming one for

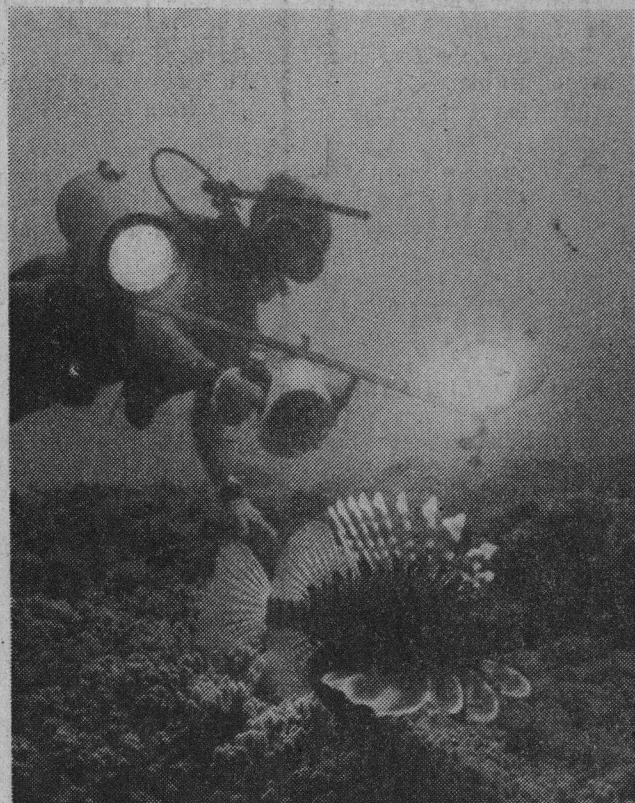
90 days to do the job assigned.

DePalma made clear, however, that she doesn't want a committee that is a policing agency and that she wants all policy matters left strictly to the council.

Mahaney will serve as committee chairman. Mahaney, as in the case of Muhly, has long

tried to end feuding between the two rival business groups in the area.

In no case, it was stressed, would the council abdicate its responsibilities in this area. Nor would it delegate its authority to any committee that might be set up in the future, it was stressed further.



Filming, deep in the sea.



## Boy Scout Camp June 29

Boy Scouts from Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties have already signed up for campsites at the annual Boy Scout Camp Pico Blanco in Las Padres National Forest.

Some 71 scout troops, with 1,200 boys, are expected to stay at the camp throughout the scheduled summer sessions.

Camp opening will be June 29. There will be six, one-week sessions.