

Chamber's interest focused on county's big park fund

There's a \$204,000 recreation fund — raised through a \$100-per-house assessment for new construction in the Aptos area — and the Aptos Chamber of Commerce wants to make sure at least a major part of it is spent in Aptos.

Existence of the fund was reported to chamber directors Thursday at a meeting at Seascape golf lodge by Director Chuck Holcomb. The fund is controlled by the Santa Cruz County parks and recreation department, Holcomb reported, suggesting the chamber should let the county know what projects in the Aptos area the money should be spent on.

Holcomb told directors there is a strong possibility the money will be spent in Soquel — possibly for the acquisition of the O'Neil Ranch property above Soquel High School, and that the chamber should act quickly if Aptos is to get a share of the funds.

He said the Rio del Mar Improvement Assn. is bidding for some of the money for im-

provement of the community park at Rio del Mar School. He suggested other projects might be the expansion of the Aptos Village Park or acquisition of the apple orchard below Deer Park for a park.

Chamber President Virgil Kester Jr. directed a letter be sent to Henry Baker, director of the county's Community Resources Agency, telling of the chamber's interest in the fund.

In another action, the directors settled a matter that's been bothering them for years — deciding just where Aptos is. What they decided is that Aptos consists of the service area of the Aptos post office, an area ranging generally from Freedom Blvd. to Borregas Gulch, and from the upper end of Trout Gulch Road down to the sea.

The chamber was upset with the county's growth management plan map which showed Aptos as consisting mainly of the village area. Director Lucile Aldrich pointed out the postal service area has a population of 18,000

people while only 87 people live in the village.

The directors voted to inform the county of their decision and request the county adopt the same boundaries for Aptos in their planning.

In other matters, directors:

— Hears a report from Aptos High School senior Margaret Le Barre on her winning of the state championship among business education students with her food services project. The directors voted to donate \$72 toward a fund to send her to Washington, D.C. for the national finals.

— Voted \$100 for the Aptos Ladies Tuesday Evening Society's Fourth of July parade. The parade will run from the Aptos post office to the village park this year, Mrs. Aldrich reported.

— Approved the appointment of Frank Cardini to the board of directors, replacing John Earle.

— Learned the Aptos High School spring barbecue will be held April 23, noon to 4 p.m.