Group to urge board to keep ball rolling on Wingspread land

A group lobbying for the purchase of the Wingspread site for a park plans to urge the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Tuesday to keep the heat on at home and in Sacramento to raise money for the purchase.

The New Brighton Beach Action Coalition sent a representative to the Capitola City Council Thursday night to ask the city to contribute towards a purchase price unofficially estimated at \$8 million to \$10 million.

The state parks department, which has been interested since 1982 in buying the 66-acre coastal bluff next to New Brighton State Beach, has set aside \$4.7 million for that purpose.

Pat Manning, a member of

the coalition, said local agencies needed to show more enthusiasm to make sure the purchase is completed.

She said her group would ask the supervisors to enter a joint powers agreement with Capitola and the state.

State Sen. Henry Mello, who has been working with the state parks department to arrange the purchase, has said that it must be completed by June. Otherwise, he said, the state parks department will probably use the \$4.7 million for something else. Mello has persuaded the parks department to keep that cash reserved for the Wingspread purchase since 1982, and said other legislators are now eyeing it hungrily.

-Katharine Ball