

No Juvenile Hall Before Accord

By Wallace Wood
Sentinel Staff Writer

Supervisor Vincent Locatelli promised last night to bring action on a new \$500,000 juvenile hall "to a standstill" until leading property owners on north Ocean street can agree on a possible location for the hall.

Locatelli and other county department heads, including Probation Officer James Solomon, faced about 50 friendly but determined persons at a meeting at Pedemonte hall last night to explain the reasons behind the choice of a site in the Italian Gardens area.

The great majority of persons, including homeowners from Paradise Park and the Graham Hill road area, were against locating the hall at any one of three sites picked by the juvenile justice commission, county judges and county supervisors last week. All three sites are on north Ocean street.

Only one, contractor Werner Jasper, spoke strongly in favor of locating the children's detention home there. He was balanced by the most vocal spokesman for the opposition, Rupert Fallis, whose mother-in-law owns one proposed hall site.

Locatelli suggested that Fallis and Jasper, who lives at 2125 North Ocean street, meet with other interested property owners to discuss a "compromise" site.

Jasper suggested a location just north and almost behind the Odd Fellows cemetery, on property picked by the county as the number two site choice.

Fallis charged that the locations picked by the county would cause property values to plummet "catastrophically" if a

hall were on one of them, and threatened a legal battle "so long that you will have to draw new juvenile hall plans by the time you have the property."

Jasper declared that "we have to put these little children somewhere. It's not a jail, or a hall, but a home. These children are our future citizens. I don't want to ruin our area either, but I've seen the plans for the hall and it's beautiful. If we put it down by the river, we will be free to go ahead and develop the rest of our area."

Joseph Alcantara of 56 South Circle drive, off Graham Hill road, attacked the cost figures prepared by the county on the Ocean street properties, set at from \$55,000 to \$85,000. "I was on the committee that looked for sites for the new Dominican hospital, and anyone who thinks this land is worth less than \$10,000 an acre is a dreamer."

Alcantara suggested that the county take another look at the Shaffer property west of Santa Cruz, even though the projected cost is more than \$300,000 for development and use of a hall. "Just keep looking," he said. About 10 acres will be needed for a hall site.

Mrs. Flora Rowland, operator of the Valhaven guest home, 2044 Ocean street, declared that many residents will live in fear of escapes from the hall, "since these boys will know that none but elderly people live here, with no man around the place."

Solomon told the audience, that in more than 10 years of juvenile probation work, he has never seen any damage done by escaping juveniles near a juvenile hall.

"They want to get out of there. They don't want to hang around and do any damage," he said.

Solomon added that most juvenile halls are so quiet that "I would rather live next to one than a high school. You don't have kids sitting on your lawn eating lunch and smoking cigarettes." There have been only six escapes in two years at the local hall, he said.

Jack Miller, of 3691 LaMadrone drive, said that he already has 36 names on a petition from Graham Hill residents opposing the hall.

Mrs. Bruce Hogue of Paradise Park told the county officers that she already has more than 200 signatures of Park residents on a similar petition and expects 400.

Mrs. Bernice Caminata said she has already filed a protest petition representing what she said was 99 per cent of Italian Gardens property owners with the board of supervisors.

GIN ON THE ROCKS

New York (AP)—Tiffany's Fifth avenue jewelers, plans to put two fountains in its window displays. But precious water in this city facing a shortage will not be used. A distiller will donate seven cases of gin to be constantly recirculated in the foundations.

n Brief

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State Supreme Court today set reapportionment of the State

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Rocks Aleutians

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