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# Rio group likes its officers

Directors of the Rio del Mar Improvement Association re-elected their entire slate of officers Tuesday night.

The board, noting the association has just completed one of its most successful years (membership climbed past 700), decided that retaining president Clayton Ward and the other officers would be a good idea. Re-elected along with Ward were Melvin Fields, first vice president; Mrs. Charles R. Nudd, second vice president, and Burt Kendall, treasurer.

Before the election of officers, it was announced that four incumbents and one newcomer had been elected to the board of directors for the coming year. Incumbents elected to new terms are Mrs. Carlyle Miller, Ward, Fields and Kendall. The newcomer to the board is Allen Collins, a retired oil company executive.

There was a somber note to the evening when the nominating committee was asked to name by next meeting nominees to succeed director Thomas Whaley, who died Sept. 25. His term was to have expired next year.

The board expressed its sadness at the death of Whaley and learned that more than \$400 had been collected so far for the Thomas E. Whaley Community Improvement Fund that was set up after his death.

The directors also heard Ann Soldo, principal at Aptos Junior High School, describe the operation of the school, which will revert to a kindergartenthrough-sixth grade elementary school next year when the junior high school moves to Valencia School.

Mrs. Soldo, who has been principal at the junior high school for five years, gave the directors a generally upbeat description of life at the school. She said there are the usual problems with a limited number of students, including some marijuana smoking, drinking, etc., but that the student body there is

generally a well-adjusted, happy, enthusiastic group.

The directors also learned: —The building permit to allow beginning of construction at the new Deer Park shopping center was to have been applied for by today and construction at the already-graded site should begin shortly.

—Progress toward construction of a new radio station for the midcounty had been "somewhat delayed" because the owners, Grant and Lawrence Wrathall, decided to build the studio at a site near the Cabrillo Golf Course where the antennas are to be erected instead of at Rancho del Mar Shopping Center, and FCC permission had to be obtained. However, Ward said

the Wrathalls expected to have the station in operation in about nine months.

—Heard Stephanie Hauk, administrative assistant to Supervisor Dale Dawson, report on a meeting of the Association of County Supervisors that she had attended. She said much stress was placed at the meeting on the need for property tax reform, a statement to which the improvement association directors said a collective amen.

—Looked at some sketches of a possible sign for the Arco service station on Rio del Mar Blvd. that would meet with the approval of the community. The sign at the station now, a metal one in bright colors, has brought objections and owner Don Eddleman is

trying to come up with a more pleasing design. A committee of directors will visit the station and look at the potential sign site before making a decision on whether a new sign will be approved.

—Heard that ticket sales are brisk for the association's annual party, to be held this year on Oct. 16 in the banquet room of Aptos Seascape golf lodge.

—Heard that the improvement association's annual membership meeting will be held Saturday, Nov. 13, at 2 p.m., also at the golf lodge's banquet room.

—Moved the regular November meeting from Nov. 2 to Nov. 9 to prevent a conflict with election day.