

The SHORE LINE

Published by The Town of Pine Knoll Shores In The Interests Of Its Citizens

Post Office Box 757, Atlantic Beach, N. C. 28512

Volume III Number 12

September, 1982

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STRONGER CAMA IS

NEEDED, COMMITTEE HEARS

If members of a committee of the North Carolina State Legislature were looking for support for amendments to CAMA that would reduce the effectiveness of the

Act they came away empty handed from a meeting with county residents at the Marine Resources Center.

If that indeed was their goal they heard nothing but praises for CAMA and demands for even strengthening it. Speaker after speaker extolled the benefits of CAMA and recited the perils to the stability of the barrier islands if the Act were to be tinkered with to reduce its effectiveness.

Among the speakers was Bill Dixson, a town commissioner, and speaking for the Town of Pine Knoll Shores. He pointed out that over development and over disturbance of the barrier islands usually have catastrophic results that are uncorrectable. He further stated that Bogue Banks has four local governments located here, along with a sizable land area controlled by Carteret County. Each has a different development policy, in many respects, any one of which left to itself could and probably would shorten the life of the island.

To that end, he said, "We need a strong CAMA to help us protect the delicate balance between man and nature." He said the laws and rules contained in CAMA do ensure proper and reasonable use of our land mass. We do have, and should continue to have, he said, proper inspection and compliance capability to enforce the laws and rules.

He concluded by stating that "We need CAMA to preserve Bogue Banks and to provide us with the knowledge and the strength to develop Bogue Banks for the enjoyment of its residents and the citizens of North Carolina for the many generations to follow."

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