

Immediately following the hearing the commissioners held their regular meeting. Good news came from Tom Smith of the Forestry Division who reported that the tussock moth population has crashed. Whereas last year he found thousands of egg masses in the area, this year he found but 6 or 7. He went on to say that it might have crashed naturally but more likely it was affected by the BT insecticide applied last year which kept them in their cocoons or rendered them sterile when they emerged. He recommended no action be taken by the Board since no widespread infestation is expected. Any small infestation can be handled by individual property owners. The Mayor announced that there was some of the BT insecticide left over and it would be given away on a first come, first served basis.

COMMISSIONERS HOLD  
REGULAR MEETING

The Landscape Permit ordinance was passed.

A transfer of unappropriated funds to cover the cost of increased insurance rates not anticipated in the budget and for the purchase of communications equipment required not only to replace worn out equipment but to establish a base station to accommodate the addition of our own frequency to the county system, was voted.

Both the Rescue and the Police and Fire commissioners expressed appreciation for the assistance provided not only by Rescue, Police, Fire and Firemen's Auxilliary personnel but also the many others who turned out to aid in the search for Jason Evans. believed drowned on December 22nd. More than 150 each day joined in the effort. The Mayor added that persons who had used their boats, supplied food or otherwise made personal expenditures could apply to the town for reimbursement.

Residents were reminded that 1986 Pine Knoll Shores plates or stickers are now available upon payment of the \$1 fee at the Town Hall and must be displayed on each Pine Knoll Shores vehicle by February 15th.

Ed Olsen was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board.

There will be a meeting of the Land Use Update committee at 1:30 p.m. January 23rd and a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. January 29th.

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"Disagree but don't be disagreeable!" was the admonition of Ed Shiel, Reefstone resident, who spoke up at the public meeting held at the Town Hall on January 7th. The meeting room was packed, all seats taken, and many residents offered constructive comments.

DRAINAGE PROBLEMS  
DISCUSSED

Mayor Hanan opened the meeting stating that its purpose was to keep the residents informed as to what has been done to date to solve the drainage problem and to invite input concerning it. He said that a committee, chaired by Commissioner John Shedd and consisting of John Collier, Morgan Hammer, Ken Hoffmeyer and Cliff Mitchell, had been appointed to study all aspects of the problem and recommend a solution to the Board of Commissioners. He then introduced Colonel Paul Dennison of Van Oesen and Associates Engineers, Wilmington, well known to the people of Pine Knoll Shores for professional services previously rendered.

Col. Dennison said that his firm had been engaged by the Commissioners to assess the situation and recommend a feasible course of action which would not over-tax the resources of the Town. He went on to say that the problem was not unique to Pine Knoll Shores. Indeed, the whole coast was facing the problem of what to do with surface waste caused by the development of properties where once rain water drained naturally, i.e. seeped through the ground or discharged itself into the estuaries. Roofs, driveways and pavements had interfered with, and increasingly will continue to interfere with, this natural disposal. His message seemed to be that you cannot have it both ways. If you are going to develop the land on the coast you are going to have to face the fact that surface runoff, caused by development must be disposed of at the expense of the surrounding environment. It is a matter of choosing the most desirable alternative and minimizing the detrimental effects.