

If people ignore
These meetings much more
And attendance continues so low,
This indifference may
Bring about a new day
When Commissioners, too, fail to show!

(The Board of Commissioners holds a regular meeting at the Town Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 O'clock p.m.)

KEN HALLER

The Community Appearance Commission, which is better known in Pine Knoll Shores as "The Pretty Committee," apparently has won its first showdown with a home builder over

PRETTY COMMITTEE

his house plans. The showdown was precipitated when James P. Blackwell and his wife, Doris, bought a lot next door to Grant and Peggy Roper on Mimosa Boulevard and informed the Ropers that they liked the Roper house so much that they were going to use the same plans for their new home. The Blackwells had become familiar with

NIXES HOUSE PLANS

the Roper house and the plans in his work as a realtor in the Garner firm. They liked the house so much they asked the Ropers if they would object if they copied it.

"We said, 'Of course not,'" Roper said. He said he and Peggy never dreamed the Blackwells would buy the lot next door. Then they did object, vehemently.

"Right next door is a different matter," Roper said. "We told them if they would only change the roof lines we would not object."

But the Blackwells persisted and their plans were submitted to the Pretty Committee, and it said "No." Frank Johnson, the committee chairman, said that while his group had persuaded prospective builders to make some changes before plans were approved, this was the first time the group had flatly rejected a set of plans. He wrote builder Mike Garner informing him of the committee's decision.

Johnson pointed out that if the Blackwell house plans had been approved, it would have been the fifth house in Pine Knoll Shores built from the same set of plans, with only minor changes. He said he had told Garner after plans for the fourth house were approved that "we hoped he wouldn't build any more" like that.

When asked what he and the Blackwells planned to do in view of the Pretty Committee's action, Garner said the Blackwells had bowed to the decision, that the plans had been revamped and would be resubmitted to the Pretty Committee.

"The house has been redesigned," said Garner. "The roof line has been totally changed. In my opinion it's a much prettier house."

"I agreed with Frank," he added. "I don't think it is a good idea to build a lot of houses from the same plans." Garner said the public at PKS had not realized that in its finished appearance the Blackwell house would not have resembled the Roper house as much as they had feared. He pointed out that Blackwell was a realtor, and "he did not want his house to look like the Roper's house any more than they did."

He said that while the Blackwells had been "a little unhappy" at first at the rejection of their plans, they are pleased with the way the house has been redesigned and are reconciled with the changes.