

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 5th

It has been apparent that there is some misunderstanding about the new landscape permit revision in the zoning ordinance. The revision requires that "no lot or tract in Pine Knoll Shores may be cleared, excavated, graded, or filled until the Building Inspector, after consultation with the Community Appearance Commission, has issued a landscape permit, "whether or not such activity is in connection with proposed construction." The thing is that some people have thought that they could just remove unwanted trees at will. The only trees that can, and must, be removed are dead trees. Other trees with a diameter of 2 inches or less may also be removed.

Also unclear to some people is the part of the zoning ordinance requiring a site plan before the issuing of a permit. This plan must define exactly what dunes, etc. are to be left undisturbed, and include ways for re-stabilizing and re-vegetating those areas that are to be disturbed. Residents and prospective builders are urged to have a look at this revision as well as at the original zoning ordinance before rearranging any terrain or removing any trees, violations will be cause for a stop work order to be issued by the building inspector.

Failure to clean up trash on building sites will also be cause for the Building Inspector to issued a stop work order. The Building Inspector, by the way, is not the ogre here, he simply enforces the ordinances.

The group also discussed the current deteriorating of bulkheads along the canal; it is hoped that, as these bulkheads are repaired, they will be done so that they all match each other.

Once again there was a report of some draining into the canal from a private home; this is not allowed. It is hard to learn all the rules in a community, but residents have a responsibility to do just that, and to obey them. Perhaps, from time to time, people might just ease over to the Town Hall and re-read some of the ordinances. If we all keep up to date on these things, living here will be even more pleasant than it is now, and scoldings from the "Pretty Committee" will cease, no doubt causing sighs of relief to be heard throughout the Town.

At the above February 5th meeting of the Community Appearance Commission, four additions to homes and one new home were approved.

M. DOLL

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PINE KNOLL SHORES FREQUENCY BEING INSTALLED

The Board of Commissioners has approved a plan of actions to be put into effect if a hurricane or other disaster were to destroy all or part of our Town. In such a disastrous situation, it must be assumed that the area would be without electricity or telephone communications. Without any means of communication, control of disaster recovery operations would be difficult, if not impossible. The Federal Communications Commission has approved the exclusive use of a local government frequency for the Town of Pine Knoll Shores.

Some inexpensive radios, capable of operating off automobile batteries are being purchased. These radios will expedite the gathering of disaster information by the Town's damage assessment teams, coordinating emergency housing for the homeless, enable volunteers to assist the police in protecting public and private property, and permit the Town to operate in close coordination with the governments of adjacent towns and Carteret. At the same time, our police department radios, which are about 10 years old, are being upgraded to be compatible with Carteret County's new radio system, soon to be put into operation.