

Blowing Rock C. Of C. Board Talks Of Issue

The August meeting of the Board of Directors of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce was held Aug. 12 in the Chamber offices. Present for the meetings were President Louis Smith; Vice-President, Mrs. Omer Coffey; Secretary, Mrs. H. F. Custer; Directors John Goodwin, Robert Hardin, Howard Barnwell and Walton Allen, and Associate Directors Mrs. S. G. Crater and E. Scott Hale. Chamber members Bill Williams and Mrs. R. B. Hardin were also present.

Mayor Hardin told the members that the town was awaiting the deed to the Broyhill property on which the town had bid because the bid had not been raised.

Mr. Smith read a letter which had been written to Southern Bell Telephone Company asking what could be done to drop toll charges between Blowing Rock and the Skyline Telephone Company which serves Shulls Mills, Foscoe, Sugar Grove and Vilas. Mayor Hardin stated that the town had also sent letters. He also said that after checking into the matter, he had learned that Blowing Rock would not get direct distance dialing for another 12 months because the necessary equipment could not be installed before that time.

It was announced that Blowing Rock had been allocated \$27,900 from the \$300 million road bond issue. State officials working on the project wanted to blacktop Main Street with the money, but local officials did not think it advisable and suggested widening Main Street if rights-of-way could be secured. Other suggestions were asked for, with the restriction that the money could only be used on State highways, not on city streets. The money must also be spent within a given time. Mr. Allen asked if something could be done to improve the entrance into the town from the Phillips 66 station. Hardin explained that the road was left in its present condition when the new sewer system was installed and the road was approved by the State at that time.

Mr. Smith also announced that present plans by the State Highway Commission call for passing lanes to be constructed between Lenoir and Blowing Rock. Previous plans to build a four-lane highway have been abandoned at least temporarily because of the cost of \$1,000,000 per mile.

Mrs. Custer reported that 48 of the 404 members had not paid their dues. Twenty-eight of these were business memberships and 20 were residential.

Mrs. Coffey asked the Chamber to begin making arrangements for the Blue Ridge Parkway Association, which will meet in Blowing Rock the second week in September.

Members of the Chamber were invited to attend the North Carolina Travel Convention which will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Nags Head, N. C.

Mrs. Crater said that she had heard compliments on the town's water and knew several who were bottling some water to take back to their homes.

Mr. Barnwell showed the group a picture of the Blowing Rock winter sports sign which

was seen in the July issue of Signs of the Times, an international magazine. Eight of these signs are placed in various locations throughout the State from October-December.

Mr. Allen reported to the group that the Festival Week originally scheduled for the week of Labor Day could not be held this year. He proposed such a week to be held during the winter, with the Blowing Rock, Hound Ears and Seven Devils ski lodges participating.

Discussion was held on the need for a restaurant during the winter in Blowing Rock. The suggestion was made that possible interested persons might subsidize a restaurant, but some thought subsidization was not necessary for the restaurant to at least break even. Another suggestion of forming a corporation to build and operate a restaurant possibly the year around was made, but no definite action was taken.

Mayor Hardin opened discussion on the question of providing a public or semi-private golf course for the use of tourists and residents in this area because the existing course will become completely private within several years. He had suggested to Park Ranger Ernest Hayes the idea of building a course on government property. Hayes had transferred the idea to his immediate superiors, but the idea was not met with much enthusiasm. Hardin had also contacted some Blue Ridge Parkway officials and he said that he had several other sources to try before abandoning the project. Smith said that he would contact Mr. C. J. Sprott, who owns the Buffalo Camp on the Linville Road to see if he had enough property to consider undertaking the project of building a course.

Bill Williams told the directors that it was his opinion that the members of the Board of Directors should represent the transient businessmen more than it does now. Smith asked Williams to submit a list of directors to be placed on next year's ballot to the secretary. Williams was also asked if he would serve as a director to fill the one vacancy on the board. When he consented to do so, he was elected to serve.

League Women Voters To Resume Activity

Mrs. Earl Petrey, president of the Boone League of Women Voters, presided at a meeting of the Executive Board last week as plans were made to resume activities after a summer hiatus.

Unit and general meetings will be resumed in September with studies of national and local interest taking the spotlight. Plans for the fall and winter include a finance drive in September and a study of water resources and an observance of United Nations Day in October. A study of election laws and a candidates meeting are on the agenda for November. In October several members will attend a United Nations Workshop in Asheville.

Mrs. Carl Bredow, bulletin editor, will soon send members announcements concerning dates and places of meetings.

Security Life & Trust Company

Frank M. Payne — Frank M. Payne, Jr.

Highlander Insurance Agency

418 W. King St.

Reins-Sturdivant

Funeral Home

Boone Drug Company

The Rexall Store

Coe Insurance & Realty Company

217 E. King St.

Nationwide Insurance Company

Raymond E. Harmon, Agent

Here is a message from these firms to every citizen in our county. Your very life may depend upon its being read and heeded.



We could make our appeal with bold art of a street accident; a child crushed beneath the wheels of a car; an anguished driver huddled sorrowfully over the still, lifeless form.

We wonder though, in this day when highway carnage is too commonplace, if it mightn't be a more valid appeal simply to say, "Please Drive Carefully."

We do say it: Please Drive Very, Very Carefully. Our children are in the streets going to and from school. Don't heedlessly, needlessly kill them.



AT OUR FINGERTIPS!

Every Insurance Service that human ingenuity can devise the moment you step through our front door.

We Offer Complete Facilities for All Lines of Insurance

COE INSURANCE & REALTY CO.

217 Main St.

Dial AM 4-8256



INSURANCE BY NORTH AMERICAN