

Prison Officials Not Justified From Page 1

to keep. If they said they were going to do something, then they should stick to their word. That is not right."

Renee Shepherd--"If they transferred them to end the situation, then why are they going to bring them (inmates) back to the same atmosphere that caused them to take hostages in the first place? I think that it is the responsibility of law officials to keep their word."

Blondie Holman--"Surely, in a situation like this, they (inmates) didn't think that they (officials) would let them stay in Petersburg after taking hostages. But I don't think that its right to lie to them, either. I think that because of this, any kind of hostage situation in the future is going to be



Natural Long

quite hard to resolve without violence. Those people in Raleigh have backed themselves into a corner and I don't think that they realize how hard it's going to be to get out."

Andrew Royster--"They (officials) promised a transfer so that they could get the men back unharmed. Those were the terms of



Steve Glenn

the agreement and that's the way it should go down. The inmates should stay in Virginia because that's the deal that was made. If they have to go back to Raleigh, they're going to face an even worse situation than before, which is going to put them in a more desperate situation. And



Barbara Pearson

you know if the brothers are desperate for life, they will make any move just to survive. The people (officials) up there ought to consider that before they go back on a promise."

Steve Glenn--"No, I don't think that the state is justified in going back on its word. They (inmates) did

what they did because of the treatment they were getting. You know they're gonna go through some more if they go back. It's wrong, it's definitely wrong to do something like that and expect people to have respect and trust for the law."

Ronald Carter--"They should have solved the problem differently from the beginning. They (officials) never should have agreed to such a demand in the first place. Even if they agreed and then didn't take them, but they should have never took them to Virginia. If it was, as they say, racially motivated, then it should have been handled in an entirely different way."

Barbara Pearson--"I know that they were wrong

by taking hostages. But if they (inmates) were desperate enough to do that, then that shows you that something was wrong inside the prison. The next time a situation like that comes up it's going to be very violent

because inmates won't believe the officials. You just don't do things like that. The thing that gets me, though, is that the people making these decisions probably don't work directly in that prison. But

they're putting the lives of the people who do, in serious danger. Because the next time, there probably won't be any negotiations without guarantees. Now who's going to give guarantees? Nobody."

Greenway Making Comeback From Page 1

agement skills.

"There are 164 NHS programs in 122 cities in the United States," said Jimmi Williams, local coordinator for the program, "and Winston-Salem is one of four cities in North Carolina with an NHS program." The other three cities are Charlotte, Durham and Wilmington.

To develop an NHS, first a local entity, city government and local financial institutions must sign an agreement. Before the signing, NHS sends two or three representatives to assess the possibility of developing the area.

"They look for interest in neighborhood revitalization," Williams said, "and the technical and financial resources to do it."

Then a local coordinator is hired to organize the process of developing the program.

Williams and Bill Lott, field representative for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corp., visited every bank and savings and loan in the city, government officials and representatives from citywide organizations, such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Experiment in Self-Reliance and the Urban League.

"We put together an NHS ad-hoc development group with representatives from all the city groups," Williams said. Then the group of 48 people touched base with almost every neighborhood association in the city to recruit representatives. Those representatives went to Blowing Rock for a two-day conference to discuss the program.

The city agreed to pay National Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation \$35,000 to organize the NHS program, Williams said.

For the past year, workshops have been held to organize the program. The first workshop was held last July to begin the planning process. The site selection committee, with assistance from William McNeil, the City/County Planning Board, researched and analyzed data on neighborhoods using National Reinvestment criteria along with some local criteria.

"They were looking for three things," Williams said. "Sound housing stock, substantial home ownership and an income mix, ranging from low to moderate. The NHS made a concentrated push to discuss the program with residents and answer any questions to confirm there was sufficient interest." As part of the developing process, we took 18 residents to

Durham to explore an NHS program," Williams said.

Canty, who also went to Blowing Rock, said many residents, including him, were a little skeptical about the program at first. "But I left Blowing Rock feeling that this program can work," Canty said. "We had about three meetings during which we introduced residents to the program." Canty said that after they toured Durham, enthusiasm among the residents of Greenway began to mount and hasn't stopped since. Canty said once all the advantages of the program are discussed with each resident, there should be 100 percent pro-NHS sentiment.

"This is a self-help program," Canty said. "There isn't a landlord who doesn't want to upgrade his property. Eight-five percent of the people who live in Greenway are there for life. I talked to residents and they said they were glad something is being done. Everyone could see Greenway slipping but no one knew what to do."

Canty, a young homeowner who has been living in Greenway for three and one-half years, said he is happy for this opportunity. "With interest rates so high," Canty said, "most young homeowners can't afford to get this type of work done on their homes."

Canty said there are many other young couples in Greenway who probably feel the same. "We want Greenway to be as pretty as it was 15 or 20 years ago," Canty said.

One good thing about the program is that the residents have the last word in deciding what to do for the house and how much, Canty said. Once all the homes in the neighborhood are brought up to code standards, if residents want further work done on their homes, they can make that decision. Canty also said that a revolving loan program, set up by NHS, will help residents who are skeptical, because of their incomes, about participating.

NHS has a total operating budget of \$210,000 for a three-year period or \$70,000 a year. The city has contributed \$150,000 to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation in grants. The program has three goals, Williams said. One is to renew confidence in the neighborhood. "There is a high correlation between neighborhood decline and deterioration and the confidence residents have in the neighborhood," Williams said. "The NHS also wants to have a long-term stabiliz-

ing influence in the neighborhood and reduce risk for anyone who wants to invest in the neighborhood."

Greenway has been asking for help, Williams said. "It's not a critical neighborhood, but the average house is about 50 years old." Williams said NHS is getting very positive feedback from the residents as exemplified by the sentiment during the fifth workshop, held Tuesday, March 23, during which Winston-Salem's NHS was incorporated, characterized by the state with tax-exempt status, and had its by-laws officially adopted. "It was

more of a ceremony than a meeting," Williams said. "There were 80 residents there who cheered and celebrated officially establishing NHS."

Williams said his kind of interest was developed by

NHS's community involvement. "We had one-on-one talks with residents, gave one or two social gatherings, had slide shows and worked extensively with neighborhood block captains," he said.

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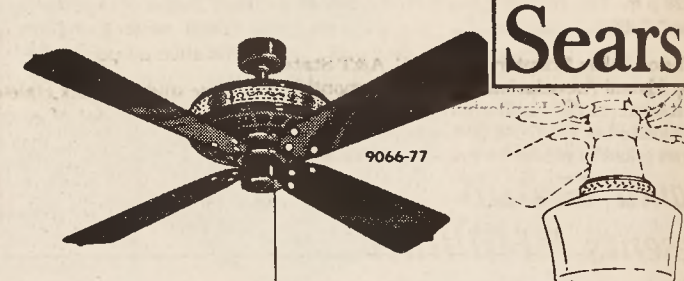
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