STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Welcome Center Opens

Robert and Virginia Sumberg (center) of Bradford, Mass., were among the first people to stop at the Southeastern Welcome Center when it officially opened for business Monday. They were headed to Key West, Fla., and hoped to play some golf along the way. The welcome center is located on the U.S. 17 Shallotte bypass at N.C. 130 West. Also pictured are Sabrina Hodges (left), welcome center director and Margaret Means, information counselor.

Joint Resolution Sets In Motion Creation Of Science-Math Center

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick County Board of Education member Robert Slockett was smiling Monday night as the school board's five-hour meeting came to an end.

The board voted approval of a joint resolution that, when approved by the Brunswick Community College Board of Trustees, will create a committee to organize a math and science education center for Brunswick County.

BCC trustees are expected to approve the resolution at their February meeting, said school board attorney Glen Peterson.

The school board's quiet, unanimous vote brought to reality a dream Slockett has pursued with zeal and persistence for more than a year. A retired research scientist, he has been a strong advocate of school-industry partnerships, particularly in establishing such a center on a county or regional basis.

The resolution calls for appointment of a seven-member committee. That committee will be charged with pursing all aspects of organization of the center, said Peterson, including bylaws, format, location and whether it should have a full-time or part-time director.

The committee is to report on or before April 1 to key figures at BCC and in the school after it meets and prepares recommendations and suggestions "for the legal and structural framework of the center" and possibly other recommendations as well.

The committee will be made up of two persons each appointed by Superintendent of Schools P.R. Hankins and BCC President Michael Reaves, and then three representatives of Brunswick County industry to be appointed by those four members.

Establishing a permanent program for advancement of science and mathematics education would be, the resolution states, "a creative and effective approach to enhance Teacher proficiency and student learning."

The resolution and proposal as described is modeled basically after a center established in Aiken, S.C., as a joint effort of industry, the school system and the local branch of the state university, with start-up grants from businesses and industry.

Fellow board members have supported the concept of a math-science education center, but were hesitant to commit the school system as a lead agency for the project. They had wanted Slockett to provide more details on how such a center would be organized and funded before committing to such a major venture with partners.

Since then, a number of local businesses and industries as well as BCC have expressed interest in supporting the project.

BCC President Michael Reaves and BCC Board of Trustees Chairman met with Board of Education Chairman Donna Baxter and Superintendent P.R. Hankins and Peterson in January to begin laying the groundwork for a joint venture that Peterson describes as "rather unique".

Street Lights Coming To Holden Beach

BY DOUG RUTTER

Holden Beach officials expect to have about 176 street lights in place by the start of the summer tourist season.

That's the plan commissioners approved Monday when they voted to have "decora" lights erected at each intersection and spaced 500 feet apart between intersections.

Lights will be erected on 20-foot fiberglass poles and placed on the north side of Ocean Boulevard, where underground wiring and the sidewalk are located.

Town officials haven't decided which side of the street the lights will be placed on other streets.

Approval of the lighting program comes about a year after a controversial ordinance regulating lights outside homes and businesses took effect.

"We've had a year of extremely hard feeling and knit-picking," Commissioner Sid Swarts said at Monday's board meeting.

Holden Beach will rent the lights from Brunswick Electric Membership Corp., which erected four samples on the island last week for public viewing.

Besides two of the "decora" model, BEMC also put up two sample "metro" lights, which are used in Shallotte and Varnamtown.

The "decora" lights are seated in rectangular housings and direct the light downward more than the "metro" lights.

Town Manager Gary Parker said each 100-watt, high-pressure sodium light will cost the town $14 per month.

Street lights at each of the community's 80 intersections and every 500 feet in between will run the town approximately $29,600 per year.

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

"DECORA" LIGHTS like this one will be erected on Holden Beach within the next few months.

The annual cost of the lights will be equal to about 1 1/2 cents on the tax rate, Parker said.

Monthly rent for the lights will be around $2,500. Parker said the town may have to pay up to two months rent before the new budget year starts in July.

BEMC officials told Parker they expect it will take about one month to have the lights ordered and shipped and another two months to install them.

Most town commissioners, including the ones who said they don't like street lights, agreed Monday that they prefer the "decora" to the "metro."

Commissioner Jim Fournier said he prefers the "metro" model because it casts a larger pool of light and would provide more home security.

"The 'decora' lights 500 feet apart won't offer any security whatsoever," said Fournier, who had to remove a security light at his home after the light ordinance took effect in November 1990.

But Commissioners David Sandifer and Gay Atkins said the purpose of the street lights is to light the streets, not provide security for private residences.

Homeowners are still allowed to put up security lights at their homes if they follow the town's guidelines.

Commissioners offered conflicting reports Monday night about what the residents think about street lights and which model they prefer.

Fournier said everyone he talked to wants street lights of some sort, and they are evenly split between the "metro" and "decora" models.

However, Commissioner Atkins said only half of the community wants street lights, and most agree that "decora" lights are the least objectionable.

Most of the residents who spoke at Monday's meeting said they preferred the "decora" lights to the "metro."

"You put up 175 of those 'metro' lights and this place is going to look like New York City," said Crawford Hart.

Residents Judy Bryan and Bob Rohde didn't get a response from the board when they asked if homeowners could request that a light be shielded or moved away from their property.

LOT SALE
Lakewood Estates
a manufactured home development minutes from Ocean Isle Beach
Lots from $6,900
Doublewide Home/lot packages from $39,900
Eagle Marketing & Management
(800)852-9040 • Locally 579-7988

BALD HEAD ISLAND
ISLAND DINING ADVENTURE

Visit us on Bald Head Island for a truly unique lunch or dinner package. You'll depart from our mainland ferry terminal at Indigo Plantation Marina in Southport. After a scenic twenty minute ferry ride you'll arrive on beautiful Bald Head Island.

LUNCH PACKAGE
$25 per couple

DINNER PACKAGE
$45 per couple

Package includes:
Parking Ticket, Round Trip Ferry Ticket and Entreé.

Friday and Saturday Only

For reservations call
1-800-722-6450

Nino's ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Want to do something special for your sweetheart on Valentine's Day?

Take her (or him) to dinner at Nino's--Romantic atmosphere, great food, very reasonable prices--
It's always *Perfecto!*

•Serving Hours: 5-10 PM Mon.-Sat.
•Lounge Opens at 5 PM

Reservations Suggested *Major Credit Cards Accepted*

HWY. 17, LITTLE RIVER, SC **(803)249-7666**

AT OCEAN ISLE
BRING HOME THE BEACON
On Sale At
ISLANDER RESTAURANT
OCEAN ISLE BEACH SHOP
OCEAN ISLE EXXON STATION
OCEAN ISLE PIER
OCEAN ISLE SEAFOOD
OCEAN ISLE SUPERMARKET
PARTY MART
SHEFFIELD'S

NOW YOUR AD CAN REACH
ALL OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR ONLY
$200
25 WORDS
$6 each additional word

N.C. STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

BLANKET NORTH CAROLINA
OVER 120 NEWSPAPERS
(For more information, call this newspaper or...)

SIMPLY FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR CHECK.
(No Phone Orders. Larger order forms are available from this newspaper.)
Name _____
Address _____
_____ Zip _____
Advertising Copy: _____

25 Words—$6 each additional word over 25.
Word count: Telephone numbers (including area code) equal one word. Post office box numbers as two words, box numbers and route numbers as two words. The name of the city, state and zip code each count as one word. Other customary words count as one.

SEND TO:
THE BRUNSWICK BEACON
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPT.
P.O. BOX 2558, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459
(919)754-6890