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Cox is nominated to fill ARPDC vice-chair

Hertford Mayor and Town Manager Bill Cox was nominated to serve as vice chairman of the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission at their regular monthly meeting last Thursday.

Also under consideration for commission offices are: Raleigh Carver, chairman of the Pasquotank County commissioners, who was selected by the nominating committee to serve as chairman, replacing Mayor Donald Bryan of Nags Head; and C.M. Stokes, of Washington County, nominated to serve as secretary.

The commission will vote on new officers at the next regular monthly meeting, slated for Oct. 16. Bryan told commission members that other nominees could also be placed on the ballot at the October meeting.

Cox was also appointed to serve on the by-law committee, along with E.V. Wilkins of Roper, Jack Tillett of Dare, Alton Elmore of Chowan, and James Ryan of Tyrell.

In other business, commission members heard that the personnel

committee expected to begin reviewing applicants for the position of executive director sometime this week.

The director's position has been empty for some three months, due to the resignation of former ARPDC director Robert Whitley in June.

The Perquimans and Chowan nutrition contracts were returned to Joseph Brown of Elizabeth City, reversing the commission's earlier decision to award the catering service to the Washington Department of Social Services.

Brown's firm will also serve Camden, Currituck, Gates, and Pasquotank. The Washington public agency was awarded service for Washington and Tyrell counties.

The nutrition service, which caters to the elderly, encompasses a 10-county area and will go into effect Oct. 1. The service provides some 425 meals a day for 250 days a year at a total cost of \$218,526.

It was also announced that ARPDC had been requested to administrate a \$289,000 apprenticeship program, proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The program, purported to be the first of its kind in the state, would involve 35 participants in a four-year curriculum geared toward industrial training, with DOL footing 50 percent of on-the-job training salaries.

Area community colleges would provide the projected 40 percent classroom training. The remaining 60 percent instruction would be gained on the job.

The apprenticeship program, geared toward the disadvantaged, also proposes to provide necessary tools, child care, health care, and some transportation. Participants' earnings would start at minimum wage.

ARPDC's administrative support, which was endorsed by the commission Thursday night, would require the hiring of two full-time employees.

The Albemarle Area Apprenticeship Association, chartered on June 10 of this year, consists of 24 area businesses who have agreed to provide job training and night school instruction.



Open house is scheduled for PCHS addition

The \$1.25 million Perquimans County High School addition is in full use, and with the recent arrival of office and lounge furniture, ready for inspection.

The county board of education will host an open house of the high school addition and renovations on Sunday, Oct. 5, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Schools superintendent Pat Harrell said that students will serve as tour guides during the open house, and that teachers would also be on hand in the newly-renovated library to answer

any questions. He said that no formal dedication ceremony had been planned.

Begun in January of 1979, the addition project was some 18 months in the making before reaching completion just in time for school's opening in August.

Although slated to be completed last February, the project suffered several setbacks, largely due to the ferocity of last winter's weather.

Designed by architects of Ashford and Associates, out of Raleigh, the

addition consists of 12 new classrooms, 2 dressing rooms adjacent to the gymnasium, an administrative area, teachers' lounge, a renovated library, and public restroom facilities designed to accommodate gym activities.

The addition will help ease some of the pinch of overcrowded conditions at the high school. Many classes had been meeting in areas not designed as classrooms last year, such as the cafeteria and the auditorium.

Restoration continues at Newbold-White

Although restoration work on the Newbold-White house is moving steadily along, sources are reluctant to project a completion date for the historic-house museum, claimed to be the oldest extant building in North Carolina.

Hopes had initially been set on July of 1980 as the completion date for restoring the Harvey-Point Road house to its pre-Georgian state. When July came and went, autumn became the completion target. Fall is upon us, and the work continues.

"In my opinion, it will be finished at least by the last of the year," said William Nixon, president of the Perquimans County Restoration Society.

W.M. Kemp, the contractor in charge of restoration efforts said he hated to put a date on the project's end. "It's like your own house," he said, "it's never finished

— it is a continuous process." Kemp did say, however, "that it won't be too long before we can turn the public into it."

Much of the delay in the project's completion was due to the scarcity of the heart pine needed for the flooring. The wood was finally found after a year's search and the flooring has been completed on the first floor. A portion of the upstairs flooring has to be plastered and replaced.

Nixon said they had encountered some difficulty in aging the heart pine. "We're trying to make it look like the old floor and that's not easy," he said.

Kemp said the seal used to preserve the flooring material has a dry base, rather than an oil base, which will allow the wood to age.

Also completed is the partition be-

tween the two main floor rooms, and much of the hardware, crafted by blacksmiths Rick Guthrie and former county resident David Brewin.

Nixon said that the heating and air-conditioning pump had been installed, as well as the underground power line and the ADT security system.

The furniture report, completed by Betsy Overton of Ahoskie, has been issued and is presently being looked over by staff members at the Department of Archives and History in Raleigh, as are recommendations issued from a Charlottesville, Va. firm, which has offered a plan of operating procedures.

Two doors for the ground floor have yet to be completed.

Restoration of the root cellar behind the house is also anticipated, as well as public restroom facilities.

Amateur archeologist high on Nixon's Point



W.C. Dozier has good backing for his belief that sites on Nixon's Point, the location of the River Croft development, are of historical interest.

In his walks through fields on the point, Dozier has found a great many pottery fragments and metal objects, both Indian and Colonial that he believes are of archeological value.

Dozier, 80, might be described as an amateur archeologist. Following his retirement he spent 10 or 12 years walking through the fields of the county after harvest-time, looking for bits and pieces from the past.

Some of his best finds have been at Nixon's Point. Dozier's metal collection includes shoe buckles, a metal button, an English half penny from the 1700s and other items.

Among them is a pair of cuff-links Dozier believes to be crafted from silver.

"I found one one year and said to myself, 'there's probably another one here.' I came back a year later and found the other one in the same area," he said.

Dozier uses books by Williamsburg's chief archeologist, Ivor Noel Hume, to

help him identify his findings.

Two of Hume's staff members once inspected Dozier's findings, and were particularly impressed with his display of metal objects collected at Nixon's Point.

"They said they hadn't seen that much picked up at any one time and in any one area since Williamsburg," Dozier said.

The pottery Dozier has picked up at the site includes bits of English salt-glaze dishes, and fragments of Rhinish stoneware mugs and pitchers of the sort often used in Colonial taverns.

Dozier has also found large fragments of tobacco pipes, and the combination of items he has found at the site indicates that there may have been a tavern there, he said.

He has also come across shards of Indian pottery, and arrowheads, and said that some of them date back 8,000 years.

County historian Ray Winslow said that any Indians who might have dwelt on the property would have been of the Yeopim tribe.

He said that in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, there were

two farms on Nixon's Point, and one of them may have been located where River Croft will be developed.

Winslow said, however, that he knew of no "documentary evidence or authoritative testimony" as to the historical value of the site.

Although he has done no excavation on the Nixon's Point site, or any other site for that matter, Dozier said he has found what he believes to be an old foundation on the property.

"I could show whoever's interested," said Dozier. He said the point was also once used for loading ships bound for foreign ports with Colonial exports.

"There are tons of ballast rock off that point where ships loaded produce and whatever they took to England," Dozier said.

He would like to see an archeologist go over the property to look for items of value before it is destroyed.

"The only thing this does is prove that there was something there and that these things were used," Dozier said in reference to his collection.

Elaine Nelson, of the Archeology

Division of the state department of archives, said that it would be up to the Army Corps of Engineers to make provisions for preserving historic sites if any are located within the dredge-excitation permit area.

She said the corps is aware of the historic merit of the property.

"I don't think the site is in any danger of being destroyed," Ms. Nelson said.

The waterfront development had been put on hold after state historic preservation officer Larry Tice said that two known archeological sites were thought to be located on the property.

"Unfortunately, our information only consists of a Department of Transportation county map," Tice wrote to state officials.

Developer Robert Hollowell, Sr. said last Thursday (Sept. 18) that an assistant permits coordinator with the state department of natural resources and community development had told him that a permit authorizing him to proceed was in the mail.

Hollowell said he had not received the permit as of that date.

Schools get money for transportation

The Perquimans County School board met last Monday at the PCHS library as the first destination of their recently adopted rotating meeting place policy.

The board will meet next month at the County Office Building on Oct. 6, at 8 p.m.

Schools superintendent Pat Harrell told the board that those students who had not met the state immunization requirements as of Monday, Sept. 22, would be expelled.

Harrell later said that no students within the school system had failed to meet immunization requirements, with the possible exceptions of a few transfer

students, who were not subject to the suspension rule.

The board discussed the Hertford Grammar School chimney and roof repair project, with no action being taken.

The chimney was struck by lightning last month and is being repaired, along with a portion of the roof, for \$10,650. Chimney repair was expected to be completed by Wednesday, according to Harrell, with roof work beginning next week. Harrell also said that lightning protection rods would be installed on the chimney next week.

Harrell told board members that the

school system had received \$16,816 in federal monies to be used for the transportation for exceptional children.

The board also:

- Discussed the property insurance for board-owned facilities and contents, with no action being taken.

- Heard that as of Sept. 8, on the tenth school day, that total enrollment within the county was 1,767, excluding trainable students.

- Heard that the hydraulic lift has been installed in the high school auto mechanic shop and that the building was ready for occupancy.

- Granted permission for the Band

Boosters Club to locate a flag pole on the Perquimans County Athletic Field.

- Approved a list of substitute teachers for the 1980-81 school year. (The list is on file in the Board of Education office.)

- Approved a \$6,000 contractual agreement with Franz L. Van Baars, Perquimans County Artist in the Schools, for employment from Aug. 25 to Jan. 12, 1981.

- Approved a contract with the Northeastern Developmental, Evaluation Clinic in the amount of \$3,000 for physical therapy and occupational therapy services.

Dozier displays findings from Nixon's Point