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Merchants To Ask City For Codes Enforcement

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

The June 23 city commission meeting a four-man committee from the downtown merchants group will ask for enforcement of city codes and for the city codes to be made on site inspections with the idea of business house landlords and tenants specific code enforcement.

downtown merchants are asking. All we've been told is that we have to upgrade, those of us who will still have our same

buildings after redevelopment, but we have no specifics. I don't think many landlords are even aware of the

responsibilities they have in this matter." Gene White, executive director of the redevelopment

commission, said, "You have hit on the key point. There are two ways you can go about this. First, you can have the commission's architect (C. Crawford Murphy) go on site and make recommendations. He can bring you up to standard or give you plans that will take you far in excess of standards.

"But the real crux of the matter is building codes enforcement," White continued. "You can have a committee go to city hall and demand codes enforcement. Those codes explain in painful detail everything expected of structures in town."

Griffin said that sounded alright, but also said he felt it would not go far enough. "What about the landlord who doesn't live in Kings Mountain? All he's interested in is receiving his rent check. He couldn't care less about upgrading his building. It won't work unless the landlord is served with a notice of items that must be taken care of. You have to give him a time



MAKING A MOTION—Wilson Griffin made the motion downtown merchants seek codes enforcement from the city to aid planning in the heart of Kings Mountain business area during a meeting with the redevelopment commission last Thursday.



APPOINTING COMMITTEE—William S. Fulton named a four man committee to approach the Kings Mountain Codes Director about codes enforcement during Thursday's meeting. The effort is to bring about faster rejuvenation of the downtown business area.

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Pedestrian Walk Planned

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

With the approval from the Department of Housing and Urban Development of a \$100,000 demolition contract Bradley Jenkins of Gasline 30 buildings downtown scheduled to come down. McGinnis, assistant director of the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission, last week that to date 100 individuals and 31 businesses have been moved at a cost of \$111,996.10.

The top edges of the planters will be sharply angled instead of flat to prevent people from sitting on the planters. Benches on either side of the planters will be provided for pedestrians. Birch trees will be planted in the planters.

"This walk will run to the area where the steps from the parking area lead down to First Union National Bank," McGinnis said. "The old Sterchi's warehouse will be removed and the city will pave the parking area."

At the rear of the pedestrian walk will be an elevated platform with steps and an angled ramp for wheelchairs and the elderly's convenience. McGinnis said the platform will be used for an exhibit area (local artists, KM Arts Council projects, etc.).

"When the project is finished this pedestrian walk will run clear across the downtown business district north to south," McGinnis said. "There will be another-running across the district east and west, across the railroad tracks to beyond the Railroad Ave. businesses."

In response to a question about losing businesses and people in the downtown area during this period, McGinnis said, "We will lose people and businesses. We already have. But a few of the businesses

we've lost were lost because the merchants wished it so."

He said the City of Hickory went through the same problem, losing about one third of its business population to outlying shopping centers. "This lasted about one year, then those businesses moved back to the downtown area and business is booming. The downtown area in Kings Mountain does have some drawbacks. There isn't enough variety and presently the parking situation hurts us, but with the interest from different businesses in locating here and the construction all of this will change."

'No Bank Fishing' Brings Authority Citizen Gripes

Sharp criticism is being aimed at the Kings Mountain Lake Authority because of its no embankment fishing rule at John H. Moss Lake.

To date more than a dozen citizens have been charged by lake wardens with violating the embankment fishing rule. The reason stated by lake authority board members is it is against health department requirements.

However, the Cleveland County Health Department denies the practice of fishing from the shores at the Moss Lake is against their requirements. The state health department also states it has no rules against it. However, the state department has suggested to the local authority that fishing from the banks be controlled.

Mayor John Moss, who chairs the authority, said the authority made the decision to ban bank fishing altogether on the advice of health officials and engineers.

The mayor said the advice came from W. J. Stevenson, head of the water supply branch, sanitary engineering section, division of Health Services, Department of Human Resources. "He recommended the authority maintain tight controls on and around the lake and that no bank fishing be allowed," Mayor Moss is quoted as saying.

Last week Stevenson again said he felt Kings Mountain had made the right decision in not allowing bank fishing at the lake. He said it was a decision made solely by the local lake authority and not under any specific regulation of the state health department.

Fishing in the lake is permitted only with a license or permit and from a boat only in designated areas.



REV. PASCHAL WAUGH
Rev. Waugh Re-Elected Secretary

Rev. R. Paschal Waugh, pastor of Central United Methodist Church, was re-elected Secretary of the Western North Carolina Conference which comprises 14 districts of Piedmont and Western North Carolina Methodism.

Rev. Mr. Waugh was also elected a delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Church to be held in Portland, Oregon April 27-May 7, 1976 and a delegate to Jurisdictional Conference in July 1976 at Lake Junaluska.

Both Rev. and Mrs. Waugh attended the recent week-long conference.

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Eaton Sent Suggestions

Mayor John Moss and County Commissioner Josh Hinnant have submitted some suggested temporary solutions to Eaton Corporation officials on a sewer line to the Kings Mountain plant.

"A permanent solution will come about in 1976 when the southeastern collector line, under the 201 plan, is constructed," Mayor Moss said.

Hinnant, speaking for the county commissioners, said he is hopeful Eaton's corporate heads will find one of the suggestions submitted acceptable and that work can begin to bring sewer facilities to the local plant temporarily until the 201 plan can be put into effect.

Jobs Available

Around 80 Kings Mountain will be hired here this summer under the Neighborhood Youth Corps program and the Comprehensive Employment Training Act of 1963.

Gary Pearson of the employment security commission said applications are being processed to find qualifying citizens.

The Mayor's Summer Youth Job Program committee is again accepting applications. To apply contact Joe Ann McDaniel at the mayor's office.

School Board Accepts Budget Of \$1,259,537

The board of education accepted a \$1,259,537 budget and a supplemental tax rate of 16 cents per \$100 valuation in its regular monthly meeting Monday night.

Supt. Don Jones said the budget reflects only a \$47,000 increase over last year. That increase, he said, comes in utilities and some programs not financed by the state.

Jones announced that the system will have some cut-back in personnel but it will come in not replacing persons who are retiring.

Assistant superintendent Bill Bates discussed the budget, which was approved by the county commissioners Monday afternoon.

"This is strictly a hold the line budget; where we had to spend more in one particular area we made up by cutting back in another," he said.

Jones said several construction projects, including the renovation of the Grover auditorium and replacement of floors at Central, will have to be delayed. Plans were to convert the Grover building into administration offices.

"We hope to consider doing this in the spring," said Jones, "if we can get through the winter without any major problems."

Anticipated income included the supplemental taxes, up one penny from last year, \$230,000; unencumbered balance, \$70,000; occupational education, \$303,000; fines, forfeitures, etc., \$43,000; ad valorem taxes \$456,607.

Accounts considered self-supporting include lunchroom, \$400,000; Title One, Two and Three, \$120,650; and Head Start, \$120,000.

Major expenses include administrative and clerical salaries, \$70,332.21; and instructional service, \$548,350.80.

Other items include plant operation, \$121,222; plant

maintenance, \$152,114; insurance, retirement and social security, \$87,350; capital outlay for new buildings and grounds, \$50,000; and maintenance of old buildings and grounds, \$206,364.

In other business, the board:

— Approved \$900 for renewal course work to certified staff members who cannot earn renewal credit under regular staff development programs.

— Discussed a survey made by teachers of the 1,016 exceptional students in the system and 558 who are waiting to be served.

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Forrest Wheeler Takes KMSH Principal Office

William Forrest Wheeler, 41, of Toccoa, Ga., will assume the principalship of Kings Mountain Senior High School July 15, Supt. Don Jones said yesterday.

Mr. Wheeler is currently assistant superintendent of the Toccoa School System, has also served as principal, head basketball and assistant foot-

ball coach and assistant principal of Toccoa High.

Supt. Jones said Mr. Wheeler is completing his sixth year program in education leadership certification which represents one year more than a Master's Degree at the University of Georgia.

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One Day He Could Save Your Life....



EARL HOLLIFIELD

Earl Hollifield earns his daily bread as a compressor operator-mechanic at Foote Mineral Co., but his community involvement includes five years with the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad.

Earl and his wife, the former Miss Evelyn Coffey of Linville, reside at 205 Park Dr. They have been citizens of Kings Mountain for the past 19 years and, as Earl says, "We've been here long enough to feel this city is home."

In his volunteer work with the rescue squad Earl said his wife is behind him all the way.

Earl's previous medical knowledge came from serving as a medic in the Army during World War II. Since joining the rescuers Earl has spent many hours in classes learning more and more about the emergency medical treatment of people. "I'm even qualified to deliver babies, but so far I haven't had to do that. It's about the only experience I haven't had in my five years with the squad."

Earl sees his work as a means of being of service to the community and has no second thoughts about being involved in such work. "I was invited to come to a meeting by a friend who was already involved," Earl said. "I liked what I saw and heard and decided to volunteer my services. I still like it."

The Hollifields have two sons, Morgan and Skip, both residents of Kings Mountain.

McGinnis said J. E. Hern-Cotton Processing Co. is moving from the area to the company facilities near the City highway. The first demolition job the 900 day contract is under Delinger Jewel Warlick and Ken's Shop buildings on W. Main St. That will leave Cox building on the west side and the building housing a room on the east side which is to become pedestrian walkway. The work contract will be a month after the building is down," McGinnis said. "This is going to be one of the most exciting features of the downtown area. The wall on the east side will be done in a brick with an artistic brick standing out from the building. Plans also call for decorative lighting for night to highlight the beauty of the building." McGinnis said the floor of the foot wide walk will be paved with six-sided bricks (individual blocks) which will be easy to remove and if underground work is done (wiring, water, gas line installation) to be done by cutting up paving. The redeveloper said that also call for placing the planters in the center of the walk at specific intervals.