

# The Riviera HOMEOWNERS NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 1971  
President: Richard Hall, 375-3248

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Editor: Rosalie Woodward, 375-6390

## MARCH 1st MEETING: MIDDLE SCHOOLS - YES OR NO?

As most parents are now aware, the TUSD school board is considering the implementation of a "middle school" system throughout the district. The administration is preparing a report to the board on the possible addition of two middle schools to the two now in operation, so that there would be one in each section of the city.

At our March 1st meeting an administration team headed by Dr. E.J. Richardson (former Parkway principal) will discuss the middle school concept as it would apply to the Riviera-Newton-Parkway schools. It is their hope to register resident reaction to the plan as well as to inform. Be there - this is your chance to participate in important two-way communication.

Monday, March 1st, 8:00 p.m. Parkway School.

## ANNUAL RHA ELECTIONS

The nominating committee, chaired by Scotty Finlay, has submitted the following slate for the 1971-72 term:

President	Joe Clukey	
1st vice-president	Don Geiler	
2nd vice-president	Bud Skolich	
Recording secretary	Gladys Meade	
Corresponding secretary	Katie Geissert	
Treasurer	Evelyn Clukey	
Executive Council:	Carl Becker	Millie Schoenberg
	Dick Hall	Bob White
	Vivian Jay	Rosalie Woodward



Voting will be held at the regular March meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor. Please come out and vote.

• **Issues and Information of Importance to the Riviera** •

STATUS REPORT ON SAVE OUR BEACH

On February 5, Los Angeles County Counsel John Maharg wrote Supervisor Burton Chace his legal opinion on the proposed apartment development on our beach. Here are some excerpts from the opinion:

"It is my conclusion ....that the [property] is impressed with an easement for the public for recreation purposes and that in all likelihood a court would so determine . . ."

"... I feel that it is at this point imperative that this office proceed accordingly to protect the public interest in this property by initiating appropriate litigation."

On February 8 Supervisor Chace wrote the developer, Oscar Berk, explaining the proposed action by the County. Here are quotations from the letter:

"... several meetings with the County Counsel - as well as his official position - have convinced me that the County is legally bound to invoke the public rights spelled out in the Gion decision. The County Counsel advises me very strongly that this position is the only one the Board of Supervisors can legally take at this time."

"...I can see no alternative but to allow the previous Board order to stand and let the matter be settled in the courts. This means the County Counsel will take whatever legal steps are necessary to prevent any construction on the beach portion of your property."

"Meanwhile it is my decision that we should pursue the objective of securing State, Federal, or local money so that we might buy the portion of your property above the slope for County use."

It has been a long battle since that meeting on November 30, but it looks like we are home free now. The "portion of your property above the slope" includes the part on the Torrance side. So it appears that the thorn of the old Beach Club property will finally be removed from the side of the Riviera Homeowners Association. After ten years, it will feel good.

cont'd —

The Association owes a great debt of thanks to Supervisor Chace and his deputy Ken Johnson, to Dick Fitzgerald, and to the staff of the County Counsel's office. No small debt is owed to our attorney Carl Becker for the time he put in for the Association.

It is nice to report a happy ending. But it was even nicer to have been able to tell Supervisor Chace of the enormous support by all the area residents of the Association's fight to keep the beach for all the people. Your continued support will be needed when the evidentiary material is collected for the court cases by the County on the Beach Club property and by the City of Torrance on the south end of Torrance Beach. We really haven't won until the judge so decides, so be prepared to help provide the County and the City with good evidence of public use of these lands.



#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I was recently asked by one of our members what can be done by the Association about blocking of views by neighbors' trees additions etc. At a recent Executive Board meeting this matter was discussed. The conclusion arrived at was "nothing". Let me explain the reasons behind this conclusion. One is that a tree blocking your view may be blocking something ugly at your neighbor's. The other is that the Board of the Riviera Homeowners Association has no authority to act as arbiter to tell someone he should trim his tree. All we can do is appeal to everyone to try to get along as good neighbors. As to additions which block views, these are matters for the Art Jury of the Community Association.

If your neighbor comes to you complaining about one of your trees blocking his view, listen to him and try to cooperate. But the one complaining should listen as well. His neighbor may have valid reasons for liking his tree that tall. Above all, remember that you are neighbors and may continue to be for quite a while. Don't start a feud because you can't see the Edison plant anymore.

- Dick Hall