

'Round Table' Is Changed After First Year

By MARY PADEN

FARMINGTON The Farmington school board revised the floundering Student Round Table, an advisory group of students, administrators and board members, at a study session last week.

The Round Table began in February and met monthly until school closed in June. Its purposes, as Supt. Roderick Smith put it, is to "try to open channels of communication which heretofore have been rather lacking."

But the effectiveness of the program was questioned by the students who participated. In evaluation letters, they

complained of a lack of direction and involvement on the part of other students.

"THE NAME 'Round Table' is a fit," said a member of the North Farmington High School Student Council, "because they just seemed to go around the table in a circle with no direction, purpose or power."

"I don't see any student participation this year," he said. "It seemed like we were just hitting our head against a brick wall last year."

"The end result of the meetings was not as productive as we had hoped," said Dr. Smith. "We were careful not to let the meetings

be dominated by adults, and they did not progress at the rate we had hoped."

So with students uninitiated into meeting procedures and the adults wary that any attempt on their part to direct the meetings would anger the students, all participants felt frustrated.

The new procedures, worked out by a committee headed by board member Aldo Vagnozzi streamlines the membership and sets up a definite meeting and report schedule.

Details such as meeting places, times and agendas were left up to the Round Table.

One student suggested the board provide the Round Table with advance copies of its agendas so the Round Table could discuss items to come before the board.

THE NEW ROUND TABLE will have 12 members—six fewer than last year.

Six will be students—two from each of the district's three high schools. The student government of each school will decide how they are to be selected.

One high school principal, the superintendent and assistant superintendent and three members of the school board will also sit on the panel.

The Round Table would meet once a month and meet with the school board at a study session every other month. Periodic reports from the Round Table are to be made to the board at least twice a year, and students administrators and board members are to report back to the groups they represent after each monthly meeting.

THE MOST controversial section of the new guidelines says "student representatives or alternates may be invited to serve in an advisory role with board committees at the discretion of the committee."

Some board members thought this would prevent

them from calling in other students.

"I think this will tie the board down by forcing us to go to this Round Table group," said board member Ron Emmitt.

Vagnozzi said it did not prevent other students from testifying but provided a channel for student Round Table members to take their ideas directly to the board.

BOARD MEMBERS also differed on how many principals should sit on the Round Table but finally agreed to follow the committee's recommendation of one principal.

Two alternatives were

suggested to retain the balance of six students to six adults: (1) three principals, one administrator, two board members and six students and (2) no principals, three administrators, three board members and six students.

"Last year there were three principals on the panel, and I found they tended to stick together," said Vagnozzi. "If one principal said he didn't think something would work at his school, the other two would immediately agree with him."

A suggestion was made to include a teacher representative, but the board decided students and teachers could

communicate enough during school hours.

Last year Vagnozzi said the Round Table discussed the effect of the new age on majority law on school policies and the school's smoking policy. They also became involved in the mileage campaign. He said there was good attendance at the luncheon meetings.

Three students in the audience said they were pleased with the new guidelines.

"Of course, I hope that sometime in the future a student advisor will be added to the board," said one student.

Repairs Wait For Financing

FARMINGTON

Lytle St., a short street running between the I-96 expressway and Nine Mile Rd. on the west side of Farmington Township, is crumbling under heavy traffic "until it may become a gravel road," residents complained to the township board Monday.

Repairs are estimated at \$9,000, but the method of payment became an issue for the township board. Oakland County wants to split the cost 50-50, but the township board is arguing that the county should pay the full cost, using maintenance funds to pay the township share.

THE BOARD WAS in agreement that they were tired of having the county end up each year with a surplus in the maintenance budget, with streets still needing repair.

"But we don't want to use the people along the road as pawns in our arrangement with the county," Trustee David Stader said.

"It is a question of years and years of the county road commission walking away from responsibility," Trustee Fredrick Lichtman said.

Horace Elliott, president of the Farmington Village Assn., pleaded with the board for repairs, saying the residents in the area were willing to get the work done any way possible.

He was promised a decision by the Sept. 11 meeting of the board, after the board had argued with the county.



PAUL BREEDING receives a Red Cross certificate for his volunteer work at Farmington Nursing Home from Mrs. Rosa Morgan, special activities director. Mrs. Barbara Silverman, direc-

tor of nursing, and Betsy Smith, of the Red Cross Youth Staff, helped hand out certificates to the volunteers at a ceremony Monday.

Red Cross Honors Volunteer Nurses

FARMINGTON Sixty-three teenagers from the Farmington area were honored Monday for their volunteer work at the Farmington Nursing Home, 30405 Folsom Rd.

The Candy Strippers most of them 15 to 16 years old were presented awards by the Red Cross for filling their pledges of volunteer hours. They volunteered between 50 and 200 hours.

The Candy Strippers "helped

make the days more palatable" for the 173 aged residents of the nursing home, said executive director Joseph Mash, by taking them for walks, writing their letters, running errands and taking them to religious services and therapy.

"Many of them continue to work a couple hours after school and on weekends and holidays," Mash said. "Many have decided they want to become nurses because of their experiences here."

Building Appeals Board Forming

FARMINGTON Builders in Farmington Township will soon have to deal with two changes in policy.

An appeals board for the building department is being formed to handle variations in the building code.

The five member board is required by ordinance, but has

never been needed. Township Clerk Floyd Cairns told the township board Monday. Several appeals have been filed, and the five-man committee needs to be appointed, he said.

The board members said they would look for appointments and expected to name the board at the next meeting Sept. 11.

In a related move, the board considered—but did not act on—an ordinance setting fees for site plans presented for approval.

Marquette Tale Reenactment Set Sept. 1-3

ST. IGNACE The sixth annual presentation of "The Black Gown Tree," a pageant dramatizing the life of the great missionary-explorer, Father Jacques Marquette, is scheduled for Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1-3 in St. Ignace, at the north end of the Mackinac Bridge.

Father Marquette established his mission and the beginning of present-day St. Ignace in 1671. More than 100 townspeople, under the directorship of Prof. John C. McCabe, director of communication arts at Lake Superior State College, Sault Ste. Marie, enact the story of Marquette's adventures both in St. Ignace and throughout the Mississippi Valley which he and Jolliet were the first white men to explore.

The dramatic pageant takes place on the shores of Moran Bay in St. Ignace, starting at 2 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of Labor Day weekend, and is free to the public.

Robert Gilmour Gets Degree

FARMINGTON Robert Gilmour, 30955 Foxgrove, Farmington, is a candidate for a BS degree in psychology at the Grand Valley State College. He is one of more than 100 students receiving degrees at the end of the summer term.



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Arts Institute Offers Tours

DETROIT Popular demand has put the Detroit Institute of Arts' "Museum Look-Around" tour on a six-day weekly schedule through Labor Day.

Tuesday through Sunday at 12 noon, institute visitors are invited to meet a Docent guide in the museum's Farnsworth lobby.

Works of art displayed in 101 air-conditioned galleries are shown in a one-hour tour conducted by some 20 trained volunteers of the Founders Society, and embellished with historical and architectural comments.

Among the tour guides are Mrs. William Ernst and Mrs. Harris D. Silvers of Southfield.

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Sealed proposals will be received by the Village of Quakertown, 32665 Biddlestone Lane, Farmington, Michigan, Telephone No. 476-4082 for the construction of concrete paved ditch and storm sewer as described in the attached proposal specifications and drawings.

Proposals will be received up to 8:00 o'clock P.M. E.S.T. on Monday, September 11, 1972, at which time all bids will be opened and read.

The work shall be performed on the premises of the Owner located in the Village of Quakertown, Farmington, Michigan. The right is reserved by the Village of Quakertown to accept any proposal to meet any proposal and to waive irregularities in proposal.

VIVIAN M. JUROSEK, Clerk
Village of Quakertown
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