

It's final Council is now commission

The Farmington Area Arts Council has now become the Arts Commission. Farmington and Farmington Hills city councils recently approved the move and each group appointed residents to the commission at their meetings last week.

Those appointed to serve on the newly formed commission from Farmington are John Allen, Otis Henry and Alice Nichols. Farmington Hills entities to its appointment named Marlowe Belanger, arts council president, Frederick Lachman, Nancy Bates, Harmond Alaudine, Kay Brings and Beverly Ellis to the commission.

Mrs. Belanger, acting chairman of the new group until officers are elected, said the first meeting will be last Friday evening.

Mrs. Belanger said, "The provision of the council was always to dissolve upon formation of a commission."

She was elected president of the council in 1972 and since that time has been working for official recognition from both cities.

With this hurdle out of the way, she is optimistic about the future.

The needed sanction from the local governments means financial support from state and national arts funding organizations will be easier to come by.

LAST FRIDAY Mrs. Belanger said she hoped the commission would approve two

proposals which she said were urgent—one was that a newsletter-type publication be mailed to all residents of both cities on a one-time basis. One of the important items in the newsletter would be a schedule for a workshop on grantsmanship, also to be approved by the commission.

The Michigan Council for the Arts plans one year ahead on grants, so organizations and individuals seeking funding for special projects must apply by December of this year for grants in 1978. A grantsmanship workshop in November would give those persons seeking funds time to become informed on procedures and the applications.

If approved by the commission, these two proposals in the newsletter and the workshop will be presented to both councils Aug. 23.

The official recognition of the commission by the cities doesn't carry much of a price tag and Mrs. Belanger said she doesn't foresee much in the nature of financial demands.

The only matching funds which the cities will be asked for will be for administrative assistance. In 1978, the council was given \$8,000 by the state and \$1,000 of this was on a contingency that the cities would match with \$500 to be shared between them.

For 1977, the request for administrative assistance to the state is \$1,500. This would cover things such as the proposed newsletter and secretarial help.

"We don't want to impose on the cities," Mrs. Belanger said. "Our intent is to get people interested participating and involved."

Through the years, the arts council was instrumental in supporting programs already in existence and attracting fresh ones. Some of them were a choral workshop for secondary students, a Farmington community arts calendar, a community resource file of artists, a historic film series in cooperation with the Historical Society, the artist-in-residence program and support of a special historic preservation project.

Mrs. Belanger believes the formation of the arts commission "will have a tremendous impact on the entire community."

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Cville surplus will go on sale

The Clarensville School District will sell its surplus equipment and furniture such as desks and typewriters. The sale will be at the high school cafeteria, 3015 Middle Belt Livonia, Aug. 25, 26 from 9 a.m. noon and 1-3 p.m.

All sales are cash or check payable to the school district.

City remains one of the few participants in Edison battle

As one of the few remaining communities in form of opposition against Detroit Edison rate hikes, Farmington has alighted \$200 to fight a 11.9 per cent increase in the cost of street lighting.

When the movement began in 1971, 45 cities participated in court battles against Edison's rate increases. In 1975 member

Clarification

In the Aug. 16 issue of the Farmington Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, the lead story "Irate homeowners wage war on city" attributed a quote to Ken Kuo which he didn't say.

Acho, a home owners association representative from the Canterbury Subdivision was quoted as saying, "City administrators are trying to jam the paying issue right down our throats. There are 200 homes in this subdivision and 43 in Oakland. It just seems as if these city officials of ours think they can do anything they please without letting the residents know."

Due to a mix-up of personalities involved in the Bond Boule and controversy, the quote was mistakenly attributed to Acho.

ship had dwindled to nine cities. The proposed 11.9 per cent increase for the street lighting group will increase the city's cost for street lighting by about \$6,300 per year. Farmington City Manager Robert Dedman said,

Although the proposed increase would be part of similar increases for all classes of Edison customers, Dedman recommended that the cities continue to examine Edison's case before the Public Service Commission.

"AT THIS POINT in the review process before the Public Service Commission, direct testimony, proposed exhibits and the underlying work papers of the company can't reveal the reason for the fluctuation between the different rate classes," Dedman explained.

Apart from the usual assertion of the effects of inflation and so on, Edison's main case seems to be that they must generate sufficient revenues to attract capital investors so they can resume the construction program interrupted in 1974.

Cities involved in the disagreement, question Edison's predictions of increased customer use.

If we are successful in reducing Ed-

ison's rate increase in street lighting by even one half of one per cent, this would more than cover the cost of intervention," Dedman said.

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Foreign hosts

French students from Orchard Ridge campus acted as hosts and interpreters when a group of sailors from the French destroyer La Duperré docked in Detroit. They heard the Maynard Ferguson jazz concert at Meadowbrook, ate hot dogs and hamburgers, visited a discotheque and the grounds of Cranbrook complex. The Cercle Francaise Club at OCC was one of three host groups for the 300 sailors.

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