

Young's input sought by SEMCOG; 'Need to hear personally from mayor'

By Mike Scanlon
staff writer

Greater participation in regional planning by Detroit Mayor Coleman Young is "an imperative" for southeast Michigan, Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy said in a victory address Thursday night.

Murphy was unanimously elected to chair the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) for 1981-82 at the group's annual general assembly meeting.

"There's no way to put a wall around Detroit, no way to put a wall around Oakland County, no way to put a wall around Saline. We're all in this together," he said.

Murphy said more active participation by Young — who has traditionally sent mayoral staffers to represent him at SEMCOG meetings — would also aid in the redevelopment of Detroit itself.

"We know it's not going to be what it was before, a city of two million," Murphy said. "But whatever

OCC personnel changes made

President Robert F. Roelofs will work out a new organizational chart as several administrative changes loom for Oakland Community College.

One change is the planned retirement in 1982 of W.H. Nikkel, vice president for development and facilities. Nikkel, who will be 55, has been in the field of education for 30 years.

Roelofs told trustees last week he is contemplating some changes in the titles and duties of James L. Stevenson, vice president for employee relations, and William O'Mahoney, dean of applied arts and sciences.

In recent action, the OCC board:

- Accepted the resignation of long-time board secretary Helen S. Kaiser, who plans to retire.
- Elected trustee Gordon Henderson of Birmingham secretary for "all official and signatory board activities."
- Designated Sylvia Pasconau, administrative assistant to the president, to conduct the office functions and perform the secretarial duties.

The move has political significance. Mrs. Kaiser had been an independent appointee of the board, reporting to trustees and not to Roelofs. Her independent status had been a source of friction between the board and president.

- Appointed Rodney E. Chase, a math instructor on the Orchard Ridge campus, as academic dean of the Southeast Campus system. He replaces Dr. Virginia Svager.

The appointment was made after the board raised questions about whether the post had been externally posted — that is, advertised outside the college — and whether equal opportunity and affirmative action plans were being adhered to.

it's going to be, it is imperative that we put our shoulders to the wheel to make something happen.

"WE NEEDED to hear personally from the mayor," Murphy said after the speech. "People don't take it as effectively when some (representative) is there. He (Young) is very important in what's being directed. He's got a lot to tell us."

"What happens to us is we seem to pit the mayor and Detroit against the rest of southeast Michigan. I think we can stop that if we get the mayor at meetings."

Mayoral aide Michael Einbueuer, on hand to represent Young at the annual meeting, had no comment on Murphy's remarks.

In other SEMCOG action, the assembly approved a \$3.6 million annual budget — down from the current \$4.5 million — and ratified a complex administrative plan to allow new industrial development in southeast Michigan without violating federal air pollution laws by counting shutdown plants as pollution "banking credits."

Executive director Michael Glusac used the closed Hamtramck Dodge Main assembly plant to illustrate staff's view.

"WHEN CHRYSLER closed Dodge Main, there was created what we call an offset. Now, when Volkswagen of America wanted to build a new plant, they had to find offsets" and through an "ad hoc arrangement" with the state, Volkswagen was allowed to build a Sterling Heights plant because it would create no more pollution than had Dodge Main.

"What happened in the process? The city of Hamtramck lost emissions reductions. They will never recover them," Glusac added.

The SEMCOG plan, due to be submitted to the state Department of Natural Resources and then to the federal Environmental Protection Agency, would allow combined decisions on pollution credits by industry, directly affected cities and townships and the state itself.

OTHERS ELECTED to various SEMCOG offices included:

- John E. LaBelle, a Livingston County commissioner who will chair the county bloc with vice-chair John E. Olsen, an Oakland County commissioner; Frank J. Lada, mayor of Allen Park, chairman of the cities and villages bloc; Douglas R. Woolley, trustee of Pittsfield Township in Washtenaw county, chairman of the township bloc with the vice-chair going to Patricia Cullen, supervisor of Van Buren Township.
- The school bloc chair was Glen H. Peters, president of the Macomb County Intermediate Board of Education.

Members elected to the Regional Clearinghouse Review Committee, a group which funnels federal grant applications, included Glusac as chairman, and members James McCartney, a Wayne County Community College trustee from Westland; David Shepherd, mayor of Oak Park; alternates Murphy and James Reid, White Lake Township supervisor and the vice-chair of SEMCOG.



Daniel Murphy
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Tighter local controls sought for foster homes

Gov. William Milliken's recent executive directive and state Sen. Donald Bishop's long-stalled proposed bills would give greater local control of community-placement programs for adult foster care.

Milliken recently issued the directive creating five pilot programs to begin across the state by Oct. 1. The pilots will experiment with differing memberships on newly established local interagency coordinating councils. The directive also creates a statewide coordinating council.

Bishop, R-Rochester, has a four-bill package to force compliance with subdivision deed restrictions.

His bills also would reduce from four to six the number of residents in each foster home for mentally ill or emotionally disturbed adults; require owners operating a home for profit to live in it; require residences to be "average-priced homes"; require outside performance and cost audits; require no two homes be placed closer than 2,500 apart; and require home operators to be bonded.

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