

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM WILL RESUME MONDAY

On October 8th, the Agassiz Community Schools Council requested the City Manager's permission to hire additional staff so that the Agassiz Program could run more effectively. These staff changes required no extra city money.

On October 23rd, the Council was informed that the City Manager said he would approve the hiring of additional staff.

However, on November 5th, the City Manager refused to recognize the Agassiz Community's right to hire and pay staff of their own choosing for the Agassiz Program.

On November 12th, the Agassiz Council appealed this decision to the Community Schools Commission.

On November 13th, the Commission wrote a letter to the City Manager requesting that he pay the Agassiz Staff until this issue could be reviewed by the Agassiz Council, the Community Schools Advisory Committee and Commission, and the City Manager.

On November 20th, two of the Agassiz staff members did not receive their weekly pay checks.

On November 22nd, at a special council meeting, it was decided that all activities in the neighborhood program should be suspended until this staff problem was settled.

On November 23rd, notices were posted on the Agassiz School doors to announce this decision and to ask people involved in various activities to call the City Manager if they wished to restore their program.

That morning, evidently in response to calls, the City Manager expressed an interest in meeting with Community Schools People over this matter. The meeting with three neighborhood people included, took place Wednesday morning. The City Manager said at that time that pay checks for the past week would be forthcoming. It was explained by the Acting Director of Community Schools to our neighborhood Coordinator that checks would continue until this problem could be resolved. A meeting between the City Manager (John Corcoran), the Chairman of the Commission (Fred Arsenault, and the Acting Director of Community Schools (Tom Neil) to solve the problem will take place Wednesday, December 2nd.

The Agassiz Community Schools Program will resume in full on Monday, November 30th.