

# Ravenswood POST

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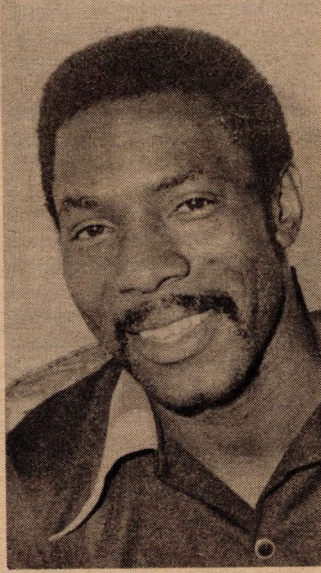
## Don Carolina Named Recreation District Chief Amidst Dispute

The announcement of Donald Carolina, new superintendent of the Ravenswood Recreation and Park District, brought heavy protest from a group of East Palo Alto residents. A full capacity crowd attended the special meeting of the Ravenswood Recreation and Park District board of directors meeting last Thursday.

The demonstrators were incensed over the fact that Robert Hoover, chairman of the Ravenswood City School District Board of Trustees, was not selected as the new superintendent of the recreation district.

Mrs. Everlyn Wallace, chairperson of the personnel committee for Ravenswood Recreation and Parks District, vehemently protested the hiring procedure set up by the board of directors.

"As chairman of the personnel committee, I feel it necessary to protest the complete procedure in the selection of the superintendent," Mrs. Wallace said.



"I have been overlooked, not only as the personnel chairman, but as one of the oldest board members," she charged.

Mrs. Wallace said, prior to Hoover's submitting an application for the superintendent's position, she functioned as the chairman of the personnel committee. Hoover she said, applying for the

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## Carolina Named Recreation Chief

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position, caused the board of directors to change the hiring procedure. Mrs. Wallace also alleged that the screening committee was stacked against Hoover.

Mrs. Marion Grayson, chairwoman of the RRPD, was subjected to heavy attack, from the audience, for the way hiring procedures

were conducted. Her critics charged that she didn't adhere to the guidelines established by the board governing hiring processes.

Mavis Knox, trustee of the Ravenswood City School District, claimed that the hiring of Carolina was unfair to the candidates that were not interviewed by the personnel committee. Ms. Knox said ill

feelings were generated because the board didn't follow procedures.

Mrs. Delores Randall, a supporter of Hoover, circulated a petition with the names of the community people who were supposed to be in support of Hoover. It was brought out by Israel Harris, administrative director of the Charles Drew Health Center, that some of the names placed on the petition were there without knowledge or consent of those persons.

Mrs. Grayson told the audience that there were many reasons why the original procedures could not be followed. She said that at the time the screening was done, Hoover was out of the country. She said the board had not been notified by Hoover that he would be away.

Hoover sat very quiet, and was calm throughout the meeting. His only response was to congratulate Mr. Carolina. He said of the people protesting that if the community is not satisfied with the hiring by the board the problem could be solved at the polls, and that decision would involve changing the board.

Mrs. Grayson told the Ravenswood Post after the meeting that she had been very frightened by the protest. She said, "I think the screening committee made a good choice for the job. My only concern is that the best man get the job," she said.