

## People Talk, Commission Listens

Each week the Kalamazoo City Commission hears comments or proposals from the audience at the end of the Monday night business session.

Last night's comments covered attorneys' fees, the Kleinstuck Preserve and foreign trade.

### Judge Olmsted

Municipal Judge Clark M. Olmsted proposed that the City Commission provide a fund to pay fees to court appointed attorneys in misdemeanor cases in Municipal Court.

"Originally the rule (that a lawyer be provided to represent indigents) applied only in federal cases; then to isolated cases under state law, and then to many situations under state law, and now in the Gideon case applies to all state cases involving felonies," Judge Olmsted said.

"As you know, this practice has long been followed in Kalamazoo as to felony and Circuit Court misdemeanor cases. We are now suggesting that you extend this rule," the municipal court judge said.

He proposed a committee of the City Commission meet with a committee from the Kalamazoo Bar Association to discuss the matter further.

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### WMU Biologists

Miss Anne V. Fuller and Dr. Harlette V. Bartoo, of Western Michigan University's biology department, brought the commission three "problems for future consideration" of the Kleinstuck Preserve.

The preserve, located east of Oakland Drive in the southwest part of town, consists of 50

acres donated four decades ago for student use as a nature study area.

The area is heavily used, Miss Fuller said, by boy and girl scouts, cubs and brownies, WMU biology classes and high school and junior high classes because "it's the only remaining place within (short) riding distance for a two-hour class."

One problem, she said, is that the only entrance is from Sterns Avenue. She asked the city to consider making some city-owned property at Hudson Street available for another entrance.

A second problem is water. City wells are lowering the water table, she contended, and what was once a pond is now a marsh.

Finally, motorcyclists are riding through the area in defiance of "pedestrian only" signs, she said.

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