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Monday, Apr. 06, 2009

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Supervisors deny casino project, lift Bayside Park building moratorium (Updated 1 p.m.)

HANCOCK COUNTY – The Board of Supervisors took action on two hotly contested issues Monday morning, denying a zoning change that would have allowed a casino in Diamondhead and lifting a building moratorium they recently placed on Bayside Park.

The board voted 3-2 to deny a recommendation from the county Planning Commission related to a Diamondhead casino proposed by Jacobs Entertainment. Several land owners had sought a zoning change from single family residential and highway commercial to commercial resort district on land located west of Yacht Club Drive and south of Interstate 10.

Voting to accept the Planning Commission recommendation were Supervisors Steve Seymour and David Yarborough.

Voting against the zoning recommendation were Cowand and Supervisors Jay Cuevas and Rocky Pullman.

On the Bayside Park issue, supervisors rescinded a moratorium they placed last month on most new home construction in the neighborhood, located off Mississippi 607 west of Waveland. Supervisor Yarborough had sought the building ban because he said developers were expanding too quickly in the area and causing heavy road damage, while numerous new Bayside homes are standing vacant.

Developers and others said the Bayside construction was providing jobs to local craftsmen in a down economy. Supervisors voted 4-1 against Yarborough to lift the moratorium.

SunHerald.com will update this story as more details become available.