COPS HOLD MEET AT FROST BANK

Leaders of COPS (Citizens Organized for Public Service) had another "polite" meeting with a downtown merchant Wednesday.

Over 100 members of the group converged on Frost National Bank, 100 W. Houston St. shortly before noon.

The group walked from Main Plaza to the bank after COPS organizers and leaders explained their motives in a meeting with Tom Frost Jr., chairman of the board of Frost bank.

"We're meeting with Frost because we know he's a powerful man, and powerful when he move the city," Andres Sarabia, president of COPS said.

He told the group marching to the bank that the city council had been "unresponsive" to the counter budget COPS had proposed.

"They are unwilling to listen to us and consider our concerns," Sarabia said, adding, "Meeting with individual businessmen is our only alternative."

Another Group

The group met localfenk's leaders last week in a similar bid for support, but were unsuccessful in calling a group meeting of local downtown businessmen.

"We wanted to ask Frost to listen to us. To get his board of directors to listen to us and then to support us in getting response from city council," Sarabia explained.

The counter budget the organization has proposed "better meets the needs of the community," leaders say.

And they want big businessmen to help them get approval from City Council.

"We are serious. We vote and we care. Again just a few days ago our houses were underwater, our kids had to walk to school in the mud and they have no parks to play in."

We just want someone to understand and commit themselves to improving our community," Sarabia said after meeting with Frost for almost 45 minutes.

He called the meeting another "polite" meeting, but one which got no commitments, no response.

"Everyone agrees we have problems, but they just don't know what to do about them," the COPS spokesmen declared.

"This indicates we must continue to call on local merchants individually seeking support," Sarabia remarked. "We have no other choice."

He noted the group will not advocate or participate in any boycotts of downtown businesses. He said they will continue approaching merchants for "as long as it takes to get some positive response."

While COPS leaders met with Frost, members of the group stayed in the bank lobby conducting business.

Sarabia had told the group to get in line at teller's cages asking change.

"This will tie up business for some time and signify the slowness of getting things done," another COPS leader said before their walk to the bank.

ROYAL NUDE

LONDON (AP) — The tabloid Daily Mirror published a photograph of a nude and said it was a painting of Queen Sirikit of Thailand by her husband, King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

The publication was certain to cause a storm of protest in Thailand, where the royal family is regarded with extreme respect and veneration.

The photograph, published Tuesday, showed a painting of a shapely nude kneeling with her hands on her knees.

The Mirror said: "The painting is among dozens just like it which line the walls of the couple's private home in Bangkok. They are seen only by members of the royal family and close friends."

The paper said the king has won several prizes at art exhibitions.

It added: "His 42-year-old wife, the mother of four children, clearly enjoys posing...."