

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING  
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
October 28-29, 1978

REC'D MAR 21 1979

The Pacific Northwest District Council met informally on Saturday evening, October 28, 1978, at the White River Buddhist Church (3625 Auburn Way North, Auburn, Washington). Governor Onishi presided. Thirty-nine persons were present. Introductions were made of all those present.

Governor Onishi called attention to appointments to be presented at the business meeting the next day.

There was discussion of the possibility of raising dues since national dues were raised at the recent National Convention. Henry Miyatake brought up the question of representation in J.A.C.L. Some way should be devised to allow one vote per member.

John Tateishi, National Chairman of the Redress Committee, gave a brief summary of the present status of the Redress program. He stressed the importance of the right approach to the media. The program is now getting attention from the press, but there is danger that too much emphasis will be put upon the request in the approved program for a definite money figure.

Announcement was made of the Puyallup Day of Remembrance to be held on Saturday, November 25, the plan of celebration to be reported on at the business session on Sunday.

The evening ended with an elaborate buffet supper served by the host chapter.

MINUTES  
October 29, 1978

The fall meeting of the Pacific Northwest District Council was called to order by the new Governor, Harold Onishi, at 9:15 A.M., October 29, 1978, at the Travel Lodge in Seattle (2824 S. 188th). The White River Chapter was host.

Roll  
Call

Introductions were made. The following 44 persons responded to Roll Call:  
Board Members: Harold Onishi, Edna Ellis, Peg Sargent, Edward Yamamoto;  
Chapter Presidents: Grace Yamamoto, Columbia Basin; William Sugahiro, Portland; Ted Masumoto, Puyallup Valley; Ted Taniguchi, Seattle; Isao Tsuji, White River;  
Official Delegates: Ed Yamamoto, Columbia Basin; Mits Takasumi, Mid-Columbia; William Koida, Portland; Tom Shigio, Puyallup Valley; Cherry Kinoshita, Seattle; Denny Yasuhara, Spokane; Hiroshi Nakayama, White River;  
National Visitors: James Tsujimura, Vice President for Research & Services; John Tateishi, Chairman Redress Committee;  
Others: Makiko Doi, Richard Doi, Columbia Basin; Al Abe, Nobu Azumano, Douglas Rake, Ernie Sargent, Mr and Mrs. Rowe Sumida, Portland; Paul Ellis, Joe Kosai, Emi Somekawa, Puyallup Valley; Frank Abe, Chuck Kato, Tak Kubota, Ron Mamiya, Min Masuda, Henry Miyatake, Tomio Moriguchi, Eira Nagaoka, Ken Nakano, Kathy Wong, Seattle; Tom Hikida, Michi Maebori, Frank Natsuburu, Margaret Okitsu, Hiroshi Oyama, Miye Toyoshima, White River.

Appointments

Governor Onishi announced a list of proposed appointees as follows:  
Vice Governor--Chuck Kato (Seattle)

Appointments continued:

Chairpersons for Committees:

Committee Against Discrimination--John Takizawa (Seattle)  
 Political Education--Henry Miyatake-- (Seattle)  
 Redress-- Ron Mamiya (Seattle)  
 Membership & 1000 Club--Emi Somekawa (Puyallup Valley)  
 Scholarship--Albert Abe (Portland)  
 District Office--Albert Abe (Portland)  
 Nominations--Ed Yamamoto (Columbia Basin)  
     also on National Nominating Committee  
 Health--Rowe Sumida (Portland)  
 Travel--Harry Kadoshima (Seattle)  
 Pacific Citizen--Cherry Kinoshita (Seattle)  
 Aging and Retirement--Min Masuda (Seattle)  
     also National A & R Committee  
 JAFL Endowment--Tomio Moriguchi (Seattle)  
 Census Liaison--Hiram Hachiya (Gresham-Troutdale)  
 Constitution Revision--Ted Taniguchi (Seattle)

Youth Commissioner--Joan Fujita (Seattle)  
 Legal Counsel--Peggy Nagae (Seattle)  
 Parliamentarian--Ted Taniguchi (Seattle)

Edna Ellis moved that the appointments as announced be approved. Chuck Kato seconded. The motion was passed.

Cherry Kinoshita moved and Ted Taniguchi seconded that the following committees be added to the issue-oriented committee list: Aging & Retirement, Redress, and Census Liaison. The motion was passed.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 24-25 meeting were presented as mailed out in duplicate. As there were no objections or corrections, the Governor declared the minutes accepted by consensus.

Committees

Ed Yamamoto referred back to the appointments and moved that the Washington State University Committee be added to the issue-oriented list. Peg Sargent seconded. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

As Paul Seto, the Treasurer, was not present, a full <sup>treasurer's</sup> ~~treasurer's~~ report was not given. Gov. Onishi gave the following summary:

Amount in treasury September, 1978	\$2,445.98
From June 15 to September 30:	
Total receipts	473.84
Total expenses	1105.30
Net decrease	631.46

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted. The motion carried.

Travel Allowance

The matter of travel allowance to district meetings was brought up. Chuck Kato was asked to report on his findings on this problem. He gave a comparison of JAFL travel allowance and that of government and of Boeing. He suggested that a policy be adopted of allowing 15 cents per mile, one way; if passenger/s carried 17 cents and that an allowance be made of \$12 per day for room.

Chuck estimated that these allowances would cost roughly \$400.00 for each district meeting (about \$75 for mileage and \$262 for rooms).

After some discussion Richard Doi moved the adoption of alternate 2 as the method of reimbursement for the officers of this organization for their expenses in relation to attending the district council meetings and that such committee chairpersons shall be reimbursed at the same schedule as may be approved by the District Governor. Ed Yamamoto seconded. After considerable discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

#### Dues

Emi Somekawa pointed out that it was necessary to think seriously about the need to raise dues.

Ed Yamamoto moved that dues for the District be raised from fifty cents per capita to one dollar with the exception of certain special members from whom chapters do not collect regular dues. Mits Takasumi seconded. The motion was passed.

#### Travel

The proposal had been made that the District allocate \$900.00 (nine hundred) to be divided among chapters to help pay convention travel expenses. However, the money has been absorbed by office expenses, so none is available for such allotment.

#### Office

Al Abe reported on the finances of the District Office. As passed by chapter approval, a request for \$5600.00 has been submitted from the national budget. It does not, however, include any travel allowances. There is a sum of \$800.00 left in district funds that is available for program.

#### Membership

Emi Somekawa, Membership Chairperson, reported that plans are afoot to study the possibility of forming a new chapter in Yakima.

#### P.C.

Cherry Kinoshita, Pacific Citizen chairperson, asked members to express opinions on the contents of the Pacific Citizen. One opinion was expressed that more of the material from National, usually sent to chapter presidents, be carried in the paper.

#### Historian

Peg Sargent, Historian, asked that each chapter send her a summary of the year's events. She also requested that her name be on the news letter mailing list of each chapter.

#### W.S.U.

Denny Yasuhara brought the members up-to-date on the W.S.U. project. The Pacific Citizen article that presented an optimistic picture came from a distorted article in a Spokane newspaper. In fact, no commitment has been made by the University beyond this year. Only a temporary position of scholar-in-residence has been opened. He has not been provided an adequate office or even a telephone. The University President has done nothing about the proposal offered by the JACL Committee, not even processing it. With all these facts before them the Committee will rebut the P.C. article soon.

In August the Spokane representatives met with representatives of H.E.W. and came to certain agreements. However, these agreements were not lived up to. Then Denny called for action. HEW did investigate. The University agreed to negotiate. Findings will be available in January.

Spokane JACL refused to give up court action. So now they are working on two fronts--HEW and court action. But court action will cost at least \$20,000. Spokane JACL cannot provide this by itself. Letters will soon go to the chapters asking for help.

Min Masuda moved and Cherry Kinoshita seconded that PNWD contribute \$300 to the W.S.U. project. The motion was passed.

Ted Taniguchi moved that the District Council request the National JACL to undertake a national fund solicitation from individual JACL members, including through the Pacific Citizen, to assist the Spokane JACL in its efforts to establish a viable Asian American Studies Program at Washington State University. Ed Yamamoto seconded. The motion was passed.

Min Masuda commented that the Council should commend Denny for his commitment and work on this project. A round of applause was given for Denny.

Political  
Education

Henry Miyatake responded for the Political Education Committee. On October 6, 1978, the Legislative (Washington) House Agriculture Committee heard testimony on a proposed constitutional amendment that would make it illegal for aliens to own land in the state unless they file an intent to become citizens. Exempt would be citizen-owned corporations and Canadians. Tak Kubota, a member of the Commission on Asian American Affairs, spoke against the amendment. The Commission opposes the proposal but is concerned about problems created by foreign investments. It suggested that the Agriculture Committee concern itself with specific problems such as the conversion of farmlands or the displacement of residences.

Henry then introduced Tak Kubota, who spoke further on the proposal before the Agriculture Committee. The proposal probably will not get out of Committee but should be watched by the District.

Tak commented on the Redress plan, recommending that the Redress Committee submit the proposed program to the Asian Congressional delegation and let them come up with a bill that will be acceptable.

Health  
Plan

Rowe Sumida reported on the JACL Health Plan. There is a declining membership registered in this plan. Seattle has only 28 members, Puyallup Valley 13, Spokane 13. This creates a problem in administering the program. The Council needs to promote this program as it offers a valuable service.

Lunch

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:50.  
The meeting was resumed at 1:15.

Redress

Ron Mamiya reported for the Redress Committee, limiting his comments to local projects, leaving national aspects for the National Chairman. Ron was assisted by Frank Abe.

Saturday, November 25, will be observed as Puyallup Day of Remembrance. Cars will gather in the Seattle area at 12:45 to move as a caravan to the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Participants will wear facsimiles of the identification cards worn in wartime Relocation. The program will include a potluck dinner.

The event will be covered by TV; a number of prominent citizens will be attending and participating in the program. There will be displays. Frank requested the loan of photos and other mementos. He emphasized the need of participation by all, especially by Issei.

Frank asked also for co-sponsorship by chapters. He outlined special needs:

1. for endorsement by chapters by November 2;
2. for physical and moral support;
3. for financial support.

Ted Taniguchi moved that the District Council adopt the Puyallup Pilgrimage, "a Day of Remembrance", at the Western Washington Fairgrounds as one of its programs, serve as one of its sponsors, and allocate \$500 from the

District's National allocation to support the project. Min masuda seconded. The motion was passed.

Emi Somekawa is in charge of the potluck. The committee requests housing for out-of-town visitors for the Day of Remembrance. On Saturday, November 4, the committee will meet for planning in Seattle and request that each chapter send representatives.

### Redress

John Tateishi, National Chairman of the Redress Committee, was introduced. He reported that the National Committee has not yet moved out to the public. It is working on two informational tapes, professionally produced, to be available for sale. One will give the background of facts; the second will include an interview with someone playing the "Devil's Advocate". The Committee is planning to consult with Asian members of Congress.

The Committee has met with the representative of a company which manages campaigns. He suggested a general poll. Continuing exposure is necessary. The Committee is considering a benefit with persons prominent in entertainment providing the program.

It is hoped that a network of legal backing will be developed throughout the country with each district having legal counsel. John is well satisfied with the committee he has to work with; it will meet before Christmas. John himself will soon go to Washington, D.C., to interview as many people as possible. One problem has arisen with the news media emphasis on the dollar amount (\$25,000) set in the proposal; this will have to be toned down. In any case, it will be a long and difficult campaign.

John reported that the sale of Years of Infamy has been so slow that the publisher is considering putting it "out of print". Chapters should promote the sale of this book.

John pledged the National as a co-sponsor of the Day of Remembrance.

### Constitution

Ed Yamamoto asked the chapters to send him suggestions for constitutional revision.

### Aging

Min Masuda reported for the Committee on Aging and Retirement. The National Convention included this area in its program. National is planning to set up seminars in various parts of the country. The National Committee will meet soon in San Francisco.

### Memorial

Ed Yamamoto showed an article on the Mas Satow Memorial. At present \$28,000 is reported in the fund.

### National Vice-Pres.

Jim Tsujimura gave a brief report. Attention is being given to a youth program, but nothing is happening as yet because a decision must be made on which way to go. There is too much administrative work for a part time youth director; Carl Nobuyuki is recommending a full-time youth administrator with plenty of assistance.

The name of the Talent Registry has been changed to Japanese American Resource Registry. Any person may apply for an application blank from Headquarters. So far no deadline has been set for returning the applications. Each chapter should appoint a member to make a survey of the chapter.

### Nominating Committee

Ed Yamamoto has been appointed Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Each chapter should appoint a representative to meet at the next PNWDC meeting.

Expense Allowance

The business returned to the expense allowances for Council members. Chuck Kato presented revised estimates:

Six officers, per diem expenses about	\$450
Eight cars at 17 cents per mile	404
Total	\$854

The total might run as high as \$1,000 per meeting.

Min Masuda moved and Cherry Kinoshita seconded that the officers eligible for reimbursement for travel mileage and per diem allowances be governor, vice-governor, secretary, treasurer, and youth commissioner. Ed Yamamoto moved and Grace Yamamoto seconded that the motion be amended to include the immediate past governor in the list of those eligible for reimbursement. The amendment lost. The motion was passed.

Cherry Kinoshita moved that the five officers designated be allowed twenty dollars ~~(\$20)~~ per diem and seventeen cents mileage one way and that the rest of the officers and issue-oriented committee chairpersons be allowed seventeen cents mileage one way. Min Masuda seconded. Ed Yamamoto moved that the motion be tabled. Tom Shigio seconded. The motion to table was passed.

Adjourn

The next Council meeting will be held sometime in March with the Gresham-Troutdale Chapter as host.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna J. Ellis,  
Secretary, Pacific Northwest District Council,  
JACL