

February 23, 1943
Tuesday

Conference Room
9:30 a.m.

Chairmen's Meeting
12:00 p.m.

Handwritten initials and a vertical line with a circle at the top, possibly indicating a page or section marker.

Absentees: Messrs. Kaneko and Kakuchi.

1. Agricultural Committee Advisors:

Mr. Fujimoto moved a motion for amendment of proposal passed Feb. 20 of recommending Mr. Ujifusa to Project Director as advisor to the said Committee, by supplementing local Japanese farmers who are more acquainted with the geology of Heart Mountain area for such appointment. Passed.

2. Farewell Party in Honor of Mr. Barber:

It was approved that a painted picture by a resident artist be presented to Mr. Barber as a farewell gift, and that the arrangement for purchase be made by Mr. Nagata.

3. American Friends Service Organization:

Mr. Schmoer of above entitled organization was introduced to Chairmen. After explaining the history of the organization Mr. Schmoer expressed the sentiment of the organization as a whole in opposition to the mass evacuation of the Japanese from the coast, but due to lack of personal contact between the Americans and the Japanese made it impossible to prevent this unfortunate consequence. It was at the request of Milton Eisenhower, then Director of WRA, that the Friends Service has set up the committee for the student as well as general relocation. The organization approved the WRA policies of relocation in wider distribution in the States and Mr. Schmoer emphasized in discouraging evacuees to return to the coast. He informed that the service had opened offices supplementary with the WRA at the request of the latter. Mr. Schmoer is here to take up applications for jobs from this center and Minidoka and then send them back to the placement offices. He requested Chairmen to encourage nisei's resettlement before the war is over--in essential production, distribution and processing of food, shelter, and clothing rather than in defense plants. As to the establishment of hotels under the Service, at present only one has been opened in Chicago but presently it will be opened up in Indianapolis, St. Louis, and Des Moines. Mr. Koide requested that special effort be expended by the Organization to give a peace of mind to those who are unable to leave the center.

4. Address by Mr. Gordon Hirabayashi:

Mr. Hirabayashi explained the point on which he took his stand in opposition to evacuation, firstly, because of how human being ought to live, and secondly, because of his education which have grounded in him the principles of democracy. Circuit court hearing was conducted for his case on February 19, outcome of which will be known six weeks thereafter. He expressed his confidence in winning the case which will be brought to the U.S. Supreme Court as the bible of the courts is the constitution of the U.S.

February 23, 1945

(2)

6. Address by Mr. Kimball of Washington:

Mr. Kimball expressed that the WNA encourage a formal open expression of opinions as a group. He pointed out the similar things that have happened in other centers that have happened here, (things that have happened in other centers have) mainly due to the fumbling on the part of the administration and suspicions thereto. As to the flexibility of the administration he admitted the changes in WNA ruling would have to be made to accord with the situations brought by resettlement of younger generation and that no ruling is subjected to permanency.

6. Agricultural Committee meeting:

Mr. Tsunokai informed that meeting will be held at the Courthouse for the Agricultural Committee at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 24.

7. registration for Leave:

Mr. Carroll informed that this does not mean a compulsory relocation from the center and that the registration for blocks 14 and 15 will begin tomorrow at 8-26.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.