

April 7, 1944
Friday
7:30 PM--10:35 PM

Special Session of Community Council was held at Conference Room, Friday, April 7 at 7:30 PM. It was attended by Messrs. Robertson, Anderson, Todd and Ryan.

Mr. Nakashima, Community Council Chairman presided. Chairman stated that the purpose of this meeting is to create a better understanding between the Council and Administrative Staff. Mr. Robertson explained that Administration is willing to cooperate to the satisfaction of the evacuees to the extent WRA regulation will permit and requested advice from the Council which acts under the powers granted by Charter.

Discussion proceeded on the matters written to Mr. Myer.

One of the Councilman requested explanation since the center is inadequately maintained due to the drastic labor cut, for example, recreational hall janitors. To this Mr. Anderson replied that it is the order and the budget does not allow to employ janitor for recreational halls.

Mr. George Nakaki stated that present conditions of the recreational halls are no inducement for the people and asked WRA to equip them with at least few pieces of furnitures and etc. Mr. Anderson stated that WRA budget does not allow for this purpose, however, Community Activities, under the supervision of Mr. Kurtz are planning to equip these halls but obstacle is to secure materials due to WPB regulation.

Mr. Ryan explained although certain sums are allotted for recreational purpose its budget does not include the funds to secure equipments. It is used more or less on maintenance, salaries paid to CA Workers and its advisors.

Council was asked to raise funds from the community to equip recreational halls. Mr. Kimoto explained that we are already over-burdened with only small income as it is to meet the needs of community relations, and unless our wages are raised, we cannot ask the residents for pecuniary contributions.

Mr. Hayashida mentioned the fact that when we were in WCCA, the pamphlets was passed to establish profitable community enterprises to employ evacuees. Mr. Anderson said that this policy is discontinued for the reason to encourage evacuees to relocate.

Mr. Robertson announced that he has submitted \$30,000 to beautify the center, but its approval will depend on the Board of Budget.

Mr. Ryan stated that every items submitted must be justified expenditure otherwise it will be hard to get the next time; the unused sum of the previous quarter will be allocated to the next quarter.

300 employable employees whose families are forfeiting the clothing allowances due to being unemployed, and requested for their employment. Mr. Anderson stated that there are more than 300 employed who are capable to relocate and advised the Council to induce these people to outside employment. Mr. Matsushige explained that it is almost impossible to convince those who have fears of outside life.

Mr. Nakaki said that this is partially a failure on the part of WRA to establish better relationship between administration and field officers and relocatees.

Mr. Hatchimonji expressed his opinion that present trial relocation leave has too many restrictions and it is no inducement to the evacuees to leave the center under that conditions; and added that unless WRA liberalize in leave regulations, the relocation will be never successful. Last year's seasonal leaves had many advantages for the evacuees to become acquainted with the outer life, to create among themselves an incentive and to secure funds to relocate. From the last year's experiences, Mr. Robertson stated that there were very few relocated from seasonal leaves, and in his opinion this type of leaves only create some outside interest to seek Relocation Center as labor pool which is detriment to the welfare of Japanese people.

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