

HEART MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
Second Session

August 29, 1944  
Tuesday  
9:10 a.m.--11:30 a.m.

Meeting was called to order by Mr. H. Matsushige, Acting Chairman.

Roll Call

Present: Blocks 2, 6, 20, 23, 27, 28, and 29.

Minutes of the August 22nd meeting was read.

Discontinuance of Block Coordinator Position

Mr. Guy Robertson, Project Director, read the reply from Malcom E. Pitts, Acting Director; WRA, regarding the status of Block Coordinators. The following is a copy of WRA's decision on the matter:

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

August 19, 1944

*2/12*  
Scholarship

Mr. Guy Robertson  
Project Director  
Heart Mountain Relocation Center  
Heart Mountain, Wyoming

Dear Mr. Robertson:

The difficulties which have arisen over the elimination of the position of Block Coordinator as described in your letter of August 7, are fortunate. I have given careful study to the justification for the retention of this position and of the petition submitted by the people of Block 27. It remains impossible, however, to alter the decision in this matter.

It has been our hope that the Community Council would be composed of persons who through a desire to contribute to the well-being of the community would give freely of their time and energy. It has been the policy, which was worked successfully elsewhere, that Councilmen be excused from their regular jobs to attend to community business. I can see no reason why this arrangement should not work as satisfactorily at Heart Mountain as at the other centers. It has also been our policy to avoid placing the Council in the position of being dominated by the administration. It is our feeling that the payment of Councilmen might lead to this eventuality.

I hope the people of Heart Mountain will accept this decision in the spirit in which it has been made and will continue to have a strong and vigorous Community Council.

Sincerely,

s/ Malcolm E. Pitts  
Acting Director

Mr. Robertson suggested that a minimum number of meetings be scheduled so that council members will be able to engage in project employment at the same time. It was his opinion that all efforts should be made to establish a strong Council since its duties are of a public relations and general welfare nature, while the Block Managers have a distinct responsibility for the physical facilities of the blocks.

Mr. M. O. Anderson, Assistant Project Director, expressed the view that all should work together to find a capable person to fill the position of executive secretary to the Council so that council members would not have to devote as much time in council work detail as hitherto. He advised that an executive secretary with a knowledge of both Japanese and English languages and a good relationship with both the evacuees and the administration could conduct investigations, gather information, and on a free term bases prepare his material for the Council; the time required of the councilmen could be reduced. He stressed the importance of considering the type of agenda so that it would be confined to questions and problems so that it would be confined to questions and problems representing the larger and more important issues involving the project as a whole.

C.E. TRUST COMMITTEE

The following message was issued by Project Director Guy Robertson to the residents of Heart Mountain concerning the election of representatives for the community enterprises trust committee:

I have requested the block managers to provide for an election to be held in each block Friday, September 8th, from 12:00 m to 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing representatives to serve as trust committeemen. Two representatives shall be elected from each block except there will be only one representative from Block 7. If any block should fail to elect trust committeemen at this election, they will forfeit their right to representation on the trust committee until the next regular election.

The body of 39 members shall be known as the trust committee and will be the representatives of the people of Heart Mountain for the operation of business enterprises. Their first duty shall be to select a board of trustees of 9 members to operate the business. When this new board of trustees has been elected the present trustees will turn business enterprises over to them. The trust committee, together with the board of trustees, will then have the power to amend the declaration of trust.

It has always been the hope of the War Relocation Authority that business enterprises would be operated as a cooperative. The trust committee, together with the board of trustees, will have power to submit the question to a vote of the people and provide for the organization of a cooperative if a majority of the voters indicate they want a cooperative.

The present board of trustees has served the people well. They have established a sound business and have operated it economically and with good business judgment. They have repeatedly asked that an elected body be created to take over the business and all attempts to do this failed. The only course left open to them was to amend their trust agreement to provide for the election of a trust committee, representing all the people of Heart Mountain, to take over the direction of business enterprises.

I am asking the voters to give serious consideration to this election. Your business enterprises does a million dollar business each year. It is important that you elect representatives of unquestioned integrity and sound judgment.

Since initiating this election, I have received a petition, signed by approximately 800 residents, mostly from blocks 2, 8, 17, 21, and 30, requesting that the matter of the formation of a cooperative be submitted to popular vote. I shall submit the petitions to the new trust committee for their action after they have elected a new board of trustees.

AGENDAELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES

Mr. R. Katagi made a motion that the letter from WRA, Washington, D.C. stating the government policy concerning the Community Council be published in the Sentinel Bulletin so that the status of the Council members may be clarified to the residents. The motion was seconded by Mr. K. Hatchimonji and passed by the Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Katagi that contact be made with the remaining thirteen blocks without representatives to the Council and to have these blocks hold proper elections. The motion was seconded by Mr. G. Nakaki and after thorough discussion, passed.

Mr. K. Hatchimonji made a motion, seconded by Mr. Katagi, that nomination petitions be filed by September 8, 1944 thru block managers. The motion was carried unanimously.

INDUCTION SERVICES

A request from the USO was received by the Council, that a chairman be designated for the next induction service which is to be held Wednesday, September 6. It was agreed that Mr. H. Matsushige take charge of the matter.

MISS VIRGIL PAYNE

Two hand-crocheted table covers were selected as a token of appreciation for Miss Virgil Payne, former Social Welfare Counselor. A letter of gratitude for her services will accompany the gift.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Memos will be sent to all the members of the Hospital Contribution Committee to inform them of a meeting to be held on Monday, September 4, 1:30 p.m. in the Conference room in regard to the doctors' appreciation fund.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Mikiko Yamano  
Acting Secretary

1139 P.M.  
Relocation Committee

Sept. 5-44 ex council

- 出席 松尾 1, Dental clinic
- 中島
- 宇崎
- 高橋
- 吉野 2, Scholarship
- 吉野 3, Hospital
- 岡
- 時政
- 本平
- 中野
- 林田