

Berkeley JACL Board meeting minutes
Tuesday 11/04/08

Attendance:

Adams, Carolyn	Nishi, Thomas	Shirasawa, Tak	Tanaka, Ron
Duff, Jim	Ouye, Neal	Tagawa, Alex	Yamada, Shinya
Fujikawa, Mark	Satake, Al	Takeuchi, Laura	Yamamoto, Gordon

- 1) Meeting began 7:05 by co-president Ouye. Call for agenda additions resulted in no additions, and agenda adopted as presented by co-president Satake. Minutes reviewed by board members, and corrections requested. No corrections noted, and Ron moved to approve the minutes with second by Jim. Minutes approved.
- 2) Treasurer's report presented by Tak, who was welcomed back to the meetings since he had missed a couple due to surgery. Tak presented the activity in the accounts in writing, and verbally reviewed the report for members. Ron moved to accept the treasurer's report, with second by Jim, and the report was approved.
- 3) President's report made by Al. Al requested Jim to summarize the district meeting they attended. Jim passed the newsletter distributed at the meeting. He noted that the youth event attracted a few participants, and that a website and activities were planned for 2009. The youth group is to be called Nakayoshi. A Friday night with the Warriors for \$40 is being planned for 12/12/08. There was a concern regarding finances at the meeting, specifically mentioned was the president's award. The responsibility for the cost for transportation and lodging for the awardees is unclear. A motion to monitor the award and costs was passed. The national board meeting coincided with the gala event in Washington, DC. The feedlot proposed next to the Minidoka camp site was discussed, and the anti-Asian land law still in force in FL was opposed. Josh Fry, the treasurer spoke on finances. Accounts from the national convention have not closed, a 90 time limit applies. Al noted about a \$95,000 net income, with 50% going to the national office. Berkeley chapter to host a district meeting either 5 or 11/09. New board members were elected at the district level, and officers met after the meeting to determine officers. Judy Kono or Glen Kaneda can be contacted by the Berkeley chapter regarding use of the Buddhist center for the district meeting, and Alex will send contact info to Neal. Target host date will be 11/09. Information on budget and # participants will be investigated. Jim noted about 50 people may attend. UC campus facilities can be investigated for use. Alex noted the cost for use may be quite high. Tak noted the Lawrence Hall of Science could be used. Al noted that a tour of San Jose J-town was conducted, and a similar activity could be planned for the hosted meeting in November.
- 4) Membership: Gordon reported receiving a survey at the end of October, and he will call in answers to the district. A membership roster was distributed. Al noted Clyde Izumi wanted to join as a Berkeley chapter member, and Jim will follow up with the membership person at the national office. Workshop topics were requested, but none offered by board members. Jim mentioned several membership incentives: A ski trip with NSU, sports events, Asian Art Museum excursion, Warriors game with Nakayoshi. Alex noted NSU sponsors an annual ski trip, and a co-sponsorship with JACL Berkeley is possible. Jim will check on bus costs. Gordon asked about the Asian Art Museum, and it may not be as attractive to younger members. Zellerbach hall events were also mentioned, and NSU is able to obtain discounts on tickets for events there. Mark mentioned a need to target members who were not as transient as students, who might likely remain in the community. Al noted grantees should be asked to join the chapter as a group. Jim noted that individual memberships are much more beneficial for the chapter. Gift memberships are still available, 1 for every 2 new members. Gordon asked how to determine which members were new, and Jim will review the roster, and obtain the gift memberships. Al suggested that memberships could be given as gifts as the holiday season approaches. Gordon also mentioned that a meeting regarding chapter

insurance was called and cancelled, but he was not notified. He called and received an apology, but the communication was very poor.

- 5) NSU: The NSU culture show will be on 12/7/08. 10 tickets for Berkeley JACL will be reserved, and participation by NSU on the Berkeley Chapter board will be required per the new constitution for NSU to be implemented in the spring. T-shirts are being sold for \$10, and will be brought to the next meeting by NSU rep.
- 6) Civil Rights: Prop. 8 was discussed at the district meeting and JACL opposed it. Watada mistrial declared, and Japanese Latin American redress congressional bill was also discussed. An article from Betty Kano on the Watada situation is due for the newsletter.
- 7) Activities: Mark checked on "Wicked" production and the run is January to May. Tickets are \$100 for orchestra and mezzanine sections. \$50 for balcony. Groups are 20 tickets minimum. Production will be a Curren Theater in the City, and a call for interest in the 3/21 or 3/28 dates will be in the newsletter, with confirmation by 12/01 required. Tickets are non-refundable, and with 14 board members interested, only a few more individuals are required for the group rate. Al mentioned visiting the new Academy of Science, Neal mentioned attending a women's basketball game.
- 8) Grant Committee. Committee has not met, and Laura discussed the proposal from Sakura Kai. Expenses were \$1,042 but request for \$1,200. A meeting with Sakura Kai left some questions not clearly answered. Although membership is mostly Japanese speaking, and 40% of members reside in Berkeley/Oakland, the project is for a Japanese language class. Ron motioned to give \$500, seconded by Jim and approved by the board. Al asked that Sakura Kai be asked to join JACL, and check presentation and pix will be at the next meeting. Laura suggested changing the proposal form, and the board noted that this was at the discretion of the committee.
- 9) Scholarships: No report. Al noted it was good to have Alex, a former scholarship recipient participate on the board. He also noted that a Wells Fargo Bank employee, another former scholarship recipient has indicated that he will renew membership.
- 10) Newsletter: Please submit articles for the newsletter by 11/08 or 09.
- 11) Old Business: Calling lapsed members will take place after then next meeting on 12/2. Meeting will be short, and calls will be made after the meeting. Al will provide pizza and bentos for folks. Secretary will write and send thank you notes to folks who have placed ads in the PC holiday issue newspaper. Jim distributed forms for ads, which are due 11/15. Discussion of changing the ad size and text took place. Ron moved for a ¼ page ad, seconded by Al and this was approved. Cost of ¼ page ad is \$528. Laura suggested text congratulate grant recipients and scholarship recipients. Nisei seniors sent thanks to chapter for support. Al noted the trustees will also make a ¼ page ad donation.
- 12) New Business: Al presented a slate of officers including Tak as treasurer (until the end of the year at least), Neal and Ted as co-presidents, Tom as secretary, Jim volunteered as membership chair, and Gordon, Ron, Mark, Laura, Carolyn, Alison, Alex, and Annie as board and committee members. Al expressed Alison's desire to be a board member, although she is busy with her schoolwork. The slate will be published in the next newsletter, and membership will be asked for input.
- 13) Next meeting will be 12/2, and phone calls to lapsed members will be made.
- 14) Other Business: Carolyn continues to make presentations on internment with Ms. Oda, and will submit an article for the newsletter on this activity. Jim noted a Manzanar education curriculum is available for \$24. Installation lunch will be scheduled for 1/25 at Fenton's in Oakland, 12 noon. Board will sponsor any NSU students that may want to attend. New NSU officers will be on board in May.
- 15) Al moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jim seconded the motion and meeting ended 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Thomas M. Nishi, MPH