

Berkeley JACL Board meeting minutes
Tuesday 2/3/09

Attendance:

Duff, Jim	Nishi, Thomas	Shirasawa, Tak	Tanaka, Ron	Yamamoto, Gordon
Fujikawa, Mark	Ouye, Neal	Takeuchi, Laura	Yoshida, George(guest)	
Jitodai, Ted	Satake, Ai	Tagawa, Alex	Yamada, Shinya	

- 1) Co-president Ouye began meeting at 7:05 PM. Agenda items were distributed, and call for additions made. Bingo and JASEB were added to agenda, and George Yoshida was moved to first on the agenda. Ai moved to accept agenda, Ted seconded, agenda approved.
- 2) Minutes of last meeting stand as distributed, without objection.
- 3) George Yoshida spoke about the Day of Remembrance program to be held at Lake Park Methodist Church, 2/21 at 2 PM for the East Bay. \$5 donations are requested. George outlined a less somber event than in the past in San Francisco, and he and others will perform and recount stories of their internment. He distributed a flyer for the event. He did not request support, but Ron moved to support the event with up to \$200 for cookies, tea, and cups. Tak seconded the motion and it was passed. Ai will pick up items for the event. Assistance for set up will be appreciated by 1 PM.
- 4) Treasurer's report provided by Tak. Written summary distributed along with annual report of expenses and income, and reviewed verbally by Tak. Ai moved to approve report, Jim seconded the motion, report approved.
- 5) President's report: None, report on district meeting will be made later in the meeting
- 6) Scholarship: Ron reported the committee met at his home for a dinner meeting. Committee members include Ron, Sharon, Derek, Alex, Ai, Keiji, Neal, Mark. Applications have been distributed to schools except for Piedmont. They object to membership requirement for application. Applications due 3/1. Scholarship banquet will be at Eddoko Restaurant, 1722 University Av., Berkeley 12 noon-1:30 PM on 4/26/09. Cost will be \$20.00. Former awardees will be asked to speak. A raffle will be conducted by Derek. Ron noted the pioneer awards will be given to Ken and Ann Yamasaki. Neal will contact them. Next committee meeting will be 3/16. A group interview will be scheduled for 4/6. Union Bank and Wells Fargo donations are OK, Bank of America's donation is pending. Additional donations are being received, newspaper articles will be sent out, and a photographer is secured for the luncheon.
- 7) Tak reviewed the Issei fund. Tak reiterated his desire to move on from the Treasurer's position, and also recounted the origin of the trust fund as he remembers. The fund originated from a sale of property formerly owned by the chapter. The funds were placed in trust for the benefit of the chapter activities. \$6534 is available for distribution. A summary of last year's activity was distributed. \$1500-2000 should be available for grants in March, and the balance for grants in October. Laura noted that recurring distributions should be given in a different manner from the grant request procedure, as the grants are to provide seed funds, not ongoing support.
- 8) Grants: the Nikkei Community Internship Program is an example of such ongoing funding. Laura noted that the chapter could designate funds for the program would be for an NSU applicant. There have been no other grant applications to this time. Neal noted that at the district meeting the Nakayoshi organization was funded. It is a career development project.
- 9) Youth: NSU will sponsor program for Day of Remembrance on 2/19, 7 PM, Thursday at MLK Student Union, Heller Lounge. No charge for the program, A panel of speakers sponsored by NSU and Muslim student organization will speak about "9066-9/11"

- 10)Activities: 100 A's baseball tickets reserved for 8/22, 6 PM Detroit game with fireworks after the game. Bentos and water included in ticket price. 40 tickets reserved for "Wicked" production in the City, 7/25, 2 PM. Cost is \$50/ticket, balcony seating third row and back.
- 11)District meeting: reports by Jim and Neal. The chapter owes \$414.50 to the district for member and delegate fees. Check may be sent to Gordon Kono, treasurer for district. A roster of officers for the chapter with contact information should be sent to Patty Wada at the national office in the City. CCCLP grant program to acquire books is available. A civil rights issue in Burney, CA regarding using racial epithets toward hapa middle school students is ongoing. No action was taken at the district level. Megumi Kamanaka asked for \$50 from each chapter to sponsor a youth conference to be held in St. Paul, MN 6/26-28/09. Ryan Chinn has a new membership plan TBA. A discussion on amicus curie briefs was held at the meeting. Unwritten policy allowing only the National JACL to file such briefs was made into written policy by legal counsel, and will go before national board. Honolulu chapter felt policy was restrictive and did not allow chapters to exercise support in court cases. Implementing college chapters of JACL was discussed. Berkeley chapter will host 11/09 district meeting. \$850 budget is available for the meeting, which must cover lunch and all costs for meeting. First Sunday in November is usual day, and approval by the district is required. About 50 individual usually participate. Date to be confirmed. A/V needs not specified. Jim will check on Frank Ogawa Plaza venue, Ted will check on El Cerrito community center. Need proposed venue and date by 5/09 to present to district.
- 12).Civil Rights: Jim reported on the discussion of the situation in Burney, and the middle school students as targets of racial epithets. Discussions continue within the district chapters. He also spoke to John Hayashi regarding the recent shooting death of Oscar Grant in Oakland. JACL has decided no action will be taken in regard to the case. Jim suggested the Berkeley chapter could send letters to the BART PD and the BART board. Al moved the chapter do so, seconded by Alex, and approved. Jim will draft the letter to be sent on behalf of the chapter noting concern regarding the poor investigation and subsequent actions in regard to the death. In regard to the youth conference funding request, Ron moved and Al seconded a motion to donate \$50. Location of the conference is McAlister College, St. Paul, MN 6/26-28/09. No other details available.
- 13) Membership: Jim reported that renewals have been received at the PO Box, and one was from a lifetime member. The renewal will be accepted as a donation, and a thank you will be sent. It was not known how effective the phone calls made for renewals was, as some of the individuals called would have renewed without the calls.
- 14)Al reported that the installation luncheon was successful, and that about 30 people attended, and most everyone paid. There was a short and effective program at the event.
- 15)Al moved and Ron seconded to fund \$400 travel expense for the Washington DC leadership conference for Jessica. Motion approved. Jessica was apparently accepted to attend the conference.
- 16)Bingo: There is no confirmation on dates. 12 individuals are required, along with desserts. 2/27 will be confirmed as the board agreed to participate in the fundraiser. Al listed volunteers, he will also provide transportation for some. It will be 5-11 PM at Southern Alameda Buddhist Church. Ted will obtain refreshments as required, and will be reimbursed. Al will confirm details.
- 17)Crabfeed: Al distributed raffle and dinner tickets. Volunteers are requested, 3:45-5:15 PM. A door prize was requested, valued at \$20.
- 18)A call for participants in a focus group for JASEB was announced.
- 19)Al moved and Ted seconded a motion for adjournment. Motion passed at 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Nishi for approval. Please edits required, and inform Tom.