

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DIVISION HEADS OF THE TULE LAKE CENTER

January 12, 1944

The special meeting of the Division Heads of the Tule Lake Center was held on January 12, 1944, at 1608-A from 10:30 a.m.

Roll was taken by the passing of a paper, and was recorded as shown per attached sheet.

Minutes of the Divisional Heads' meeting held on January 9, 1944 were read and approved.

Chairman Akitsuki announced to the members present that our efforts to fight the Status Quo were well rewarded. Of the 64 blocks, 36 voted "Against Status Quo", while 27 blocks were in favor of Status Quo. One block failed to vote.

HOW TO INFORM THE COLONISTS OF THE REFUTED RESULTS OF JANUARY 11, 1944

It was generally thought wise not to circulate each block results as, for example, in blocks where "For" won, those few people who voted "Against" may be put up for criticism. After due consideration, it was decided to inform the people the total block results of 36 "Against", and 27 "For", with one block not reporting.

How To Plan This "Back-To-Work" Movement

To report to work tomorrow is impossible. Former evacuee positions are now, at the present time, being filled by Caucasians. It would be impossible to terminate them without some notice first.

The Advisory Council, consisting of the following persons: Mr. McNeil, Mr. Silverthorne, Mr. Black, Mr. Robertson, Dr. Opler, and Mr. Huycke, plans to hold a meeting probably today with all Division chiefs, section heads, sub-section heads, and unit heads, etc. The Council hopes to have each division chiefs, or whoever is at the head, confer with the evacuee leader for that particular division, section, etc., as the case may be, about the steps to be taken for 'back-to-work' movement. There have been many changes in the administrative staff. Some of these heads may not be cooperative; their attitudes cannot be changed in two days. Administrative policy is to cooperate as much as possible with the colony, on the other hand, it must be understood that pressure down here would not be tactful on our part nor welcome to the Caucasian staff.

It was agreed that as soon as the Advisory Council report on their meeting results, we can hold meeting to act upon our next move. If any division should decide to hold meeting of workers favoring 'back-to-work', they should give the necessary information to Civic Organization who will put the announcement through to block managers by means of relay. Mr. Huycke stated that the rumor about evacuees not being able to work in the Administration Building is not true. Position will not be as many as before, as certain positions will be filled Caucasians, but there will be considerable number of evacuees employed there.

It was further decided to put out daily news about the changes in the Center

to the colonists at large--publish true facts about the hunger strike by the men in stockade.

It was moved by Mr. Kondo and seconded by Mr. Shimada and carried unanimously that the Committee of seven be called the Co-ordinating Committee. Members appointed on the Committee were L. Shimada, J. Haydo, I. Namekawa, G. Yamatani, K. Okamoto, J. Makao, and B. Akitsuki. The above-mentioned Committee will be notified to Mr. Best, Project Director, and Colonel Austin and it will also be requested that the Committee be officially recognized by the Administration and the Army. It was also agreed by general consensus that the Committee dissolve upon return of the normalcy to the Center. It was also proposed to have 1608-A as the headquarters for future discussions.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Ichikawa

Secretary pro tem.

1/12/44

ATTENDANCE

Byron Akitsuki	2904-A	Co-op
J. Haydo	207-D	Civic Organization
Frank S. Miyake	3107-D	Civic Organization
Iwao Namekawa	3017-B	Civic Organization
Masao Shimada	1605-A	Civic Organization
Kumesaburo Kosaka	1405-B	Maintenance
Geo. Yamatani	3107-C	Co-op
Joe T. Makao	4713-B	Mess Management
Masaru Miyama	4817-C	Garage
Eugene Matsuo	4519-A	Mess Warehouse
Takeo Miyama	4816-D	Garage
M. Minomiya	7117-A	Packing Shed
F. Fujimoto	704-B	Timekeeping
K. Okamoto	1318-D	Construction
W. Idemoto	2915-D	Coal Crew
Y. Ikeuchi	3714-A	M.S.
K. Tashima	5012-B	H. E. Shop
Ben Ishida	1616-D	Garage
James Nishida	602-C	Construction
H. Nishimoto	4311-E	Receiving Warehouse
Tatsuo Miyako	4303-D	Receiving Warehouse
M. Furuto	4811-A	Receiving Warehouse
Hiichi Hoshida	4202-E	Receiving Warehouse
Oscar Itani	4406-D	Receiving Warehouse
Kelvin Mitani	4402-A	Receiving Warehouse
Kiyoshi Takatani	3819-B	Maintenance
Richard Kondo	2001-B	Construction
Saburo Morishima	6703-E	Maintenance
Hideo M. Sakuma	3203-D	Jailor Foreman
Chiyoaso Mizumoto	5405-E	Maintenance
Inoru Kojo	5403-A	Maintenance