

CHARTER
OF THE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF
JEROME RELOCATION CENTER

PREAMBLE

WE THE PEOPLE of Jerome Relocation Center by virtue of the authority vested in us by the proclamation of the President of the United States, and the powers conferred on us by the War Relocation Authority, in order to advance the cause of responsible, intelligent, democratic government; to further the common welfare; to provide for internal peace and order; do hereby establish this Charter.

ARTICLE I

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SECTION 1

- a. There shall be established a representative, legislative body to be known as the "Community Council," which shall function in accordance with the wishes of the people and the regulations of the War Relocation Authority; and which shall have the power to enact regulations and do and make all other acts and things necessary for the general welfare of the residents of the Center.
- b. The Community Council shall create boards, commissions, and agencies in respect to municipal affairs.
- c. The Community Council shall present to the Project Director resolutions on questions affecting the welfare of the residents of the Center.
- d. The Community Council shall exercise such other duties and functions as may be conferred upon it from time to time by the War Relocation Authority.

SECTION 2

The Community Council shall be composed of one (1) representative from each block.

SECTION 3

The following persons shall be eligible to hold elective office in the Community Council and to serve on appointive committees, commissions, boards and other administrative positions. All persons who are twenty-one (21) years of age or over, whether citizens or aliens, except (a) persons who have requested repatriation or expatriation and who have not withdrawn their request at least three (3) months before the date of election; (b) persons who did not give an unqualified affirmative answer to question No. 28 on Form WRA-126 Revised or Form DSS 304A and who have not subsequently been granted leave clearance; (c) persons who refused to register during the military registration conducted in February and March of 1943 and who have not subsequently been granted leave clearance; (d) persons who have been denied leave clearance.

SECTION 4

- a. Each Councilman shall hold office for a term of six (6) months and shall be eligible for re-election.
- b. The term of office shall begin with the date of the first meeting of the Council held after the first election of the Council members.

SECTION 5

- a. The election for Councilmen shall be held on the Tuesday two (2) weeks previous to the expiration date of the term of the members.
- b. The Councilmen shall be elected by a plurality vote of the votes cast.

SECTION 6

- a. When a Councilman has been absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Council, the Council may declare the position vacant; unless such absences have been excused by the Chairman.

- b. When a Councilman removes his residence from the block in which he was elected, the Council shall declare the position vacant.
- c. Vacancies shall be filled by special elections not more than two (2) weeks or less than one (1) week after such vacancies exist.

SECTION 7

- a. A Councilman may be removed from office upon reasonable cause shown by other members of the Council and upon two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the Councilmen.
- b. Upon the petition of forty percent (40%) of the eligible voters of any block, a recall election may be held by that block, and upon a three-fourths (3/4) favorable vote of the eligible voters, the Councilman shall be deemed removed from office.

SECTION 8

- a. The Community Council shall meet in regular sessions every Wednesday at 1:30 P.M. unless otherwise announced by the Chairman.
- b. All meetings of the Community Council shall be open to the public, but the Council shall reserve the right to proclaim individual meetings closed.
- c. Special meetings may be held upon notice of the Chairman or upon petition of ten (10) Council members.
- d. Proxy representation shall not be permissible.
- e. The majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

SECTION 1

- a. The Community Council at its first regular meeting after election shall elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer.
- b. Only members of the Council shall be eligible for the elective offices in the Council.

SECTION 2

The Chairman, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint an Executive Secretary who shall not be a member of the Council.

SECTION 3

- a. The compensation of the Executive Secretary shall be paid by the War Relocation Authority.
- b. All Councilmen and elective officers of the Community Council shall serve without compensation.

SECTION 4

The term of office for each elective office shall be for a period of six (6) months.

SECTION 5

The Community Council shall fill all offices of the said Community Council or other community branches in event of vacancies arising from any cause whatsoever to serve until the next general election or expiration of the term of office.

SECTION 6

- a. All elected or appointed officers of the Community Council, Judicial Commission, and other bodies organized under the provisions hereof, shall be subject to removal or impeachment for misfeasance, malfeasance, or non-feasance in office.
- b. Charges against any such officer or officers must be in writing and signed by not less than ten (10) Councilmen and forwarded to the Executive Secretary or the Chairman of the Community Council.
- c. A special meeting of the Community Council shall be called for the purpose of hearing the charges made, and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Councilmen shall be necessary to hold the accused guilty of the charge or charges preferred against him.
- d. The decision of the Community Council shall be final.

ARTICLE III

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

SECTION 1. CHAIRMAN

- a. The Chairman of the Council shall preside at all meetings, but shall not have a vote except in case of a tie.
- b. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to supervise the municipal affairs by and with the approval of the Community Council.
- c. The Chairman shall represent the Community Council in all community functions or appoint a suitable person in his stead.
- d. The Chairman shall appoint necessary committees at his discretion and be ex-officio member thereof.
- e. The Chairman may appoint members of the Council to committees which may be deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Council.
- f. The Chairman must secure the approval of the Council for the appointment of non-Council members to boards, commissions, and committees which the Council may establish.
- g. The outgoing Chairman shall preside as the temporary Chairman at the first meeting of the incoming Council until such time as the permanent Chairman is elected.

SECTION 2. VICE-CHAIRMAN

- a. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairman to perform such tasks as may be assigned to him by the Chairman of the Community Council.
- b. The Vice-Chairman shall preside at all meetings in event of absence of the Chairman.
- c. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the position and duties of the Chairman for the remainder of the term should a vacancy occur in the office of the Chairman.

SECTION 3. TREASURER

- a. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep an accurate and correct account of all moneys received or deposited by the Community Council.
- b. The Treasurer shall make payments by and with the approval of the Council.

SECTION 4. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- a. The duties of the Executive Secretary shall be to assist generally the Community Council and other officers thereof in the administration of community affairs and to perform such work under their direction and supervision.
- b. The Executive Secretary shall perform those duties delegated to him in this Charter or By-laws thereof.
- c. The Executive Secretary shall carry out the policies and program as outlined by the Community Council, and shall execute the orders and instructions of the Community Council.
- d. The Executive Secretary shall have custody of all records of the Community Council, Judicial Commission, and other departments or agencies, except those which are specifically entrusted to others.
- e. It shall be the further duty of the Executive Secretary to codify the rules and resolutions passed by the Community Council.
- f. All official records and all official actions of the Council which are reduced to writing, shall be written in the English language.

ARTICLE IV

COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

SECTION 1

- a. The Community Council may establish such committees, commissions and boards as may be desirable and necessary to facilitate the work of the Council and for the general welfare of the residents.
- b. The Community Council shall provide for a Judicial Commission which shall hear cases and apply penalties for violation of law and order as prescribed by the Council.
- c. The Community Council shall provide for orderly methods of arbitration for settling civil disputes between residents.

- d. Rules and regulations prescribed by the forthcoming Manual on Judiciary, which Manual shall be drafted by the Community Council, shall be followed by the Judicial Commission and the Arbitration Commission.

ARTICLE V

GIFTS AND LIMITATION TO USE

SECTION 1

The Community Council shall be vested with the power to solicit and receive funds and property for community purposes.

SECTION 2

All funds and property derived from gifts, donations, and other sources shall be expended and used to defray the expenses of the Community Council and its functions, and for the general welfare of the residents of the Center.

SECTION 3

The Council shall not have the authority to regulate the management, operation or conduct of business enterprises within the Center.

ARTICLE VI

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

SECTION 1

The qualified electors of the Jerome Relocation Center shall not be denied the privilege of initiative and referendum.

SECTION 2

- a. To initiate any regulations or to refer any regulations to the residents of the Center, it shall be necessary that petitions be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Community Council.
- b. The petitions shall contain the signatures of at least ten percent (10%) of the qualified electors of the Center, and must represent at least a majority of the blocks of the Center.
- c. Any measures and regulations may be referred to a vote of the people upon a resolution approved by a majority of the Council.

SECTION 3

- a. The Community Council shall determine in each instance the validity and sufficiency of the petition.
- b. Upon determining that such petition conforms to the above section, the Community Council shall order an election on the issues involved in the petition.

SECTION 4

- a. The Community Council shall give notice of such election by publishing in the "Denson Tribune," or any other newspaper of general circulation in the Jerome Relocation Center, the issues involved, and the time of such election.
- b. Such elections shall be held not less than seven (7) days after such publication.
- c. Such election shall be held in the same manner as the election of Councilmen.

SECTION 5

A majority vote of the qualified electors voting thereon shall be necessary to decide issues arising from initiative and referendum.

ARTICLE VII

RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 1

All rules and regulations enacted by the Jerome Community Council shall become effective three (3) days after submission and approval thereof by the Project Director; provided, however, that any rule or regulation shall become effective immediately after approval of the Project Director if two-thirds (2/3) of the Councilmen present shall vote to consider same as an emergency measure.

SECTION 2

- a. The enacting clause of all rules and regulations of the Jerome Community Council shall be substantially as follows: "The Community Council of Jerome Relocation Center does hereby enact as follows:"
- b. Every rule and regulation upon enactment of the Community Council must be signed by the Chairman thereof and attested to by the Executive Secretary.

SECTION 3

The Executive Secretary shall cause each rule and regulation and amendments thereto after approval of the Project Director to be published immediately at least once in the "Denson Tribune," or in any other newspaper of general circulation in the Jerome Relocation Center.

SECTION 4

A violation of any rule or regulation of the Community Council shall be deemed a misdemeanor and may be prosecuted before the Judicial Commission in the name of the People of Jerome Relocation Center in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of the Judicial Commission.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1

Charter: This Charter shall be subject to amendment only in the following manner:

- a. Upon petition signed by one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the qualified electors or upon a resolution passed by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Councilmen, and upon approval by the Project Director, the proposed amendment or amendments shall be given publication in the "Denson Tribune," or in any other newspaper of general circulation in the Jerome Relocation Center.
- b. After one (1) week has expired, a special election shall be held, and the qualified electors shall cast their votes in the manner of election of councilmen.
- c. A majority of qualified electors voting on such issue shall be necessary to pass an amendment to this Charter.

SECTION 2

By-laws: The By-laws shall be subject to amendment only in the following manner; by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote of the duly elected Councilmen.

ARTICLE IX

RATIFICATION

SECTION 1

Charter: The ratification of a majority of the qualified electors of Jerome Relocation Center voting therefor shall be necessary for the adoption of this Charter and By-laws.

SECTION 2

Continuance of Temporary Community Council in office until superseded:
The Temporary Community Council of Jerome Relocation Center shall continue in office until the Jerome Community Council hereinabove set forth shall have been duly elected and organized.

BY-LAWS
OF THE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF
JEROME RELOCATION CENTER

ARTICLE I

GENERAL ELECTIONS

SECTION 1

All persons eighteen (18) years of age or over shall be eligible to vote in all elections.

SECTION 2

- a. All elections of Councilmen shall be preceded by nominating petitions of each block; and such nominating petition must contain at least ten (10) names of qualified voters of each block. The signature of any voter signing more than one petition shall be void except the first filed petition.
- b. General election of Councilmen shall be held at such intervals as provided for in Article I, Sections 4 and 5, and the dates of such elections shall be determined by the Council.

SECTION 3

- a. The block manager and three (3) persons selected by the voters of each block, one (1) month prior to the election date, shall constitute the Election Board of said block. No nominee shall serve of said Board.
- b. Each Election Board shall register all eligible voters of the block; shall receive all nominating petitions three (3) weeks before the election date and submit the same to the Council; shall receive ballots prepared by the Council and properly check the same before distribution; shall supervise the voting at a designated polling place in each block; shall check each voter against the registration list of eligible voters before a ballot is issued to the voter; and shall count the votes cast and certify the election result to the Council.
- c. The election of the first Council shall be held within one (1) month of the ratification of this Charter. Plans for the organization of Election Boards for election of the first Council shall be the responsibility of the Temporary Community Council, and thereafter plans for the organization of Election Boards shall be the responsibility of the Council.

ARTICLE II

VOTING

SECTION 1

A majority vote of the Councilmen present at any and all meetings of the Community Council shall be necessary to determine all issues including election of officers and the enactment of rules and regulations, except as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 2

There shall be no proxy voting.

Section 3

The method of voting shall be by voice unless otherwise designated by the Chairman, in which case it will be done through secret ballot.

SECTION 4

Rules of order: Unless otherwise provided, "Roberts' Rules of Order" shall govern all meetings.

ARTICLE III

SECRETARIES

SECTION 1

The Council may, with the consent of the Project Director, appoint one (1) or more recording secretaries whenever necessary.

SECTION 2

The compensation of such secretaries shall be paid by the War Relocation Authority.

ARTICLE IV

STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. Members: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, and Executive Secretary of the Council; and the Chairman of the Block Managers.
- b. Duties of the Executive Committee: It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee acting on behalf of, and at the direction of the Community Council to work with the Project Director and help solve all problems concerning community welfare.
- c. The Council shall empower the Executive Committee to make any emergency decision which might be deemed beneficial to the welfare of the Center residents.

SECTION 2. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

- a. Members: The members of the Resolution Committee shall be three (3) citizens to be elected by the Council.
- b. Duties of the Resolutions Committee: The only function of this Committee shall be to phrase the resolutions passed by the Council.