

Oneida Indians, Inc.
Executive Committee
January 11, 1963
Special

Special meeting called with Superintendent E. J. Riley and other officials. Visiting officials were Mr. Max Katy a member of the Public Housing Administration of Chicago, Mr. Lawrence Kaylawski Assistant Superintendent expert on housing, Mr. Carey, Forest Manager from the Ashland Agency and Mr. E.J. Riley of Ashland Agency. Members of Executive Committee, Julius Danforth Chairman, Irene Moore Vice Chair, Althea Schuyler Treasurer, and Vivian DeCoteau, a member of Credit Committee. The secretary Evan Dafnorth was absent.

The main purpose of this meeting was to inform the Oneida group the advantages of Public Housing and that now it is available to Indian groups ,which has been available to other communities throughout the United States for some time. The 1st Indian group to accept this project was a community on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. Mr. Carey explained that all the plans and buildings would be advanced by this group, they would also do the landscaping and houses would be furnished with all modern conveniences such as electricity, plumbing, heat, etc. but the land would be furnished by the Oneida Tribe and authority given them for about 40 years, it was mentioned that the 15 acres Oneida Memorial Park would be an ideal place.

There are procedures and details to be worked out by both parties. Mr. Carey also pointed out that this housing project are for people who want better homes to live in with low income such as working people with low income, retired people with modest income and for old age people and that rent would be about \$5.00 to \$20.00 a month plus utilities.

One of the requirements to obtain this long term housing project is for us the Executive Committee to demonstrate and assure the Housing Authority that there is an actual need in the community for it and expenses can be taken care of by rent and some assurance that this will be used and be needed for the next 40 years. It would be expected that renters would be responsible for upkeep and that there would be a committee of authority to see to it this would be taken care of.

This public housing project would be on a rental basis only and expenses taken care by rent. Mr. Carey also informed us one of the 1st things we should do is for the Executive Committee to appoint 5 members of the tribe as the Housing Committee to work with the Executive Committee from 1-4 years and that we could have one member on the committee that is a non-Indian (optional).

2nd a study and approval of a questionnaire would be the 1st step to action in establishing a housing project and this meeting is set for January 23rd with the housing officials , the time of day would be set later and Mr. Carey and Mr. Kaylawski would be notified by the secretary.

Adjournment meeting with the Public Housing officials was finished and adjourned and the meeting with the Executive Committee and Mr. Riley and Executive Committee was called to order by Julius Danforth.

Mr. Riley had the minutes of the General Semi Tribal Council meeting which was held on Monday January 7th, he was unable to attend this council meeting so he wanted some explanations of what took place and some corrections was made in the minutes such as voting on resolutions, where it stated 51 tribal members present, and 33 or 31 voting for it and was not mentioned how many against, explanation was a quorum was present 33 or 31 voted and there was no opposition. There were three resolutions passed and voted on at this General Council meeting and he explained the resolution concerning the restoration of unclaimed annuity to tribal funds and said however it was restored he would try to get some of this money to go into tribal account to replace rehab. Funds now being used for expenses of the tremendous task of bringing the Oneida roll up to date which is costing more than was anticipated.

Covering the resolution on elections ordinance, a motion was made at the January 7th meeting to adopt the resolution with this addition that the date and day for the General Semi Tribal Council be changed to Saturday, July . Mr. Riley informed us that his could not be done as it would be illegal unless there was first a referendum vote, a procedure for amendment to the constitution and would write us a letter to that effect later. He advised the Executive Committee should write a letter of request to the Ashland Agency for Mr. McArthur to help us revise our constitution and by laws in the near future. He also mentioned that it has not been the policy of the agency to audit tribal books unless a request was made by a tribe which was made at our semi General Tribal Council meeting for this tribe.

Concerning Surplus Commodities, he informed us that he could not help us very much on that subject as it could not be handled through the Ashland Agency. He thought it could best be handled by the Executive Council with Mr. Austin, Oneida Township Chair and county but would do what he could and make an explanation for our situation to whom it would concern. Mr. Austin, Town chairman was present and advised us that getting surplus commodities looked very promising now, he attended a county welfare meeting January 10th in which the head of the board was in favor.

Mr. Riley wanted some explanation on the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in evening of January 7th, a resolution covering the right of way in Township of Hobart in which was stated 4 executive members voted and 3 executive members were present but an error was made, it was 4 executive members present and 3 members voted, the chairman did not vote as 3 voted for it.

Leslie and Eva Danforth had requested a permit to cut wood and brush some time ago but did not get a reply. Mr. Carey Forest Manager was present. He said he could not find the description and advised to make a new request with description. Meeting was adjourned.

The Executive Committee remained after all officials left for a brief discussion on how to go about to express our appreciation for Mr. Riley and his ever willing assistance to our

problems at any time we ask. This being the beginning of a new year would be an appropriate time to do so. It was decided the least we could do is to write a letter of appreciation to him, the area Superintendent in Minneapolis and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Adjournment

Irene Danforth
Acting Secretary

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