

MINUTES

MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE ONEIDA TRIBAL COUNCIL
with
MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE OF GREEN BAY
July 29, 1969, Green Bay City Hall

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by the Chairman, Mr. Oscar Archiquette, showed the following persons present:

GREEN BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Chairman, Oscar Archiquette; Vice-Chairman, Norbert Hill; Secretary, Norris Skenandore; Bob Houle; Nick Conlon; Hal LoCasio; James Ruben; Jerry Mortell

INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION:

Chairman, Wendell McLester; Oscar Archiquette; Anna John; Norris Skenandore

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Chairman, Percy Powless; Vice-Chairman, Irene Moore; Secretary, Amelia Cornelius; Treasurer, Albert Manders; Housing Authority, Dean Sickles

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS TO FORM NINE-MEMBER COUNCIL:

Ira Cornelius, Julia Barton, Norbert Hill, Gordon McLester, Joycelyn Ninham

The Chairman waived the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting in lieu of copies having been presented to all members for their careful perusal.

By proper action the minutes were corrected to read: Page 1, 3rd paragraph, "the tribal roll of approximately, 6,600 members-----would leave in the fund approximately \$175,000 for improvement-----." With these corrections accepted, the minutes were approved.

REPORT OF CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Conlon was asked to read this report. He again reminded the meeting that this Committee was acting in an advisory capacity only. As the report was carefully read corrections were made and accepted in the wording; the figures were revised in some instances to a more accurate representation. The report as revised is recorded herewith.

The following information is intended to help explain the facts concerning the judgment fund and how it might be best used by the Oneida Indian Tribe. The members of the Tribe will have to study the alternatives and then make their choice as to their future.

What is the Citizens's Advisory Council?

This is a group of Green Bay Business and Professional men who have volunteered, without pay, to join with the members of the Oneida Tribe, to present advice to tribal members concerning the use of the Judgment Fund and the development of an Oneida Industrial Park. Their only function is advisory. Their goal is to use their individual experience to give tribal members good alternatives to choose. In the process they hope to assist the Oneida Tribe to further enhance their pride by winning the respect and admiration of the surrounding communities and knitting a closer bond between them and their neighbors.

What is the Judgment Fund?

The Judgment Award Funds for the Oneida Tribe are a result of the awarding of a claim for land which was taken away from them. The exact amount will be determined when the other two tribes participating have completed taking their roll. The funds are presently on deposit in Oklahoma at a 6% rate. The statement attached is an estimate by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the funds which will be made available to the Oneida Tribe. The Advisory Council is using these figures to prepare their recommendations. (See supplement pages 4 & 5.)

What is an Industrial Park?

An Industrial Park is land set aside to bring new industry and business to a community. Communities start industrial parks because they need new employment.

SUGGESTION by Mr. Ruben, that Messrs. Conlon and Houle continue to accept responsibility for the accuracy of the figures used in the final draft. This they agreed to do and the corrected figures are shown on supplement page 4.

How did the Oneida Tribe get an Industrial Park?

Approximately 31 acres of land located on West Mason Street is the middle of the Packerland (Green Bay) Industrial Park was purchased by the Oneida Tribe. A loan of \$60,000 was granted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for this purpose. In addition, a grant of \$304,000 and a loan of \$48,000 was given to improve the property by the Economic Development Association. The clearing process and installation of sewer, water and roads should be completed by November, 1969.

Who Owns the Oneida Industrial Park?

The Oneida Industrial Park is owned by the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. The land is held in trust by the United States Government for the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin.

How Does the Oneida Industrial Park Differ From the Other Industrial Parks in The Area?

The main difference is that the property is NOT subject to real estate property Taxes. (This is pending a legal opinion on this point.)

What Can an Industrial Park do For the Oneida Tribe?

If the Industrial Park can attract new companies to their Park and construct buildings for these companies to rent, the following are some of the benefits which would come to the Tribe:

- a. New job opportunities and training programs would be provided.
- b. Income would be created from rent (charged to the companies) for Tribal projects such as scholarships, public works, etc.
- c. The buildings would become a permanent investment for the Tribe.
- d. The Industrial Park would be a permanent example of Oneida Tribal accomplishment and create more pride and unity among tribal members and neighboring communities.

How do the Oneidas Get This Park Started?

It takes money to build buildings. Even if money is borrowed for these buildings, a down payment of 10% or 20% of the cost of the building is required before money can be borrowed.

Where Can the Oneida Tribe Get Money for These Buildings?

All or a part of the Judgment Fund could be used for this purpose. The more money available for this project, the more income the Tribe will receive each year. If the tribal members choose not to contribute part of their judgment fund, hopefully, other methods might be found.

This will be difficult and will delay the project. Unless this is a project involving all tribal members, it will be more difficult to get a decision making the property NOT subject to real estate taxes.

What Are the Advisory Committee's Recommendations?

These recommendations are set forth in a separate report by this Committee.
(See supplement pages 4 & 5.)

SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

The BIA should be contacted to get the specific figures of the items involved on page 2 of the original report.

Bronson LaFollette gave an opinion that the land would be tax free. The question of whether or not this would also include the buildings should be clarified, and Mr. Houle offered to do this.

Mr. Houle will also find out whether or not the buildings can be used as collateral in raising money for further construction.

MOTION:

By Mr. Archiquette, seconded by Mr. Conlon--carried; that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, when corrected, as suggested and discussed in this meeting, be submitted to the Chairman of the Oneida Tribal Council for their action.

Mr. Ruben suggested that besides an acknowledgement, since the Advisory Committee has worked so diligently to prepare the report, that they meet with the members of the Executive Committee of the Tribal Council so that final recommendations can be explained in detail and receive the fullest consideration of that governing body.

Mr. Purcell suggested that after the figures have been thoroughly checked for accuracy that they be discussed with the members before submission in their final form to the Tribal Council.

Mr. Houle emphasized that accurate publicity should be given on the context of this meeting and that he would confer with the local press in this regard.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:40 p.m., subject to recall by the Chairman.

Submitted by, Norris Skenandore
Assisted by, Marjorie Leonard

ONEIDA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF WISCONSIN

JUDGMENT AWARD FUND

(These figures were given to us in a letter dated July 31, 1969, from the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Great Lakes Agency to Mr. Oscar Archiquette.)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Oneida Share of Award, estimated at approximately	\$900,000
Estimated interest accruals as of 12/31/69	<u>74,250</u>
Total -----	\$974,250
2. Obligations which must be paid from Judgment Fund Award:	
BIA Revolving Credit Loan	\$60,000
EDA Loan on Industrial Park	<u>48,000</u>
Total Firm Obligations -----	\$108,000
Estimated accrued interest due on above loans -----	10,620
Estimated shortage on construct- ion costs for industrial park -	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>30,620</u>
Total Obligation to Date -----	<u>138,630</u>
Balance of Award Funds	\$835,630
3. Reservation Programs:	
15% of \$900,000	\$135,000
Less Estimated Total Obligations	138,620
4. Commitments from "Interest Earned," on Judgment Funds, by Tribe:	
Oneida, Chicago Corners School	\$ 26,400
" Nations Memorial Building	<u>30,000</u>
	<u>56,400</u>
ESTIMATED AMOUNT FOR COMPUTING EARNED INTEREST -----	<u>\$779,230</u>

What are the Advisory Committee's Recommendations?

1. Use the whole judgment fund for investment purposes, largely in the Industrial Park. The best chance for high income is to use the WHOLE JUDGMENT FUND.

Example: \$700,000 invested in buildings at 10% leases would provide a gross income of \$70,000 a year. On long-term leases, this would provide constant income for many years. The buildings constructed with these funds could be used as collateral for loans to build additional buildings.

2. Based on the figure of 6,600 Oneidas eligible to participate in the Judgment Fund, and a sum of \$700,000 available for distribution to tribal members, the following plan could be worked out:

- a. Each member would receive \$80 ($\$ 80 \times 6,600 = \$528,000$)
- b. Remaining funds to the Industrial Park ($\$700,000$ less $\$528,000 = \$172,000$)
- c. The \$172,000 would be used as down payment for loans to build additional buildings in the Industrial Park.
- d. Assuming the money could be used as a down payment for \$1,438,000 of loans, the Industrial Park could build \$1,600,000 of buildings. Also assuming a 25-year payment schedule, the annual gross income to the Industrial Park would be as follows at 8% interest:

\$1,600,000 @ 10% annual lease	\$160,000
Annual principal & interest payments on loan	<u>133,000</u>

Estimated Annual Gross Profit \$ 27,000

3.
 - a. All over 60 years get \$100 per person; members from 21 to 60 years get \$90 per person; members under 21 get \$80 per person.
 - b. Estimating the payout under this plan at \$582,000, would leave approximately \$112,000 for investment in the Industrial Park.
4. Use none of the Judgment Funds for the Industrial Park or investment and pay the funds to the tribal members on a per capita basis. The Committee respectfully advises that this would be a tragic mistake by the Oneidas making the development of the Industrial Park extremely difficult, if not impossible.