



Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin

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UGWA DEMOLUM YATEHE
Because of the help of this Oneida Chief in cementing a friendship between the six nations and the Colony of Pennsylvania a new nation the United States was made possible



INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH LAND CLAIMS COMMISSION
RADISSION 5:00 P.M.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1992

Present: Rick Hill-Chairman, Amelia Cornelius-Secretary, Russell Metoxen-Council Members

Land Claims Commission: Judy Cornelius, Cliff Cornelius, Mark Powless

Others: Marj Stevens, Arlinda Locklear, Francis Skenandore, Gerald L. Hill

Ad Hoc Land Claims Commission: Celene Elm, Chas Wheelock, Vera & Ben Wilson

Cliff Cornelius - Reviews past action of the Land Claims and need to decide which direction to proceed in the future. Acknowledge Arlinda and Francis past activities in the lawsuit and negotiations.

- Status of present claim
- Status of winning title but not possession
- Purchase land in New York

Need to develop PR plan prior to doing lawsuit - do not want to take land from individual home owners.

Some of lands in New York Onondogas are claiming - Concern for freeway expansion in New York.

ARLINDA - HISTORICAL SUMMARY

1985 - Supreme Court - 871 acres - test case lands remain titled to Oneida George Shattuck did not seek possession; Reason - establish legal principle and remanded to court on damages after Supreme Court ruling - then State of New York wanted to negotiate.

Judge McKern agreed to put hold on any other lawsuits on '74 Case and good faith issue.

Late 1986 - Negotiations Committee finally organized. It took about another two years for Oneida to develop principles for settlement. Two proposals submitted, one by New York Oneidas and one by Wisconsin and Canada Oneidas. Both value over \$1 billion in services, land and money.

Francis and Arlinda argued for a lower monetary settlement, however Committee wanted more. The State requested a Unified proposal. Two years ensued while the Tribes worked on a joint proposal. State took 1 1/2 years to provide counter

proposal - February of 1992). Received rejection of principle ideas with Oneida and would settle with New York Oneida, eliminated Wisconsin and Canada Oneidas, based on a refusal to negotiate.

May 1992 - Francis Skenandore, Arlinda Locklear and Brannon
Completed:

- 1) a. Retain PR/Government Affairs firm to negotiate further with State of New York. Someone to deal with Governor.
b. Do PR campaign to educate public about the claim and while they would file law suit.
- 2) Go back to Judge McKern and tell him to activate test case and decide on damages.
- 3) File amended case in 1974 case to challenge past 1974 cases , 24 more treaties 1798-1822.

Purpose - Not to litigate to end - concern that court will get Tribe on "Latches".

Prepare to push New York to negotiate, even though Tribe can be in court for 2-3 years on procedural issues.

Strategy to force better terms in negotiations.

1. Sue private individuals will cause owners not to get title insurance
This will cause an economic disruption on people.

A similar pattern of forcing negotiations start when individuals are sued

Present situation allows State to just sit and are not being pressured by individuals.

Approximately 30,000 persons reside in 230,000 acres of land.

New York state is virtually broke

Chas would like to look for the positive and obtain an equitable settlement
Look to do something positive to assist the problems of the State.

Problem is to convince the State to settle

Chas proposed to purchase lands in New York. Arlinda's reaction that state would not care if Tribe purchased lands, should put pressure on State to provide title. Chas feels Tribe should look at cooperative ownership. Loretta feels the purchase of land would put pressure on New York Oneidas.

Loretta wants to change law firms with more resources and firm to donate 100% of time to this suit.

Arlinda is prepared to donate more time and resources to work on the case.
Attorneys have not received instructions to proceed.

Francis's time is determined by the Business Committee. Attorneys have basically held back while negotiations are taking place, except for preparing documents.

Oneida will need to decide a final document that can be agreed upon for settlement.

Building bridge with New York Oneidas. Arlinda informed Brownwood (Attorney for Halbritter) about hiring Bill Hennessy (PR firm).

New York Oneidas agree that the proposal from New York is not acceptable and agree that lawsuits with individuals is the way to go.

Tribe need to develop education and PR of all Oneidas, Wisconsin, New York and Canada.

Health Services and Education, people in New York are already receiving these benefits.

Each community will need their own Attorney as each community has it's own interest.

Gerald L. Hill - 100% commitment is different from 100% of time - Believes that Francis and Arlinda have provided 100% commitment all the time. Looking at involvement for us will take some time and supports keeping Arlinda Locklear and Francis Skenandore.

Marj feels that Halbritter has New York State in his hand. Others disagreed

Attorneys met early in March and reviewed New York's proposal however no instructions provided to attorneys.

Gerald L. Hill - The concept of the Unification proposal was a historic document of joint efforts of 3 Oneida Communities. There was other issues that were held back from the table that could not be agreed upon such as the membership issue provided by Halbritter which did not provide for Oneida blood. He does not see a quick settlement within five years.

NEED:

- Review Arlinda's contract
- Priority for Francis
- Proceed with lawsuit by Reactive complaint for damages and file amended 1974 case.

Recommend Arlinda and Francis meet at least every other month with Land Claims Commission.

Another alternative is to mediate a negotiation - this is a less attractive way to go.



Amelia Cornelius, Tribal Secretary
Oneida Business Committee