

MINUTES
JAVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Saturday, September 19, 2009, 10:30 AM
Base Technologies

PRESENT: Bob Nakamoto, Earl Takeguchi, Bruce Hollywood, Gerald Yamada, Reuben Yoshikawa, Bill Houston, Terry Shima.

ABSENT: Calvin Ninomiya (excused); Mike Yaguchi (excused); Bert Mizusawa (excused); Kay Wakatake (PCS assignment); Grant Ichikawa (excused)

Minutes: June 20, 2009. Approved via email in June 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

SPEAKERS BUREAU, REPORT. Nothing extraordinary to report during the past 3 months. Among other events for the next quarter, Mary Murakami and Shima will speak at the Community college of Baltimore City, Essex Campus and Community College of Howard County. Each college will send a \$500 honorarium check to Earl.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE AND SEAL PRESS. Need Mike Yaguchi's exemplars of life membership and seal press.

COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP. REPORT. Gerald reported that the USPS has denied JAVA's FOIA appeal asking for compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Report to allow for public meetings. The USPS relied on the deliberative process privilege for keeping the CSAC meetings closed to the public and did not respond to the FACA arguments raised in JAVA's letter. Gerald also reported that CSAC denied Congressman Honda's request to reconsider the Nisei Soldier Stamp proposal at its last meeting but CSAC stated that it is still considering a stamp for the National Japanese American Memorial. The Nisei veterans stamp committee informed Congressman Honda that they will still pursue obtaining approval for the Nisei Soldier Stamp even if a stamp is approved for the Memorial. Gerald proposed how JAVA could continue supporting the committee. BD voted to continue supporting the committee and asked Gerald to continue developing the strategy to support the committee.

SCHOLARSHIPS. Discussions were held to fund the Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 annually. It was decided that when the scholarship is granted next Spring, we simply draw the funds from Regal Discount Securities. Executive Director (ED) was directed to advise Taubkin's attorney that commencing Spring 2010 JAVA will award a \$1,000 Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin Scholarship to a high school senior entering a higher institution of learning.

VETERANS DAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009. As in each year, 2009 Veterans Day will be marked by two events. In the morning JAVA will attend the VA program at Arlington Cemetery. In the afternoon JAVA will hold its 9th Annual Veterans Day Program at the

Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. The principal speaker will be LTG Joseph Peterson, USA (10 minutes) and the second speaker will be Christine Sato Yamazaki (5 minutes). Mike Yaguchi is the chair of the program at the Memorial. Christine will also attend the morning event.

NATIONAL VETERANS MEETING. Grant Ichikawa attended the August 14, 2009 meeting in Los Angeles. As the result of that meeting, a joint participants letter was sent to Senator Barbara Boxer endorsing her bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT. The meeting also decided to explore the possibility of sending a second joint letter to Senator Boxer proposing the inclusion of MIS in the Bill.

HONORARY CHAIRS. Hershey Miyamura (MOH), George Sakato (MOH), and Barney Hajiro (MOH) were contacted. Hershey, George and Barney approved. Bob sent letters to them using the new stationary. They join Senators Inouye and Akaka and former Secretary Mineta

DONATIONS OF SECURITIES. Bob Nakamoto suggested that JAVA accept securities as donations to JAVA. Following discussions it was decided that this is an excellent idea and we should announce it to our members. The securities can be put in the Regal Discount Securities account. ED was directed to send out a notice.

NEW BUSINESS

NARA DIGITIZE PROJECT. Pending Fumi Yamamoto's inventory of pages that have been digitized and an estimated number of pages yet to go, ED provided a heads up that we may need more than the \$1,000 to \$2,000 increments JAVA and Ted Tsukiyama have provided. In addition to scanning the documents at NARA, Dave Buto said subject to funding availability he would like to hire someone to help him on the website database to allow researchers to search by topics and names. Gerald said National Park Service (NPS) have grants for this purpose. Rosalyn Tonai told JAVA that NJAHS has experience in applying for the NPS grants and would be willing to help us. Gerald will advise when we should submit our application to NPS.

As part of this project, Gerald Yamada suggested that photos of the over 400 Nisei soldiers who are listed on the Memorial wall be added to the JAVA website if their photos are available in the NARA files. He noted that the Viet Nam War Memorial has just announced a similar photo project to make the listing of names of the Viet Nam soldiers more personal. ED said he would look into whether the photos are available.

Bill said that if NARA is open on Saturdays we should organize a group to go there to digitize. He is willing to participate. ED will research this option.

JACL DINNER GALA on September 17, 2009 at the JW Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC was dedicated to all Japanese American veterans. JAVA, GFBNEC, NJAHS and the Japanese American Korean War Veterans received the prestigious JACL

awards. JAVA members occupied 6 tables, two tables of which were bought by JAVA President Bob Nakamoto and two by JACL to veterans who otherwise might not have attended. The Board thanks Bob and Floyd Mori for their generosity.

2010 SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL. Gerald reported that he attended a meeting regarding the 2010 Folklife Festival. One of the themes for 2010 will be Asian Pacific Americans in the DC area. This will be the first time Smithsonian will include an ethnic group theme in the Folklife Festival. The Smithsonian's APA Program is fundraising to raise \$400,000 to pay for part of the costs. Gerald moved that JAVA sponsor this event by donating \$1,200. Motion was seconded and approved. JAVA will attempt to participate in this event.

JAPANESE AMERICAN EXHIBIT AT ELLIS ISLAND. Eric Saul was commissioned by the National Park Service to construct an exhibit on Japanese American experience during WW II and their legacy at the Ellis Island (NYC) Museum from May 24, 2010 for five months. NPS said some 7,000 people visit Ellis Island on a warm day. Saul has invited and JAVA has agreed to serve on the planning committee.

JAVA MEMBERS TO KEY POSITIONS. MG Tony Taguba, a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee on Minority Veterans, was appointed as its Chairman succeeding MG Jim Mukoyama, USAR (Ret), also a JAVA member. COL Michael Cardarelli, USA (Ret), life member of JAVA, was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff of Department of Veterans Affairs on September 18, 2009.

NEXT MEETING. Saturday, December 19, 2009, Base Technologies.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Terry Shima, Pinch Hitter

9/23/09