

4 March 2005

Memorandum for Record

Subject: Summary of 2 March 2005 JAVA Executive Council Meeting

1. The following people attended the Executive Council meeting on 2 March 2005 at the Tachibana Restaurant:

Vic Mukai	Vice President
Terry Shima	Executive Director
Calvin Ninomiya	
Earl Takeguchi	Treasurer
Dave Buto	Secretary
Grant Ichikawa	Social Committee chair
Phil Ishio	Past President
Connie Ishio	

Absent:

Bert Mizusawa	President
Gerald Yamada	

2. Old business:

a. Vic welcomed EC members and asked if there were any comments regarding the minutes from the 7 January 2005 EC meeting. There were none. Vic moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was carried.

b. TREASURER'S REPORT. Earl Takeguchi delivered the report of JAVA finances. The transfer of responsibilities from Jack Tashiro (former treasurer) has been done. Signature cards at the bank have been completed. Earl is the principal signatory and Jack is secondary. Account details will be provide by Earl.

Some of these contributions were donations to JAVA. Earl suggested the JAVA prepare letters thanking them and recognizing their contribution and indicating the letter should be saved for tax purposes – the group agreed.

Earl asked about the policy for office supplies...is there a budget set aside for this? There is no set budget in the annual expenditure for office supplies. The group discussed this and agreed that JAVA members should seek EC permission. For the EC carrying out normal duties such as mailing JAVA letters or the newsletter, etc. costs less than \$250 require no permission, but receipts must be presented to the Treasurer. The group approved this decision. Dave

provided Grant with a roll of old 32 cent and 55 cent stamps that were in the old JAVA documentation.

The EC received and approved Warren Tsuneishi's proposal to donate \$50 to JAVA which will be to support the origami display—await receipt from Marcia Mau.

JAVA EXPANSION: Vic & Terry discussed the status of invitations to other Nisei veterans groups that are disbanding to joining JAVA. Lifetime members are granted lifetime membership in JAVA. Normal members are invited to join as regular members. Letters were sent to GFB Alliance; MIS NORCAL, MIS Northwest. Rocky Mountain MIS. Sent letters to MIS NORCAL (159 life members; 76 non-life members). At our next E.C. meeting Membership Committee chair can provide results. GFB Alliance has not responded officially but Bacon Sakatani said he is canvassing the members. Sent another msg to MIS NORCAL – awaiting Denver too.

c. Post WW II Veterans. The EC is looking into ways to increase membership from the Post WWII veterans. Vic mentioned that possibly JAVA could help with advice and assistance with transition from service to civilian life. The issue was put on hold pending further study.

d. FEDERAL CHARTER. Terry discussed the idea of securing a Federal Charter. The Federal Charter would give JAVA increased visibility and stature. Obtaining a charter requires Congressional action and sponsorship. Terry has been in contact with other VSOs and Akaka's office and is working the process. It could take years to accomplish. Terry hopes to have a report by the next E.C. meeting. One of our statutory obligations is that a federal chartered veterans organization must accept any veteran coming off the street seeking solution to his veteran problem and there is a requirement to provide a report to Congress every year. There are some recently chartered organizations including the Catholic war veterans. Vic indicated that getting chartered is hard to get and easy to lose. Dave gave to Terry a folder containing the original JAVA charter and papers on incorporation, approval from IRS, etc. He needs the documentation for the Federal Charter.

e. NEWS LETTER UPGRADE. Vic has purchased the MS Publisher and is nearly ready to publish a new formatted newsletter. Our next Newsletter is March. We may be ready for March. We may spotlight a JAVA member, or two – we may have a free classified ad area. Dave suggested checking with Gerald Yamada to ensure doing so is OK.

f. VSO POSTAGE STAMP: UPDATE. Grant said we hope to get an answer soon. It would be a reject, approve, or look at later decision. Approval would mean OK to move to next step. Grant will provide additional information as it becomes available.

g. FREEDOM WALK. Terry provided a report on Barbara Nekoba's behalf. Barbara Nekoba, JAVA rep, reported that JAVA participation in the April 2 Freedom Walk is as follows: Joe Ichiuji (WWII) and Glenn Kikuchi (Vietnam War) will serve as honor guards; JAVA will provide the American flag and JAVA colors with stands; Grant Hirabayashi will lead the Pledge of Allegiance; there will be write-up of JAVA in the trifold brochure; and JAVA has pledged \$500 donation. Barbara will advise Earl to whom the check should be sent.

h. JAVA 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PROGRAM. At the last meeting it was decided that JAVA will have a Veterans Day Program at the Memorial to Patriotism. Bert feels JAVA's program on Veterans Day conflicts with the DVA Memorial at Arlington Cemetery which protocol requires the JAVA President to attend. Bert probably wants to get other JAVA EC members to also attend the DAV program. The group debated whether or not to select a date before, on, or after the Veterans Day holiday. The consensus was to avoid a post-Veterans Day event because it would not draw the interest. It was agreed that a Cal and other volunteers would plan for the events and make a recommendation to the EC. Included in the options would be to hold a ceremony on Veterans Day in the afternoon, thereby allowing JAVA to participate in the Arlington Cemetery event and a JAVA event.

i. COMPILING WW II DATA FOR 442<sup>ND</sup> HAWAII: Dave provided an update on the digitization project. About once a month, Dave and Fumie Yamamoto and now Terry Shima visit the NARA and digitize about 100 pages. These are posted on the website and will be in the data base at some point and linked to the personnel data.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS:

a. SANDRA TANAMACHI'S AWARD Terry displayed the suggested award for Sandra. EC members approved the granting of the Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award. Since it was not feasible to present it at the Freedom Walk Program at the Memorial to Patriotism in April it was decided to do it at the JAVA 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Program, November 2005. Jimmie Kanaya and Harry Abe will contribute to JAVA for this event. In this case, JAVA will pay for the air fare, two days of lodging, and the cost of the plaque. The group agreed to provide funds for the award not to exceed \$250.

b. MEMORIAL DAY FLORAL TRIBUTE TO JA GRAVESITES OVERSEAS. Ron Yamada, a *yonsei* California attorney, has a project to have the American Battle Monuments Commission place floral tributes every Memorial Day at 37 100/442/MIS gravesites in US military cemeteries in France, Italy and the Philippines. It is now not being done. The cost is \$1,099 each year. He has raised over \$3,000 thus far and his goal is \$20,000. The custodian of the funds and the executor of the program will probably be the Go For Broke

Foundation, the charitable arm of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club, Hawaii. Ron has asked JAVA to endorse the project with no financial commitment and to provide publicity. The EC endorses the concept and is issuing a press release March 4th.

c. ORVILLE SHIREY SCHOLARSHIP FUND. There is about \$3,665 in the Orville Shirey Scholarship Fund. Dr. James Furukawa and Dr. Ed Wakayama have agreed to serve on the scholarship committee. The EC agreed that the criteria for the scholarship could not be determined at this meeting. All were invited to provide comments to Terry by the end of the week (and address the questions below). These would be presented to the EC via email and if approved, presented to the Shirey family for their approval. Once approved, it would be provided to Drs. Wakayama and Furukawa. The intent is to present the first award in 2006. Part of the groundrules would determine if this scholarship would be an annual event or a one-time event.

- (1) Who qualifies to apply? Any relative of JAVA member? \_\_\_  
Japanese American students at large? \_\_\_ Other? \_\_\_
- (2) What should be the amount of scholarship? \$1,000 \_\_\_;  
\$1,500 \_\_\_; \$2,000 \_\_\_.
- (3) Any student applying for full-time 2-4 year accredited university  
as undergraduate or graduate student? \_\_\_; 4 year only \_\_\_.
- (4) Can a winner apply again in succeeding years?
- (5) Other point(s) for E.C. action?

d. MEMORIAL PRESENTATION TO DECEASED JAVA MEMBERS. The EC agreed that JAVA will provide to send a condolence card and/or a letter on JAVA letterhead.

e. FOX NEWS WAR STORIES WITH OLIVER NORTH. On January 16, 2005, FOXNEWS War Stories with Oliver North, aired a one hour documentary on Japanese Americans during WW II. We provided 15 to 20 names from which FOXNEWS interviewed the following: George Sakato, Grant Ichikawa, Roy Matsumoto, Marty Higgins. JAVA got involved because FOXNEWS went to the JAVA website, apparently saw what they needed, and contacted Dave. "Japanese American Veterans Association" appeared in the credit line.

f. DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS (DVA) VETERANS DAY COMMITTEE. Terry is working to get JAVA included in the Program at Arlington Cemetery. Bert felt JAVA will be in a better position with respect from DVA if JAVA were a member of the Veterans Day Committee. The forms were completed and sent to DVA, which said the board will meet in March 2005 to consider if JAVA qualifies. If it did, the Board will make a decision in June.

g. AKAKA FUND RAISER. John Tagami requested that Terry Shima be the focal point for a fund raiser for Senator Akaka scheduled for later this year.

Considering what Akaka has done for the Japanese Americans over the years and now -- his office is our focal point to get Federal Charter, among other things -- Terry has accepted but will participate in a private capacity, NOT as part of a JAVA-endorsed activity. JAVA must remain apolitical in this regard.

h. NEXT JAVA LUNCHEON MEETING IS ON 23 APRIL...it will be held at the Buto's residence. All the restaurants are booked through the end of the year. Vic Matsui as speaker for hearing aid society as speaker?

i. MERCHANT MARINE QUALIFY FOR MEMBERSHIP? Mike Higgins has applied for membership. He was in Merchant Marine...OK as full member? The group agreed this was not a problem and if necessary, the charter could be revised to ensure it was permitted.

4. The meeting adjourned at 1330.

Prepared by: Dave Buto