

Mile High JACL April minutes

4/3/14

Board present:

Gary Yamashita, Mike Shibata, Donna Hansen, Frank Sakamoto, Toe Sakamoto, Tom Migaki, Harry Budisiharta, Suzuho Shimasaki, Richard Hamai, Gil Asakawa, Mark Shimota, Justin Valas

Guest:

Roz Duman

Meeting called to order by Harry 6:41pm.

I. Minutes approved

- a. First: Suzuho
- b. Second: Frank
- c. Passed

II. Tom Migaki introduced Roz Duman, Founder of Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action, CCGAA. Educating Coloradoians about genocide. They created an exhibit called the "Dead weight of compliancy" 21 panels to educate the public on past and current concerns. They have held rallies, testified, and motivated press to cover genocide. They want to get a bus and do another tour. They have even been featured on the Holocaust Museum web site. They are still working to get the word out through survivors' personal stories. Former governor Bill Ritter is now the chair of their honorary board. They hold an annual youth conference and work closely with Facing History. Gil shared with Roz that it was Japanese American soliders who first freed Jews from the concentration camps this fact has been sorely under played in US history.

III. Treasurer's Report

- a. Richard received Fairmont ad, national JACL refund
- b. Honorarium for Corky Lee exhibit discussion. Erin sent a nice thank you letter for giving Mr. Lee an honorarium.
- c. Paid national dues.
- d. Richard has been working with Minoru Yasui family to create a memorial. He has applied to national for a \$3K legacy grant. Managing budget for creating a tribute film in his memory. Holly is working on nominating Minoru Yasui for a congressional metal of honor.
- e. Richard is temporary chair of the grant but there needs to be another person to be the project manager. Who can help with this?
- f. Budget approved:
 1. First - Mark
 2. Second - Gil
 3. Approved by majority

III. Succession planning - Harry suggested co-presidents.

IV. Traci Kato Kiriyama event. Gary will bring refreshments to show support by JARC. Members please tell your networks about this exciting event. Thanks to Gil for bringing this event.

V. Hafu event update. Suzuho said tickets are on sale. Panel is ready. Gil has questions ready. It is in Asian Avenue calendar and we have a full page ad for the event. Justin will send it to NAAAP too.

VI. Harry notimated Frank for the Asian American Heros award. May 24, 10 am. Mike and Harry will be going. Fran

VII. National JACL attendee July 9-12. Justin may go.

VIII. Leadership Summit Report by Justin. Great learning and networking. Keep building poliital power and engage younger JAs. Healthy national relationship with OCA. Discussed immigration reform and voting rights amendment act.

IX. Newsletter - who is signed up?

X. Membership update from Justin. Harry says around 175 members.

XI. DOR - Mark said History Colorado has asked us to come back again. There are issues with the space and design of the camp exhibit. There should be a sign that says the space is not correct because of ADA requirements. What if grandchildren told the internment stories their grandparents shared. Perhaps Traci can do an exercise on telling the family internment story. Mark, if we don't establish that living link we are going to lose it.

XII. Political advocacy day Justin said Gigi Degala said the training encouraged her to think we can engage that way. Joint memorial for AAPI History Day for May have Rep. Duran will run it. Erin and Harry will help get support to bring it to the floor at end of April. Justin will send out an action alert.

Board meeting May 8 we will be in the mezzane

Board meetings May-August second thursday of the month due to the Rockies.

Future events:

April 16th 6:30pm JACL Mile High California Pizza Kitchen social

Gil is a social media fellow for AARP