

TO: Grace Pozera FROM: McClara Macomber DATE: April 12, 1960
SUBJECT: Recreational Director for the Onaida Indian Community - Onaida, Wisconsin - 2

community persons who are already engaged in some phases of activity in order to assure cooperation and to avoid possible conflicts.

4. No community center exists in the community. However, two churches in the area make their facilities available to members of the community for recreational purposes. Also, there is tribal land which might be used for outdoor recreation. (The recreation director will need to organize these various resources in a manner which will be of both use and, at the same time, coordinate activities which will not be in conflict with ongoing activities of the respective institutions).

4a. The Onaida Executive Committee conceives of a recreation program as being more than sports and other physical educational activities. It is also felt that some adults can benefit from various phases of a well planned program. (The recreation director will need sufficient skills in developing and carrying out a program which, at some times, alert, be conducive to adult participation. Emphasis has been placed upon the need for a highly qualified recreation director).

5. Since no professionally trained recreation workers exist in the Onaida community and the request for such a worker is for a short period of time (summer) it will be necessary for potential leadership to be developed to the extent that persons will be able to provide continuity for whatever recreation program is set up during the summer. (Therefore, the recreation worker is expected to mobilize the existing resources which might have potentiality for carrying out various aspects of a recreation program after the summer period).

The Onaida Executive Committee will hold its next meeting on April 20th and it would be helpful to them to know the progress, if any, we have made in trying to find a recreation worker. However, we could make no definite promise that a recreation worker would be found by AFSA.

I know this is a very big order, Grace, for anyone who would attempt to work in the Onaida situation, but the challenge is tremendous.

Many thanks for giving this year attention and we would appreciate any reactions and comments from all concerned.

Regards,

cc: Thelma King
Anja Olin
Howard Reed
Riddle Walker
Kato Williams

1437 Western Avenue
Green Bay, Wisconsin
January 24, 1960

Senator William Proxmire
Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Oneida Indian needs in Wisconsin

Dear Senator Proxmire:

In his letter to you of 12-29-59 Mr. Oscar Archiquette proposed an F.H.A. type of loan to permit Indians to build "modern homes on an assignment of tribal land which is held in trust by the Federal Government." He suggested the need for a period of 20 years for repayment of such loans.

The Illinois-Wisconsin Friends Committee for American Indians shares Mr. Archiquette's concern and we hope you will give it earnest consideration. We have been informed that the chairman and secretary of the Oneida Tribal Council also support Mr. Archiquette's proposal for a long-term housing mortgage program.

Neither this committee nor the Indian spokesmen with whom we are acquainted want to increase Indian dependence upon the Federal Government, but we concur whole-heartedly in Mr. Archiquette's appeal for a substantial rehabilitation effort.

While rehabilitation is expensive, it is also economical, since it enables so many of a handicapped group to become independent taxpayers, rather than life-long tax consumers. That the Oneida Indians are handicapped seems apparent from the disproportionate number receiving very low incomes and living in small, crowded, poorly equipped houses, sometimes lacking even a pump for water within a mile or more. That they have become handicapped largely through policies and actions of officials and others in the dominant group seems clear from a reading of the recent corrected version of history, Indians and Other Americans by Harold Fey and D'Arcy Mc Nickle (Harper and Brothers, New York, 1959.)

There will never be a better time than this to pursue an effective rehabilitation program based upon a genuine understanding of the true history of American Indians and of their current plight and their potential.

Sen. William Proxmire

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January 22, 1960

strengths. This might require, among other services, capital and expert consultation for economic development.

Very truly yours,

Walter Taylor
Acting Corresponding Secretary
ILLINOIS-WISCONSIN FRIENDS COMMITTEE
FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

WT:emp

Tues Jan 7

Motion by Lee McAtee to authorize
Treas. to make a check to Arno
Miller, Vice Pres of NCAI, Miami
Area for \$10. to help with his
expenses to Wash D.C. on Jan 16.
Seconded by Gus W. Currie.
Motion to pay Jan 5 \$2. for
janitor fees.

Jan. 6 - 4 pm - 6:00.

Mention letter to Committee to
ask for more housing units

Frank Dorfert