

Recount Asked in Election Of Oneida Business Unit

Purcell Powless was re-elected chairman of the Oneida Tribal Business Committee, but challenger Loretta Metoxen is asking for a recount. Powless, chairman since 1967, received 173 votes, to 161 for Mrs. Metoxen. Wendell McLeister, the third chairman candidate, earned 126 votes.

Mrs. Metoxen said her request for a recount was prompted by the apparent discrepancy between the 460 votes spread among the three candidates and the 563 persons who registered to participate in the election.

"Over 100 votes aren't accounted for," she said. Her request for the recount goes to the tribal election committee and Bureau of Indian Affairs observer. No date has been set for the recount.

Powless, 52, seemed unconcerned about the vote discrepancy or the call for the recount. "If some people chose not to vote for an office," he said, "that's their right."

Land will be the tribal priority for the next three-year term, Powless said. The nursing home and clinic have been completed and are operating.

"We're researching land claims here and in New York" (State), Powless said.

Vice Chairman Norbert Hill Sr. and Treasurer Chester Smith were re-elected, Hill beating Carlton Smith and

Chester Smith defeating Stanley Webster Jr.

Amelia Cornelius, secretary for seven years, was defeated by Patricia Mistkin, a housing specialist with the Housing Allowance Office in Green Bay.

Mrs. Mistkin, 31, was making her first bid for tribal office.

Margaret Dextator was re-elected to the business committee. Elected to the committee were Eugene Danforth, Edwin King Jr., Mark A. Powless and Myron Smith.

Elected to the trust committee were Wendell McLeister, Carolyn Nicholas, Howard Cannon, Charles Wheelock, Eugene Powless and Paul A. Skandore. The committee oversees disbursement of funds from tribal claims.

All offices run for three-year terms.

