



Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress

AFN, Inc.

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NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, November 20, 1974

Anchorage, Alaska

AFN, INC. LAND MANAGERS ASSOC. MEET

Roger Lang Attends Manpower Council Meeting

Roger Lang attended the State Manpower Planning Council that was being held in Juneau on November 14-15, 1974.

While in Juneau, Roger Lang and Jake Lestenkof, AFN, Inc. Manpower Department held a meeting with Alyeska concerning the expansion and continua-

tion of recruiting for pipeline work and the continued employment and training of people for permanent jobs, once the pipeline is completed.

Plan Testimony Before Land Use Planning Commission Hearing

The AFN, Inc. Land Managers Association met the 11th and 12th this month to plan strategy for testimony to the Federal/State Land Use Planning Commission's public hearings on easements, the 13th of November.

Roger Lang presented AFN's position paper to the

Land Managers in a workshop on the 11th. Land Managers representing eight of the 12 Regional Corporations and the Alaska Native Foundation fully supported AFN's position at the meeting, and those Regions testifying at the public hearing endorsed the position.

The easement policies presented by the F/S LUPC are severely limiting in AFN's opinion. AFN maintains that "easements authorized under Section 17 (b) are not easements for hunting or recreation on Native lands, but rather easements across Native lands for access to hunting and recreation elsewhere."

"Congress used the word across, which means through or traversing, and did not use 'in' or 'on' or 'upon' or any other word which might imply that a public use other than access or transportation would occur within Native lands."

"Any other construction of the Act would be inconsistent

with all ordinary concepts of private property (which Native land selections are) and would violate the intent of Congress in ANCSA..."

Another point AFN, Inc. is arguing is the position that... "With respect to the second clause in section 17 (b) (1), the allowable easements LUPC is to identify can be located only 'at periodic points along the courses of major waterways..."

"Contrary to the apparent view of Commission staff, the term 'at periodic points' may not be interpreted to mean (at least in the English language) 'a continuous shoreline easement for foot travel."

"Moreover, this matter is not subject to Commission consideration as a part of possible 'Policy Alternatives', the Act plainly bars 'continuous' easements along shorelines and that issue is not open for LUPC to debate."

JOM Review Committee Lines Up Meet

The Johnson-O'Malley Review Committee is scheduled to meet in Anchorage, November 21 and 22, 9:00 a.m. Alaska Native Foundation Room.

The main items on the agenda are:

- I. Hire a new JOM Director.
- II. Finalize FY-76 JOM applications materials.
- III. Establish procedures for staff review of proposals.

Any community that does not have a JOM program but would like to have one may write for application materials to:

Director Johnson-O'Malley Program

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

1675 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Upon finalization of the JOM applications, they will be mailed to communities presently participating in the program.

One of the most common misconceptions held by people in existing programs is that Johnson-O'Malley is a grant program. JOM is not a grant, it is a cost reimbursable contract program.

Thus the record keeping requirements are much more stringent than if it were a grant program. Also, under this program monitoring, evaluation and contract compliance are normal ongoing processes.

NIEA Conference

This year of 1974 appears to be one highlighted with many significant conferences or conventions. One main attraction this month is the Sixth National Indian Education Association Conference in Phoenix, Arizona which began on November 11 and will continue through November 14, 1974.

The educational Conference which is being sponsored by both NIEA and Concerned Indians of Phoenix is sure to attract numerous educators and persons involved with one aspect of education or another from Alaska as well as nation-wide.

In attendance at this important Conference on behalf of Alaskan Natives is Gordon Jackson, Vice-President of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. Human Resources Department and his Staff Assistant, Ms. Anne Just; along with John Reimer, Director of our Alaska Student Higher Education Services (ASHES) Program; and, Sam Lambeull of the AFN Health Careers Division.

They are four of the 5,000-7,000 participants expected to assemble for the NIEA Conference this year in Phoenix.

As education has come to be one of the top priorities of AFN, their participation in a conference such as this can only augment the scope on educational needs and issues throughout Alaska, and possibly result in additional means of implementing our present goals.

Passed at AFN, Inc. Convention—

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution 74-5 (C) Resolved by AFN, Inc. that the Department of Education work cooperatively with the Department of Community and Regional Affairs in the latter's information and assistance services to those areas seeking municipal status, and that the Department of Community and Regional Affairs be appropriated adequate funds to expend these services and to assign staff to work with the Department of Education, and that authorization and funding be made available so that the aforementioned Departments can study the problems and weaknesses of current municipal structures and can recommend possible changes in existing municipal law address unique rural problems and to accommodate special conditions in the unorganized borough. (Passed)

Resolution 74-5 (D) Resolved that no special units of government be created to accommodate the governance of schools in the unorganized borough. (Passed)

Resolution 74-6 Resolved by AFN, Inc. that the Alaska State Operated School System be designated a school district, thereby clarifying its status in order to simplify problems with other State agencies and to simplify and to expedite the transition of these schools to independent status, and that during the transition of Alaska State-Operated Schools, the administrative and educational responsibilities of the system continue, including the expansion of current decentralization efforts to provide

funding authority and responsibility to local areas and/or communities; the development and implementation of an authorized comprehensive training plan for informing and working with local communities scheduled to receive new school buildings about options for both educational and construction specifications; and, a reconstituted Board of Directors (after the removal of on-base schools) with members elected or appointed by the people in the remaining areas served, and that provision be made to allow residents of local villages, towns or regions who wish to develop plans of operation of their own schools on a regular district basis to do so without approval of these plans by the Alaska State Operated School System. (Passed)

Resolution 74-7 Resolved by AFN, Inc. enter its protest and go on record as opposed to Proposition number 10, the University Bond issue and request that if said proposition is defeated, that any new bond issues be realigned to recognize the need of higher education opportunities in both urban and rural areas of the State. This resolution was tabled.

Resolution 74-8 That the AFN, Inc. support the endeavor of the Alaska Native Special Alcoholism Program Mini-Grants, which serves 168 villages and as this organization is writing a grant to serve 202 villages through developmental subgrants to cover a three year period with administrative staff in Anchorage, and that ANSAP

will inform the regional health corporations participate in helping villages submit sub-grants through ANSAP to NIAA for funding. (Passed)

Resolution 74-9 That AFN, Inc. urge the Congress of the United States, the Senate and House Interior Committees, and its Alaska Congressional Delegation to support S. 1296 as amended by the House to authorize the United States to hold in trust for the Havasupai Tribe of Arizona 185,000 acres of its land and that such legislation be enacted during the 93rd Congress. (Passed)

Resolution 74-10 That the duly elected representatives of the Alaska Native people, support the aboriginal Hawaiian claims for a just and equitable settlement for all lands, fishing and hunting territories confiscated in 1893, and that the AFN, Inc. provide technical assistance to the aboriginal Hawaiians in seeking a just and legal settlement for all lands and territories previously held in simple joint ownership prior to 1893. (Passed)

Resolution 74-11 Resolved that AFN, Inc. does hereby go on record as endorsing the concept that a minimum number of necessary easements should be identified under Section 17(b) by the Secretary of Interior and the State and Federal Land Use Planning Commission; and that no easements should be identified to non-navigable waters as these easements are not "necessary or authorized" under Section 17(b). (Passed)

Resolution 74-11(A) That before easements and right-of-ways are issued the Department of Interior should create a commission consisting of officials from the regional corporations, of the Department of Interior, and the State of Alaska and, that the duties of this commission would be to review and analyze all applications for easements and make recommendations to the Department of Interior. (Passed)

Resolution 74-12. Resolved that the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. does hereby support and fully endorse Dr. William Demmert, Jr. to fill the position of Commissioner of Indian Education, Health, and Welfare. (Passed)

Resolution 74-13 Resolved by AFN, Inc. that the State of Alaska provide subsidized transportation to serve those areas in Alaska that are not now being so served. (Passed)

(To Be Continued)

Fini: Human Resources Committee

— Advocating a change in the Johnson-O'Malley regulations. We have been involved with Indian tribes and tribal organizations throughout the United States in drafting a set of regulations that will be more responsive to the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives. A new set of regulations with most provisions we advocated came into effect on Sept. 20, 1974. We are still monitoring the Federal Government, along with a number of Indian tribes and tribal organizations, to make sure the regulations' intent is not lost when they translate it into their Federal manuals.

These are some of the major items we became involved with these past several months.

Other items include joining the Coalition of Indian Controlled School Boards; monitoring the 2-C Study; commenting on State Federal legislation and

regulations; advocating Native announcements on Alaska air carriers; advocating Indian Education Act dollars be contracted to regional corporations; administration of Human Resource Programs; and many others.

FUTURE

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. Human Resources Committee and staff have come a long way in the past several months. The committee is now in the process of identifying future priorities and developing a work plan.

Hopefully, some of the future direction of the committee will be established during this convention. We are confident that our future direction will continue making your statewide organization more responsive to the many problems and needs of our most valuable renewable resource, our human resources.