

Convention in planning stage for village corporations

The steering committee for a proposed statewide village corporation organization met in Anchorage last month to discuss their needs, and to draft proposed articles of incorporation. They also laid plans for a statewide convention.

The idea of an organization of village corporations has been around for some time, and a meeting of village corporation presidents was held in late October, just prior to the AFN convention. A resolution was adopted calling for a steering

committee which should meet to make recommendations.

The committee proposed the villages organize on two levels: the regional level, and then designate one person from the regional group to sit on the statewide board of directors. The organization they envision would be independent, and its purposes should be to: provide services to the village corporations, assist in promotion of the goals of ANCSA by providing services, and to foster and im-

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prove communications. The village corporation organization could also provide technical assistance, training and educational programs, provide an opportunity to meet, review and take action on matters of mutual concern, apply for grants, and seek income from sources, provided that limitations placed on any such acceptance is not contrary to the purposes of the organization.

The board of directors will have twelve persons, one from each region group of village corporations, each with an equal vote.

The organization is now planning its statewide convention, and will seek funds from the individual villages and from other sources.

Steering committee members present were: John F. Allen, Tatitlek Corporation; Michael L. Andon, Tozitna, Ltd.; B. Agnes Brown, Tyonek Native Corporation; Charles Kairaiuak, Chefarnmute, Inc.; Frank B. Stein, Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation; Trudy Ward, Choggiung, Ltd. Other committee members are: John Bahnke, Sitnasuak Native Corporation; Lillian Boston, Cheesh-Na, Inc.; Ronald Bower, Upeagvik Inupiat Corporation; Larry Mercurieff, Tanadgusix Corporation; Nick Peterson, Sr., Ayaku-lik, Inc.; Marjorie Young, Shaan-Seet, Inc.; and Brown is Chairman of the Steering Committee.