

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4th, 1941

The Community Council met in the Committee dining room on Thursday, September 4th. Present were: Ann Mills, chairman, Lucille Bloch; Teressa Blumberg; Theodora Boothby; Anne Frothingham; Faith Colgan; Muriel Cummings; Nancy Hemill; Eleanor Metcalf; Priscilla Sherman; Edith Stevens; Mrs. Garrett, Mr. Jones, Sue Bailey, Chairman of the Recreation Council.

Ann Mills opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Jones as the new president of Bennington College and then asked if there were any new policies that he wished to tell the Council about. He suggested two ideas that were not new but which he thought could be thought about and that would be discussed some time later in the fall. The first was the problem of meetings, both general and specialized. He felt that the students with the help of the faculty should learn to talk before the college or a group of people. This is something that has been discussed in the Council before and should now be reviewed and presented to Mr. Jones at some later date. The next problem was one in connection with the feeling of Bennington as made up of small groups instead of a single unit. He stated that the faculty were trying to help in this too but that the House Chairmen could help the freshmen by reminding them that the college is a whole, not divisions or houses, or classes. The last point that he brought up was concerned especially with the attitude towards graduates. He felt that the grads did not feel that they were still a part of the Community as they should feel and that it was up to the Council to help them become more closely connected with Bennington even though they were no longer in College. The first step would be, he felt, a reorganization of the Alumni and that he would work on it. He told the Council that there was going to be a graduates day early in October and at that time the Council could be hosts to the Alumni and assist in the housing and entertainment. He said that there would be a mass meeting with all the grads and the present College Community to discuss problems that might be interesting to all. He also felt that the grads might offer the undergraduates some helpful information as to sources of jobs and what interesting experience they might have. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

REGISTRATION WEEK

Mrs. Garrett was interested to know how the Council thought the new registration week plans were going. She said that from the Administration point of view so far, that it had been very successful and that it would be a good plan to report on it next week so that any comments would still be fresh in the minds of the Council.

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HOUSE MEETINGS FOR FRESHMEN.

Ann Mills told the Council that after a talk with Mrs. Garrett the following two points should be kept in mind during this week. First that the House Chairmen endeavor to keep everything as simple as possible, that is, don't confuse the freshmen with the details of the government etc. The second thing was to help them plan sensible courses. The faculty were working especially in that direction and that the council could do a lot to help them. Then the following things were brought up to be presented at house meetings: Sign out, Check-up, Guest Privileges, Dining room regulations Etc.

RECREATION COUNCIL

Sue Bailey, new chairman of the Recreation Council told the Council the plans for the weekend. There is going to be a square dance on Friday night in the carriage barn, a hike up the long trail, Saturday afternoon, and buffet suppers in four of the student houses for the rest of the Community Saturday night.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith Stevens