Bennington College

Minutes

A meeting of the special committee in charge of the Recreation Building was held on Monday, April 8, 1940, at 3:30 P.M. in Room #75, Barn. Present: Miss Shelly, chairman, Mrs. Leigh, Mr. Park, Miss Steven, Mary Berna, Minette Hunsiker, Gertrude Streeter. Mr. Leigh, Mr. Tschorn and Katrina Voorhees met with the committee.

Plans for Opening

Tear

Miss Steven announced that the Store Board approved the suggestion of serving free tea on Friday, April 12 from 4 to 6 P.M. at the opening of the Recreation Building.

Publicity:

The Store will supply posters for the Commons, Barn, and Fairview, to be made by Frances Berna, and will also supply typewritten announcements of the tea. It was suggested that this announcement make it clear that this is a community enterprise through the courtery of the Store and the Recreation Council. It was decided that tea would not be served in the Faculty Lounge on Friday and that Miss Steven should decide whether or not it will be served in the Commons Store.

It was agreed that the Community Council, with Mary Berna in charge, will have responsibility for the opening on Friday efternoon, and that the Recreation Council will have responsibility for the house-warming in the evening. Each Council will supply corresponding publicity, including announcements at house meetings.

Reports

A draft of a report from the committee to the Community was read and discussed. The following suggestions were made:

- 1. That somewhere be shown the machinery for registering Community opinion. It was agreed that all recommendations go to the Community Council. It was suggested that on the report the working of this system be made pictorially.
- 2. That the names of this committee be added to the report so that faculty members and students might have opportunity for reporting recommendations to them. The following sub-committee was appointed to revise the report: Miss Shelly, Miss Steven, Mary Berna, and Certrude Streeter.
- 3. That the liquor policy of the College be stated on the report.
- 4. That plans for opening be announced.

- 5. That the first statement be made more concise, and whole report more informal.
- 6. That name of building be omitted as a matter under discussion.
- 7. That the information be grouped as to which items are tentative and which are final decisions.
- 8. That announcement be made that in near future designs for furniture will be submitted for Community approval.
- 9. That opening hours for Branch Store be announced.

It was agreed that this report shall be made public at house meetings Wednesday evening, April 10, and that a copy of the report be put in all faculty and staff mail boxes at that time.

Supervision:

Miss Steven read the report from the Store Board regarding store hours and suggested supervision of the building. Hours, Monday through Saturday mornings: 10:30-12:00; Monday through Sunday afternoons: 3:00-6:00: Friday and Saturday evenings: 7:30-10:00. It was suggested that evening hours be closed for meetings as the Library is closed, that it be closed during dinner hour, 6:30-7:30 (or 6:15-7:15), and possibly through lunch hour, 1:00-2:00. The above suggestion came as a result of a discussion of Mr. Leigh's suggestion that the Branch Store be open every day from 10:30 A.M. until closing time of the building with the person in charge also being supervisor of the building. This arrangement would require one full-time person, but hours a week, and student assistance of 16 hours per week. It was agreed that this problem should be in the hands of Mr. Leigh for decision, and that the person chosen under this arrangement should report to the Central Committee as do all other employees of the College.

Tables:

It was agreed that there is no objection to the tables now in the building as temporary furniture, but that they would not be used permanently.

Policy for Reservations:

The following types of requests for reservations are anticipated:

1. Division seminars; 2. Private parties; 3. Faculty social gatherings using complete building. Miss Shelly asked for opinions on reservations in general. It was agreed that for the present each request shall be considered on its merits by this committee during a trial period after which a policy will be made. This suggestion, with the addition that no private parties be considered, was moved. The motion was passed.

The first request for a faculty reservation Friday evening, April 19, was passed.

Tea China: Miss Steven submitted a sample of the suggested china such as that used by the Store, which was approved by the committee.