

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

GROSSINGER, NEW YORK

June 8, 1971

Presiding, Irving Greenberg, President, NCJCS.

After introducing the dais guests, Irving Greenberg called on Miriam R. Ephraim, General Secretary of the International Conference of Jewish Communal Service, to pay tribute to Charles Zunser, former president of NCJCS in 1950 on the occasion of his 90th birthday. After reading the citation, Miss Ephraim presented the citation to Louis Kraft, who accepted it on behalf of Mr. Zunser.

"One of the few surviving founders of modern Jewish communal service in America on his Ninetieth birthday. Son of illustrious parents, he combined a love of man and mankind; a veneration for our derived experimental wisdom with a hopefulness of new experimental hypotheses; leader in the field of family integrity, he developed the former National Desertion Bureau into a leading Jewish Family Agency; he combined the ability of a specialist with a command of all the tools of universality and humanity. This Conference salutes a former president and active member for many years, one of its great leaders, with high regard and gratitude for his significant contributions to Jewish communal service.

"His colleagues wish Charles Zunser and his wife many more years of good health and happiness."

The President then asked the Conference to rise for a minute of silence in memory of our professional colleagues who passed away during the past year. Among these were two members of our Executive Committee—Leon P. Beck and Samuel Dinsky.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the annual business meetings held May 24th and 26th, 1970 in Boston, were approved as printed in September, 1970 Journal of Jewish Communal Service.

Report of the Nominating Committee

On behalf of the chairman, Sanford Solender, who had to return to New York, Steven Rod, a member of the Nominating Committee, reported on the outcome of elections which were as follows:

Officers for 1971-1972

Irving Greenberg, Newark, President
Charles Miller, Philadelphia,
First Vice President
Abraham P. Gannes, New York City,
Second Vice-President
Morris Levin, San Francisco, Secretary
Samuel Katz, New York City,
Treasurer

New Members of the Executive Committee

1971-1974—Morris Grumer—
Los Angeles, Calif.
Carmi Schwartz—
Baltimore, Maryland
Sidney Vincent—
Cleveland, Ohio
Charles Zibbell—
New York, N.Y.
1971-1973—David Crystal—
San Francisco, Calif.
Daniel Isaacman—
Philadelphia, Pa.

1971-1972—Samuel Lerner—
 Detroit, Mich.
 Estelle Nemo—
 Syracuse, N.Y.

Presidential Progress Report

In view of his re-election as President of the Conference for a second term, Irving Greenberg gave an interim progress report on the NCJCS. While there has been no formal advance in the plans for the creation of a "Federation", there has been considerable growth and strengthening of the Conference, its program and organization. Membership has increased, insurance plans have been developed, greater interest has been shown in the Annual Conference both through astoundingly increased registration and the involvement of many professionals in the planning of the Conference program and participatory leadership in the conduct of sessions. NCJCS committees have functioned well under able leadership.

He particularly called attention to the major contributions made at this Conference by the Program Committee, under the leadership of Aaron Zucker, of the Personnel Practices Committee under the leadership of Burton Lazarow, of the Membership Committee under the leadership of John J. Karpeles, and of the Public Issues Committee under the leadership of Herman Brown.

He thanked the Executive Committee and all the other committees for their devoted service to the welfare of the Conference. He praised the work of the Executive Secretary, Matthew Penn, and the Office Manager, Shirley Youngerman.

In conclusion, Irving Greenberg pointed out that the problems besetting our society, and specifically the Jewish community in America, has a long history and will undoubtedly be with us for many years. He read excerpts of annual

messages of NCJCS presidents of 10 and 20 years ago describing these problems in terms of to-day's situation. However, there is more awareness today by all segments of our Jewish community—young and old—that we must find a resolution to these problems and that new Jewish community structures, new Jewish community programs, will inevitably emerge as we find new ways to strengthen Jewish life as a vital force in our American society.

Report of the Membership Committee

John J. Karpeles, Chairman, reported that his committee was charged by the NCJCS Executive Committee to recommend revisions in the constitution dealing with membership eligibility. This needed revision was largely due to the expansion of the purposes and program of the Conference to include concern for improved personnel practices and standards in the Jewish communal field.

The membership eligibility amendment to the constitution and its related by-laws which was distributed to all Conference registrants, had been approved by the Membership Committee and by the NCJCS Executive Committee at its meeting on Sunday, June 6, 1971. In accordance with the constitutional requirements for amending the constitution, the members at the annual meeting were asked to vote, and the amendment and related by-law changes were unanimously approved. Copies are available at the Conference office.

Mr. Karpeles pointed out that the final step in consummating the amendment process was to ballot the membership at large twice—the first time within 30 days and the second mailing 30 days later. Once this mail referendum is approved, the constitutional amendment and the relevant by-laws will be incorporated in the constitution and by-laws.

Report of Personal Practices Committee

Burton Lazarow, Chairman, reported on the status of the various insurance plans conducted under the aegis of NCJCS. He pointed out that the salary continuance plan involving long term program disability, is now fully assured as an ongoing continuous program.

At the request of his committee, the insurance company has extended open enrollment for the Salary Continuance Plan until June 25th, and he urged the Conference attendees to join during this open enrollment period if they have not yet done so.

He then described the improvements in the Tax Sheltered Plan which in essence involves the lowering of administrative costs and the increased interest benefits to participants.

In long range planning, Mr. Lazarow called attention to the extensive retirement plans for Jewish communal workers which has recently been distributed to the membership at large and to all Jewish communal agencies. It is hoped that many of our Jewish communal agencies and organizations will be encouraged to undertake adequate retirement programs for their workers if they do not have existing plans. For the future, Mr. Lazarow pointed out, his committee is looking into such important personnel practices as family life insurance, major medical liability, and malpractice insurance.

The committee is also concerned with a personnel standards code for the Jewish communal field that will recommend personnel practices, salary levels, etc.

International Conference of Jewish Communal Services

Arnulf M. Pins, ICJCS Chairman of the Planning Committee, reminded everyone that the International Conference of Jewish Communal Service will be held in

Jerusalem from August 15-20, 1971, and urged as many people as possible to attend. The theme of the Conference is "Confronting Threats to Jewish Continuity", which is an issue that concerns all of us.

Report of Public Issues Committee

Herman Brown, Chairman, indicated that his committee had to be reorganized in February, and since that time has done an outstanding job. He then presented 8 resolutions with the explanation that in accordance with the By-laws of the Constitution dealing with public issues resolutions, the following were the required steps:

The resolutions were prepared and approved by the Public Issues Committee and then submitted to the Executive Committee for its revision and approval. These resolutions are then submitted for a membership at large vote at the annual meeting, to be accepted or rejected as presented *without any revisions*. He pointed out that in one of the resolutions, namely, "Indo-China," the Executive Committee had approved two variations of the resolution—a short and a long resolution—with the request that the membership at large select one or the other.

After presenting each of the resolutions, they were either unanimously or overwhelmingly approved, including the longer version of the Indo-China resolution.

(The resolutions are printed on pp. 3-9 of this issue.)

Irving Greenberg explained that a resolution on democratization of Jewish community life was tabled by the Executive Committee, as the Committee felt it was more important to devote time during the ensuing year for a thorough consideration of this vitally important subject.

William Kahn then recommended that the NCJCS consider an amendment to the By-laws of the Constitution which would allow for a simpler and more democratic process in dealing with matters of public issue.

Barry Schrage then raised the question of the relatively small number of young workers who attend our annual conference. He hoped that this matter would be looked into carefully to determine ways and means of encouraging young

workers to participate more actively in the work of NCJCS and its associate groups. He felt that the future of Jewish communal service will depend on the quantity and calibre of young people who become interested in professional service to the Jewish community.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
MATTHEW PENN
Executive Secretary

—An Unusual Departure—

The "National" Conference goes "international"

The NCJCS meeting in 1972 will be in Montreal, Canada, May 28-31.

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Meeting**

N.C.J.C.S.

May 28-31, 1972

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