



SONOMA COUNTY JACL BOARD MEETING AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Sonoma County Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League is committed to the protection and advancement of civil rights and community development for Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 10th at 6:30 PM on zoom

ATTENDANCE: Cecelia Shimizu (president), Phyllis Tajii, Bruce Shimizu, Ron Tajii, Janet Tajii, Meg Mizutani, Erin Wilkins, Amy Wakayama

ABSENT: Nancy Davlin, Andrew LeMarQuand

Call to Order - 6:34pm by Cecelia Shimizu

- I. Personal Appearances - none
- II. Approval of the January minutes as distributed - Approved with modification of officers.
- III. Approval of the Agenda - Addition to Community Festivals: JACL tabled at SoCo Museum Lunar New Year
- IV. Announcements -
 - A. Northern California Time of Remembrance (NCTOR) - *February 14th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM*
📍 1020 O Street
 1. [Register here](#)
 - B. Trans Journeys: Insights and Advocacy - *February 22nd from 2:00-4:30 PM*
📍 Congregation Shomrei Torah
 1. [Register here](#)
 - C. I Am An American - *February 20-22nd, 2026* 📍 Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center
 1. To register for the three day event you can [RSVP here](#)
 - D. Stockton Day of Remembrance - *February 28th, 2026 at 1:00 PM* 📍 2820 Shimizu Drive
 1. If you are interested in attending, [see attached newsletter](#)
 2. There will be refreshments served following the presentation by Susan H. Kamei the author of *When Can We Go Back to America?*
- V. Correspondence -
 - A. Cecelia accepted the Best Friend award from Sebastopol World Friends on behalf of the Sonoma County JACL at the very well attended Sushi and Borscht event
- VI. Long Range Planning Meeting -
 - A. Schedule of Events/ Calendar
 1. See attached Update as needed.
 - B. Responsibilities and Task Follow Up
 1. Folder Here
 - C. Proposed Budget - Finance Committee will propose final 2026 budget at next board meeting for approval.
 1. See attached
 2. Any additional changes on the budget/ any additional programming that needs to be added in?
 3. Matsuri Sponsorship - \$1,000 (stays same as last year for now)
 4. Orei amount for Memorial Hall- **Motion made by Janet Tajii/2nd Bruce Shimizu: Approved \$4,000/year from JACL and \$2000/year from Enman no tomo for 2026 orei to Enmanji.**
 5. JACL participation for Teriyaki BBQ - Had a problem with parking duties last year. JACL does not have people power to do parking.

6. Day of Remembrance 2026 - Motion made by Bruce Shimizu/2nd Ron Tajii, Approved \$2,451.50 for the event (airfare \$300 for Lane Nishikawa, \$1000 orei to Lane Nishikawa (filmmaker), \$1,151.50 for SSU venue = total \$2,451.50)
7. \$300 approved at Long Range Planning meeting to purchase tickets for AAPIC Lanterns and Vines Gala (that includes 2 tickets)
8. JACL District meeting - Cecelia. Paradise Ridge Winery venue Motion made by Janet Tajii/2nd Bruce Shimizu. Approved \$2200 in budget for this item. (venue \$2500, food \$500, cushion (just in case) \$500, district will cover \$1300 = \$2200 budget)

VII. Committee and Subcommittee Reports -

A. Finance, *Janet Tajii* -

1. Uyeda Center Building, *Ron Tajii* -
 - a) Statements for Uyeda Center
2. Treasurer's Report, *Nancy Davlin* -
 - a) Financial Reports
3. Funding Requests, *Janet Tajii* - **No Report**

B. Board elections, Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation -

1. Need to Elect officers - *Janet Tajii* Motion made by Janet Tajii/2nd Ron Tajii. Approved to elect the nine officers as listed in the LRP meeting minutes.

C. Membership - **No Report**

D. Programs, Civil Rights and Social Justice, *G. Yamamoto Seymour* -

1. Community Outreach, *G. Yamamoto Seymour* -
 - a) Links and information from Gail to check out
 - b) South Park Coalition
 - c) Non JACL/NAACP Activities (Just an FYI)
1. United in Kindness, *Phyllis Tajii* - **No Report**
2. AAPIC, *Phyllis Tajii* - **No Report**
3. Community Festivals, *Phyllis Tajii*
 - a) Tabling Opportunities: Sonoma County Museum Lunar New Year Celebration was Jan 24. JACL tabled along with AAPIC, RECA, FANHHS. Event was very well attended. Next year they might block off the street in front of the museum.

E. Programs, Community and Culture -

1. Scholarship Committee, *Janet Tajii* - **No Report**
2. Enman No Tomo, *Nancy Davlin* -
 - a) [See attached report](#)
3. Education Committee -
 - a) Commission on Human Rights -
 - b) Kamishibai -
 - (1) Nagasawa Kamishibai
4. Cranes for Ukraine/ Tsuru for Solidarity - *Ron Tajii/ Phyllis Tajii* -
5. Speakers Bureau, *Henry Kaku* -
 - a) Next week they will be presenting at the Camp Art exhibit at Oakmont Center during the showing of the film of "Leap of Faith"
 - b) There are three High Schools from Marin County that have reached out to speak to them, these speaking engagements are a result of speaking at the Women's group in Marin
6. Tea Plant Subcommittee, *Bruce Shimizu* - **No Report**

7. Paradise Ridge Winery - Japanese Garden with LACO, *Bruce Shimizu* - Bruce will set up work days to finish the garden. Look for workdays announcement in the near future. He will contact Peace Crane Project to get the Hiroshima Peace Tree for the garden.
 8. Peace Crane Project, *Phyllis Tajii* - **No Report**
 9. Children's Program (Waku Waku), *Ron Tajii* - **No Report**
 - a) We would like to continue working on this project
 - F. Communications Committee, *Meg Mizutani* -
 1. Newsletter Committee, *Amy Wakayama* - **No Report**
 2. Social Media Committee, *Meg Mizutani* -
 - a) Website Subcommittee, *Meg Mizutani* -
 - (1) Need to update the board members section
 - b) Facebook, *Becky Sugiyama* -
 - c) Sonic Account -
 - (1) Sachiko is currently the primary contact, so we need to establish a new point of contact.
 - (2) There is a form that needs to be filled out and Sachiko needs to sign it. Janet will work on that.
 3. Communication Policies and Guidelines -
 4. Chapter Logo - Arnold Shimizu will work on the professional graphic of logo
 - G. District Council, *Cecelia Shimizu* -
 1. 2026 Chapter Roster was submitted
 2. District Council Meeting - MAY 2026
 - a) Venue location will be Paradise Ridge Winery
 - b) Presentation: Talk about the garden project and let people know that we will be giving a tour after the meeting
 - H. District JACL Civil Rights Committee -
 1. [Civil Rights Committee Newsletter Jan/Feb 2026](#)
 - I. National Convention - will be in Las Vegas at the end of July-beginning of August 2026.
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- A. JACL/THSP Retreat, *Flora Ganzler, Phyllis Tajii & Gail Seymour* -
 - B. Know Your Rights Seminar
 1. Cecelia is finishing editing the video so that we can upload it to our YouTube
 - C. Sebastopol World Friends Ambassador Scholarship Circle - *Ron Tajii* -
 - D. Use of JACL Office
 1. Sebastopol World Friends have signed the MOU for use of the JACL office (MOU in Google Drive) - still pending JACL signature
 - E. Community Organizations - *Phyllis Tajii* - Feb 7 at the Petaluma Veterans Building, Hall of Heroes dedication and induction of the first veterans was a great ceremony.
 - F. JACL General Meeting and/or Day of Remembrance
 1. Day of Remembrance - February 19th, 2026, at SSU Green Music Center Schroeder's Hall
 - G. JACL Brochures
 1. We need to update the brochure. After the new logo is decided, new brochures will be designed.
 - H. Mochitsuki
 1. JACL will meet with Enmanji to talk about mochitsuki format
 - I. AAPIC Lunar New Year Celebration
 1. Hosting a celebration on Feb 28th from noon-3pm @Sonoma Clean Power Facility on 4th Street

2. There will be a potluck, it is intended on being a low key event to connect with others
- J. Economic Protest - *Ron Tajii* Ron will look into and decide if he wants to pursue this topic and get a message out about this.
 1. Do we want to include this in our December Newsletter? This is from Alan Murakami with some modifications to follow our non political support guidelines
 2. “Currently there is talk about an economic protest during the annual Black Friday weekend (Nov 28-Dec 2) and extending to Cyber Monday.
 There are many businesses that support policies which the JACL does not support as indiscriminate immigration sweeps and cutting back SNAP benefits. You can choose to boycott: Home Depot, Apple, (other tech companies,) and Target. One can also boycott big, box stores. As an alternative, folks can shop local, go to Crafts Faires, etc.
 Perhaps this type of protest may gain further attention, and add to our ground swell of protest leading to change. (Because, unfortunately, money does talk.)
 If you can, I hope you will join this cause. But I know that for some, this may be difficult to do. And I understand.
 If you are interested, please pass on this email or something similar to as many friends as possible. Getting the word out is what will make a difference.”
- K. VIDAS Attorney talk to Afghan families - *Phyllis Tajii*
 1. The donation to the immigration attorney came out to only be \$100 not the \$300 that was approved as the attorney could only stay a short time, the event for Afghan families and allies was on Saturday, Feb 7.
- L. JACL YMCA Draft Letter
 1. See Attached Draft Letter  YMCA JACL Letter Final Draft
 - a) There is Draft 1 and Draft 2 (this is more concise)
 - b) If there are any modifications, please bring them up
 - c) Cecelia Shimizu will send it out on Wednesday Feb 11th if approved. **Motion made by Bruce Shimizu/2nd Ron Tajii. Approved to send Draft 2 letter to YMCA board as modified in the board meeting.**

IX. New Business

Next meeting: March 3, 2026

Adjourned: 8:49pm