

H97-66-56
Jim Cassady
Winter 1966
Fairbanks, Alaska
A67

Jim talked about plans for the Alaska centennial celebration park. He talked about fund raising for the centennial. He said after the centennial that it might be possible to charge for admission to the different venues such as admission to see the Nenana. Then they would be able to return money to sponsors. It may take a while to pay back sponsors. He had heard about different businesses pledging money in other places. He thinks that could work for Fairbanks, too. If businesses couldn't afford to pledge a lot of money they could give services. He suggested asking the NC Company to donate services. He talked about the different river barges that could transport equipment from Nome and discussed setting up a railroad. He said Jim McDonald had talked with Mike Walsh in Nome. Some of the equipment from Nome had been removed already, but there was still enough railroad track and spikes left for their use. Jim talked about the track that was left. He talked about the different possibilities for a railroad engine. He talked about meeting to determine what kind of museum building should be constructed. They had plans to have a mural painted by Rusty Heurlin. He suggested having a cache built on a large scale such as the size of the Seattle space needle. The historical society hoped to have transportation and mining displays. Jim wanted it to be as authentic as possible with concessions outside of the park. Les Rogers commented about the plans. He said he did want to get an idea of what the pioneers wanted to have in the park. He liked some of the ideas that have been brought up already. Some of the ideas could be used for the centennial celebrations and some ideas could be implemented after the centennial. Jim said he visualized using a surplus building in the northwest part of the park for a workshop. The old timers should have a place to work. He suggested if they constructed a contractors building on the park property it could later be used for this purpose. He thought having covered patios throughout the park for displays would be a good idea. Jim suggested writing to Jim McDonald concerning the railroad in Nome. He suggested constructing an early-day saloon. He talked about an old saloon in the southeast that might possibly be moved to Fairbanks for the park. They discussed Jim McDonald.

An unidentified person adds information at the end of the tape. He identifies Jim Cassady on the tape. He said that Les Rogers became the site manager of the A67 park construction. Rogers was a partner in the Gray, Rogers and Cotting architectural firm. They designed the A67 buildings. A67 came to pass, but was flooded on August 14, 1967. Jim Cassady was the president of the Tanana Yukon Historical Society for the year 1966. He was always active in civic affairs and always interested in the Pioneers of Alaska. He died on July 3, 1967.

Cassady, Jim.
Rogers, Les.
Historic parks |z Alaska |z Fairbanks.
Pioneer Park (Fairbanks, Alaska) |x History.

Fairbanks (Alaska) |x History.
Alaska |x Centennial celebrations, etc.