

### 3. Study Tour

- 1) Program
- 2) Presenter
- 3) Handouts

### 3. Study Tour

#### 1) Program

Monday, November 10, 2003

9:30-10:00	Depart Hotel for Onoue Community Center
10:00-11:30	<b>Tour of Onoue Community Center</b> Presenter: Mr. Yuji Oka, President of Moyai Works, Inc.
11:30-13:00	Lunch
13:00-13:30	Leave for Suizenji Jojuen Park
13:30-14:30	<b>Visit Suizenji Jojuen Park</b>
14:30-15:00	Leave Suizenji Jojuen Park for Kumamoto Castle
15:00-16:00	<b>Visit Kumamoto Castle</b>
16:00-16:10	Depart Kumamoto Castle for Return to Hotel

#### 2) Presenter

##### Mr. Yuji Oka

President of Moyai Works, Inc., a corporation dealing with area planning and environmental research

Born in 1955

##### Background:

1994                      Established Moyai Works, Inc.

1977                      Bachelor's Degree, Department of Geography, Faculty of Literature, Rissho University

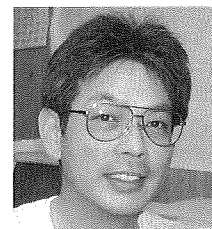
##### Current Activities:

2002-Present              Chairperson/Director, Kyushu Network Council on River and Riverbank Preservation


2002-Present              Member of Environmental Education Committee, Kyushu Regional Development Bureau

1996-Present              Coordinator of National Water Preservation and Environment Council

1995-Present              Advisor for Regional Development Support Project of Kumamoto Prefecture



### 3) Handouts



Planning the Construction of a  
Community Center  
through Citizen Involvement

熊本市尾ノ上地域コミュニティセンター

Onoue Community Center  
Kumamoto City

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#### □ Role of the Community Center

- The Community Center is a place for community-building activities

The Community Center is a place to encourage and support the citizens in voluntarily building their own communities

One community center exists per school district

- Difference between the Community Center and Public Hall

Public Hall	⇒	Promotes lifelong learning activities through social education projects
Community Center	⇒	* Promotes community development created independently and voluntarily by citizens * Promotes a variety of activities such as health care and life fulfillment

#### □ Requirements for construction of the Community Center

- Construction Fee (Including electrical work)  
Not more than 65,000,000 yen (US \$600,000)
- Land Area for Actual Building Structure  
Approximately 250 square meters
- Building  
One story building made of wood
- Land Area for Total Facility  
Approximately 500 square meters  
(Parking space for the physically challenged and delivery vehicles)
- Land Ownership Conditions  
City-owned land  
(Unable to use purchased or leased land)
- Construction Site  
A location that is accessible for citizens living within the school district

\* For the Onoue School District, a suitable site that fulfills all above-mentioned requirements has been chosen and approved by a council. The site is located on the west side of the Nishikigaoka North Tennis Court.

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#### □ Why should citizens be involved in the planning of the community center's construction?

For many years, the government initiated the construction of public facilities since the purpose of such projects was "to build"

Citizens let the government do whatever it wished

Citizens were not presented with opportunities to voice their opinions in construction planning processes

As a result of this:

- Design lacked uniqueness
- Not easy or convenient for citizens to utilize
- Being public, regulations were rigid
- Not suitable for a variety of citizens' needs
- Management required a large amount of taxpayers' money

Without public opinion and involvement of citizens, we have been unable to develop an ideal community center which fulfills the public's needs.

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#### □ Therefore, what we desire is: To plan the construction of the community center using citizen involvement

Since the community center plays the important role of being a core facility that allows citizens to develop their own community,

It is critical to include citizens  
in the planning stage of construction

- For what purposes do citizens wish to use the community center?
- What preferences do they have for the center's layout, equipment and design?

As a result of this:

- We found it essential that the center meet citizens' expectations and be easy to use

It was also found important that:

Citizens be allowed to administrate and manage  
their own community center, and  
that the government subsidize some of this facility management.

What is needed to achieve these goals:

- Educate staff to be capable of handling administrative matters independently
- Reinforcement of the idea that the community center is intended for and owned by citizens

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#### □ Workshops as Planning Tools

##### Steps taken so far:

- City Administration
- Specialists and Experts
- Community Representative



- Remarks of local residents:
- Unawareness of the planning being conducted
  - Lack of knowledge of where the planning originated
  - No opportunities to voice individual opinions in the planning process

##### Results:

- Facilities that are inconvenient
- No participation, involvement or interest of local residents
- Facilities that local residents dislike or are uncomfortable with



##### Planning potential through workshops

It is our principle idea that local residents take the initiative to personally develop their local communities. Creating workshops that allow for planning can help us promote community development with public involvement, as well as help us learn ways for local residents to consider and develop their own community. Such types of workshops are becoming more popular and commonly used throughout Japan.

##### What exactly is a "Workshop?"



Enhancing equal levels of awareness and promoting creativity through utilization of audio-visual activities that stimulate all senses (seeing, hearing, feeling, etc.)

- An opportunity for free participation
- A occasion for anyone interested, regardless of age and gender, to join
- A chance for individuals to voice opinions to society

Depending on the community and its development process, there are many ways to organize workshops. Depending on specific purposes and goals, workshops are most effective when structured in a way that promotes efficiency.

#### □ Benefits of holding workshops that involve the public in community development

① Government entities and local residents can share information regarding community development planning and have equal levels of awareness of the planning taking place within the community

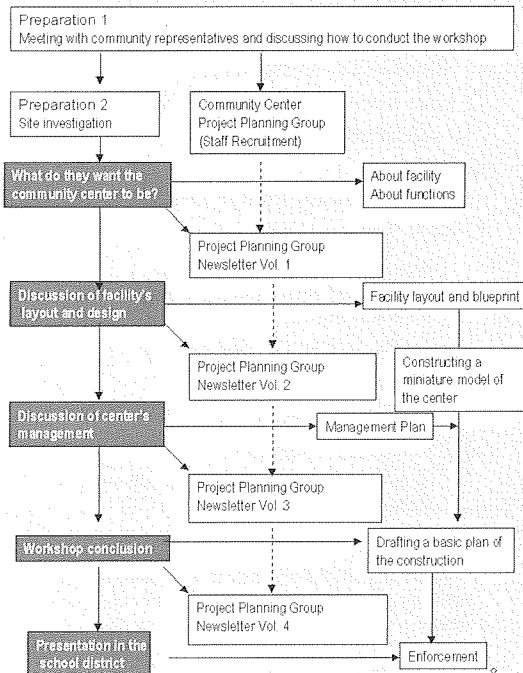
② Government entities and local residents work together to set goals and formulate strategies for community development

③ Workshop activities allow citizens to realize how their community should be organized through including them in the planning processes

④ Workshops help individuals own the planning and this encourages them to further implement their projects

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#### □ How to move ahead on the construction plan through workshops



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## Planning process of the Community Center construction

### -Composing Project Plan-

#### What do you want the center to be?



Idea slips are gathered on a large sheet of paper and then individuals present their proposals to other members.

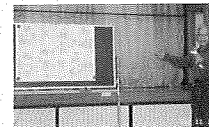
In considering the functions of Nishikigaoka Park, individuals express desires by writing ideas on pieces of paper.



After listening to all members' presentations, idea slips are grouped according to similarities and discussed further.



Summarizing and Final Presentations



Community Lounge	Study Area	Information Center	Emergency Evacuation Center	Park
Site for Meetings Parties Special Interest Gatherings Community Events	Inter-generational Communications Comprehensive Education Child-Care Support Library	Community-Organization Office IT Center	Evacuation Center Disaster Control Center Volunteer Center	Rest Area Lodging Outdoor Utilities

### Facility Arrangement



First, there was discussion of what additional facilities are necessary. This was an active discussion where some said certain facilities were needed while others said they weren't needed.

Later, how the additional facilities should be arranged was discussed.

- \* Size of the Japanese tatami rooms
  - \* Location of the rooms
- It was a long and active discussion.



Scaling the facilities



Final layout



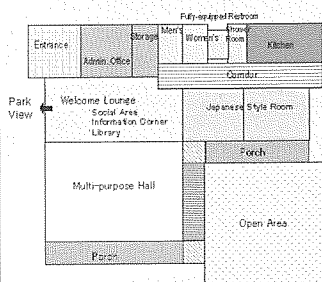
Presentation of the proposed layout

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Gathering and meeting place	Space to be used freely	Multi-purpose room for adults and children alike	Attractive place to visit in free time	Communication, Learning and Leisure
Basic Facilities: Main Hall, Japanese Style Room, Administration Office, Standard and Fully-equipped Restrooms, Kitchen, Storage				
Saloon Patio	Lobby/Lounge Library Computer Corner Shower Room Porch Open Area	Lobby/Lounge Library Computer Corner Shower Room Porch Open Area	Lobby Computer Corner Shower Room Porch Open Area	Lobby/Lounge Library Computer Corner Porch Open Area



Selection of the best proposal



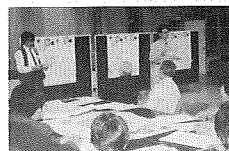
Left: Best of five proposed options

Reason for selection:

1. Unique layout
2. Inclusion of a Welcome Lounge.  
\* Social area, information corner and library with a park view
3. Administration office  
\*with community organization offices.
4. Open Area

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### Management of Center



Based on prior discussion, three ideas were presented

For further clarification, the following four points were discussed and a final plan was decided.



Facility	Points of Discussion	Main reasons	1	2	3	4	5	Sum
Shower Room	Necessary	When used as an evacuation center		○		○		
	Not necessary	Insufficient budget and management	○		○		○	
Stage	Fixed	Hall space can be used			○		○	
	Movable	Hall can be used as a multi-purpose room	○	○		○		○
Kitchen	Cooking School style	Sanitation, noise and odor control					○	
	Open type	Multi-purpose usage		○	○	○		○
Restroom	Additional door	Park-goers can enter easily		○	○	○		
	No additional door	Park-goers should use the outdoor restroom, so upkeep of the center's restroom will not be necessary	○	○	○	○	○	○

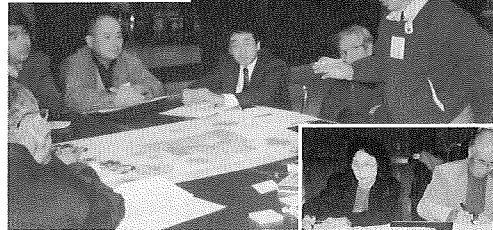
Many ideas and opinions were presented and discussed in the planning process of the community center to be constructed in Nishikigaoka Park, both of which are intended to also serve as evacuation sites.

What should the center have and how should it be managed with limited budget and land?

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Writing the purposes of the center's usage and sorting them into the following categories:  
Planning, Rooms, Managing Body and Projects to Re-think regarding the center's use.

Socializing	Welfare/ Learning	Information	Disaster Control	Park Grounds
Classes Meetings Events Parties	Child-care Saloon for senior citizens Inter-generational communication Reading	Computer classes District meetings	Disaster prevention Training/research	Training & Study Camps

As many as 80 ideas were generated from the five different groups. 13

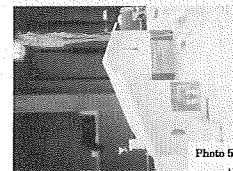
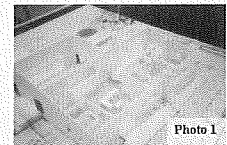
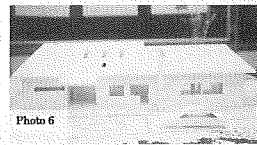


Photo 6

Photo 1

Photo 5

Photo 5

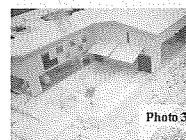


Photo 3



Photo 2



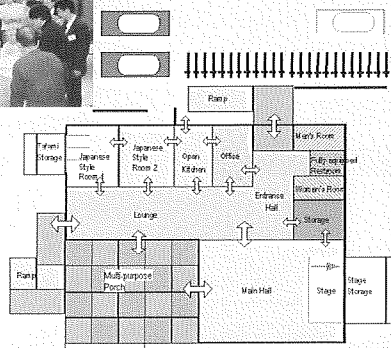
Photo 7



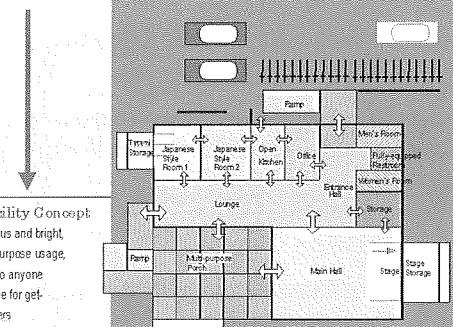
Photo 4

#### Workshop Conclusion

- ①Reconfirm that the community center will serve desired and intended purposes
  - ②Verify that adequate consideration was taken in deciding to construct the center in Nishikigakoka Park
  - ③Reconfirm that the center's planning includes unique dimensions and design
  - ④Make sure that this center can serve as a model for the other centers planned elsewhere
- The following points were further discussed: Additional applications, future users, how to use the facility, center administration and management and public function.



- Prevention measures should be taken to keep the homeless from entering during the nights, as well as measures to prevent crimes.
- Formulating the center's management and maintenance to be simple and efficient
- Planning the composition of the managing committee
- Planning appropriate measures for disaster control
- Planning sound-proof systems for each room



- \* Facility Concept  
Spacious and bright,  
Multi-purpose usage,  
Open to anyone  
and free for get-  
togethers

- \* Main Hall (90m<sup>2</sup>)

Foldable stage installed and attached to the multi-purpose porch

- \* Lounge (40m<sup>2</sup>)

Internet Station and Library, a bright room facing the south for socializing and meeting

- \* Japanese Style Rooms (10 Tatami mats × 2.33m<sup>2</sup>)

These two adjoining tatami rooms can be used separately or as one room. Additionally, tatami mats can be placed in the storage room and the area can be used as a hall. Room 2 is attached to the kitchen area and can be used for cooking classes or parties.

- \* Open Kitchen (15m<sup>2</sup>)

A counter installed on the bunge side allows for tea to be served

The kitchen has three doors for access to the Japanese Style Room 2, office and outside.

- \* Office (15m<sup>2</sup>)

Open counter style to be used as an office for community organizations

- \* Storage

In addition to storing chairs and tables, it can be used as a break room for stage performers

- \* Fully-equipped Restroom

Diaper changing station, wheelchair access, etc.

- \* Multi-purpose Porch

Outdoor space that can be used in conjunction with the main hall

- \* Car and Bike Parking

Bike parking and car space for delivery trucks and the physically challenged

