

Worksheet A, Side 1

Agenda used by George Washington to lead the group in reaching consensus on the following issues:

Agenda for the Dinner Party Meeting of the Founding Minds, March 1790

In March of 1790, the leaders of the New Republic, The United States of America, met at a dinner party to discuss issues that were threatening to split the nation apart in its newfound existence. These issues were 1) The constitutional power of the Federal Government, 2) The \$140 million debt owed to foreign governments as well as the American people, 3) The location of the capitol, and 4) Slavery. Heated discussions had been taking place in Congress. Thomas Jefferson regularly had dinner parties for guests to provide a more relaxed and less threatening atmosphere for solving problems. The following conclusions were reached at this particular Dinner Party taking place in March, 1790:

I. Constitutional Power of the Federal Government:

It was decided:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

II. National Debt

With regard to the \$140 National Debt, the following decisions have been approved:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Worksheet A, Side 2

III. Location of the Capitol of the United States

With regard to the location of the new capitol, the leaders from the different parts of the United States – Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts – have agreed that the new capitol will be located _____,

for the following reasons and considerations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

IV. Slavery

The following conclusions were drawn about slavery:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Signatures of the leaders:

