

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS
Regularly Scheduled Tribal Council Meeting, June 7, 2016
Taken by Secretary Annette Ketchum

Meeting called to order at 5:43 p.m. by Chief Chester Brooks, who asked Darrell Glenn to pray. Chief Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Ketchum called the roll. Including Chief and Secretary, Asst. Chief Bonnie Griffith, Treasurer Benita Shea, and members Dr. Nicky Michael, Ms. Michelle Holley, and Mr. Nathan Young were present. Motion was made by Ms. Griffith and seconded by Mr. Young to accept the minutes of May 17, 2016, and it passed 3 Yes (Brooks, Shea and Young) and 4 Abstentions, with spelling corrections.

Chief Brooks welcomed the audience and several members spoke. Guests and employees present were Leslie Fall-Leaf, Paula Pechonick, Beau Watt, Anna Pate, Darrell Glenn, Jean Lewis, Dana Murrell, Charles Randall, Mary Randall, Curtis Zunigha, Anita Mathis, Jason Jones, Roger Stewart, John Thomas, Cecilia Biggoose and Titus Frenchman. Chief Pechonick asked that the election rules be read and followed this year. Cece Biggoose announced there were two openings for Water Gap Camp, July 10-23, in New York, for 15-18 year old students. Cece will chaperone again this year. John Thomas discussed plans he has for traveling to New Jersey July 6 with stops in Illinois [*Tribe only passed thru*] Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and at the National Parks Services grounds in New Jersey. Brice Obermeyer, NAGPRA Director, will make contacts at museums John will visit to ask for artifacts, funerary objects and human remains.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Griffith made two motions, seconded by Mr. Young: 1) to appoint Mr. Glenn as chairman of the Election Committee. Mr. Glenn said he had spoken to Robyne Sroufe and Sherri Patton and Cass Smith about serving on the committee and vowed he would conduct the election as best he could; and 2) to accept Ms. Sroufe and Ms. Patton as members of the committee. Both motions passed 7 yes. It is noted that Mr. Smith had been voted onto the election committee previously. Mr. Glenn stated he will try to get two more members.

Mr. Obermeyer addressed the Council regarding the space for a temporary Cultural Center in the former Child Development wing of the Headquarters Building. He went through the floor plan showing red highlighted areas proposed for tribal use and yellow highlights areas proposed for the Culture Center. Ms. Griffith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Young to accept the space as split between the two entities. Discussion followed and it was noted that the Tribe will pay for renovations for its space and Historic Preservation will pay for renovations to its space. Brice said his funds could pay for the Tribe's renovations, if needed. Further noted that the storage for artifacts and exhibit materials will be stored in the Social Services Building room where Anita Mathis, Archivist, now has her office, gift shop, library, and research area. Motion passed 4 yes, 3 Abstain (Holley, Ketchum, Michael). Mr. Obermeyer expressed hopes that a museum director will be hired soon who will expedite a good plan for the new space for the Culture Center.

Reports

Curtis Zunigha handed out a brochure to each council member entitled, "State and Tribal Child Support", printed by the State of Oklahoma. The Delaware tribal seal is included. This was previously approved by Council

New Business

No one will be attending the 2016 Sovereignty Symposium. Ms. Holley was previously planning to attend, but due to a conflict in plans, is unable to attend.

Resolution 2016-35, Economic Development Committee Guidelines, was read and a motion by Ms. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Young was made. Ms. Holley questioned why Resolution 2016-06, dated February 2, was not followed thru. Discussion followed among the Council members. Ms. Ketchum made a motion to table the motion, seconded by Ms. Holley, which failed to pass. The original motion was voted and failed 3 Yes, 3 No, 1 Abstain (Shea). An amended resolution will be presented at the next Council meeting to address the appointed committee members.

Resolution 2016-36, Artist Certification Luana Marie Strike-Axe Murphy, was read and a motion was made by Ms. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Young and passed 7 Yes.

Resolution 2016-37, Use of Tribal Seal by NYDOT, was read. Ms. Griffith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Young, passed 7 Yes. Mr. Obermeyer was asked to relate the reason for use of the tribal seal. He said NYDOT in Albany, NY, was building a bridge and due to an archeological site there (at Exit 34), excavation had to be done. To acknowledge the site and the Delaware Tribe of Indians a sign with an explanation and our seal was being placed on the bridge.

Resolution 2016-38, Submit an Indian Community Block Grant for 2016, was read and motion made by Ms. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Young. Dr. Michael pointed out that this was not brought before the Grant Steering Committee and the two acres were not discussed. Ms. Griffith amended her motion to include, the Tribe will determine the two-acre building site. Chief Brooks said he was advised by Sherry Ratcliff, Director of Child Development, and the grant was due next week. Dr. Michael said the GSC had decided not to apply for a block grant. It is the same grant, but different subject (an Early Head Start Center, not an Elders Wellness Center). The campus is being affected by unplanned building projects. Vote was 5 Yes, 2 No (Holley, Michael).

Resolution 2016-39, Approve Tribal Memberships, was read. Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Shea to accept new members passed 7 Yes [32 new citizens].

Other Business

Ms. Griffith said she will make a resolution in two weeks to supersede a 1998 resolution regarding reburial of the ancestors' remains. The new resolution will be for the remains to be reburied in Busby Cemetery in Copan, if this proves agreeable to our elders. Ms. Ketchum said we may also use burial grounds in our former aboriginal lands when it is desirable. Mr. Zunigha said he agrees with the use of Busby because it will hasten the reburials, as the intent is to return the disturbed remains to the ground as soon as possible and it has been taking 15 years or more with the environmental and other delays.

Ms. Griffith made a motion for adjournment at 7:38; it passed with all in favor.