Delaware Tribe of Indians Editorial Committee Guidelines

Mission:

The Delaware Indian News (DIN) mission is to inform Delaware citizens about political, economic, and cultural issues that influence Delaware society. The Delaware are a distinct people born into tradition and culture to which the Delaware Tribe of Indians (DTI) Editorial Committee aspires to honor by educating and unifying its readers through appropriate journalism. DTI Editorial Committee will follow the ethics for good journalism in performing their services with their freedoms intact.

How the Editorial Committee will work

The editorial Committee will speak on the Delaware Indian News behalf. The Editor-in-Chief/Chairperson shall be an appointee of the Delaware Tribal Council. This chairperson will select co-editors, who shall be approved by the Editorial Committee. The work of the Delaware Tribe of Indians Editorial Committee (DTI EC) is to meet and engage with ideas and discussions for the Delaware Indian News (DIN), examine articles for flaws, push them in new directions, (sometimes) discard them entirely and (ideally) mold them into coherence.

Committee members and journalists will interview sources and will go wherever Delaware interests lead and report an accurate depiction of the event. The Editorial Committee will likely impose a few constraints.

Publishing the Delaware Indian News will be a team effort. The Editorial Committee will determine the officers and act as a standing committee under the Delaware Tribe of Indians. However, the Delaware Tribe of Indians Editorial Committee will remain non-partisan and act only in the best interest of the Delaware society.

How the Junior Editorial Committee will work

The Junior Editorial Committee will comprise of members under the age of eighteen. The work of the Delaware Tribe of Indians Junior Committee (DTIJC) is to meet and engage with ideas and discussions for the Delaware Indian News (DIN) pertaining to youth events and activities, examine youth articles for flaws, push them in new directions, (sometimes) discard them entirely and (ideally) mold them into coherence.

Junior Committee members will meet with the Delaware Tribe of Indians Editorial Committee Chairperson to discuss and determine interview sources, events, and resources to consider and/or utilize for interview and article purposes pertaining to the youth of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

Junior Editorial Committee meetings will be held separate from the Editorial Committee meetings and coordinated by the Editorial Committee Chairperson and the Junior Committee members.

All Junior Delaware Editorial Committee members must have the consent of a parent or legal guardian of legal voting age to participate and serve on the Junior Editorial Committee.

Regulations
1. The Editorial Committee shall edit and periodically (at present quarterly) publish the Delaware Indian news (DIN).

2. The Editorial Committee shall be comprised of Editor-in-Chief (hereinafter referred to as “Chairperson”) and Committee members consisting of co-editors, and junior editors of the DIN.

3. Editors shall not necessarily be members of the Delaware Tribe, but should be if at all possible.

4. The Chairperson shall oversee the editorial operation for the Delaware Indian news, maintaining communications among the editors.

5. The co-editors shall assist the Chairperson and substitute the duties of the Chairperson if he/she cannot perform those duties due to accidents or equivalent events.

6. The Editorial Committee and the Junior Editorial Committee shall be convened by the Chairperson.

7. Amendments to these Regulations shall require a resolution of the Delaware Tribal Council.

8. Editors may also have their objectivity influenced or biased by conflicts of interest. As a result, the Delaware Tribal Council recommends that editors follow policies on conflicts of interest that require disclosure of all relevant conflicts of interest (financial and nonfinancial) and also that they not participate in the decisions on any articles in which they may have a conflict of interest. Editor-in-Chief and co-editors shall never use information obtained during the review process for personal or professional gain. Editor-in-Chief and co-editors shall refrain from making any decisions or recommendations in which they hold personal financial interest.

9. The Editorial Committee will not take any direction from any individual Tribal Council member but will receive direction ONLY from the Council as a whole. Any questions concerning content that need addressed by the Council should be sent via email to ALL council members.

10. The Editorial Committee and Junior Editorial Committee meetings and conference calls are intended for those Committee members only. Non Committee members and Council members should not attend or participate in the DIN related topics and conversations unless invited by the Chairperson for a specific purpose.

11. Questions and recommendations made by Council (outside of birth announcements or obituaries) regarding articles or content to be included in the DIN should be directed to the Editorial Committee Chairperson in order to avoid any conflict of interest.

Written by Nicky Kay Michael, PhD, with edits from Annette Ketchum, and Michelle Holley 1/19/2016
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