



Meeting Minutes
Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (INAIAC)

August 18, 2021

Video/Teleconference call
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Call to Order: 1:16 PM – Chair Scott Brewer

Roll Call: Director Lisa Welch

Voting Members Present:

Felica Ahasteen Bryant, Antoniette Holt, Anthony Jones, David Liebel, Pete Magnant, Amy Owens, Matthew Rea, Dorene Red Cloud, Secretary Paul Strack, Vice Chair Tuttle J. Matthew Walsh, Chair Scott Brewer

Voting Members Regrets:

David Liebel,

Voting Members Absent:

John Adams

Non-Voting Members Present:

Senator Greg Walker

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Non-Voting Members Regrets:

Representative Daniel Leonard, Senator Shelli Yoder

Guests:

Director Welch conducted roll call. A quorum was declared with nine (9) voting members present via video/teleconference in accordance with Executive Order 20-09 issued by Governor Eric J. Holcomb.

Chair Brewer asked for review and approval of the June 16 minutes. Motion was given by Dorene Red Cloud, seconded by Vice Chair Tuttle, and passed unanimously via roll call vote. Chair Brewer asked for a motion to review and approve the June and July 2021 financial reports. Motion was given by Pete Magnant, seconded by Antoniette Holt. Vice Chair Tuttle had one question regarding license plate fees which was clarified by Director Welch. Motion was and passed unanimously via roll call vote. Director Welch discussed the director's report, which was accepted. New Commissioner Amy Owens would abstain from all votes due to having just joined the commission.

Old Business

1. Native American Heritage Month/education subcommittee – Commissioner Ahasteen Bryant provided a high level update on the planning for cultural and education activities surrounding Native American Heritage Month
2. Scholarships – Director Welch detailed the ongoing challenges with getting scholarship payments processed. Director Welch has been working with the ICRC



CFO on a solution to submit scholarships as grants which will enable the commission to provide payments directly to students.

New Business

1. Commissioner Ahasteen Bryant reviewed subcommittee meeting minutes and each scholarship applicant and the education subcommittee recommendations, and moved that the commission vote on whether or not to approve all current applications. Motion was seconded by Vice Chair Tuttle, and passed unanimously with Vice Chair Tuttle and Commissioner Owens abstaining.
2. Commissioner Ahasteen Bryant detailed the educational theme week for Heritage Month, resources and events being made available along with lesson plans and an event already planned for the Eiteljorg on November 9, Truthsgiving: Using Food to Dismantle a Colonial Myth. Vice Chair Welch reminded the commission that Director Welch would be asking for a proclamation from the Governor, and opportunities to collaborate with the Indiana State Museum and possibly the Veterans Home.
3. Election - of Officer – Commissioner Pete Magnant was nominated for the open position of Secretary by Paul Strack, was seconded by Dorene Red Cloud and passed unanimously via roll call vote.
4. Commission bylaws – review and vote on revisions, Vice Chair Tuttle had a question about the established of quorum, which Director Welch would have corrected. Director Welch offered clarification on the administrative staff provided by ICRC as specified in the statute. Vice Chair Tuttle reviewed each change to by-laws that reflected recent additions to the commission due to the passage of SB183. Director Welch offered clarification of statute as it concerns geographical areas. Director Welch would come back with clarification on whether or not subcommittees could be public. Commissioner Ahasteen Bryant expressed concerns over the sensitive information shared when reviewing scholarship applications.

Discussion/Announcements

1. Research-based recommendations (education) – Felica Ahasteen Bryant, Sally Tuttle, Lisa Welch – Director Welch explained that collaboration would be taking place with other cultural commissions regarding challenges in education for their constituent groups, and the discussion within the subcommittee led to the idea of an office of Indian education within IDOE. Discussions within the subcommittee will be ongoing. Commissioner Ahasteen Bryant emphasized the idea was also to look at how we can better serve our educators, aid the creation of culturally relevant lesson plans and better administer scholarships. Vice Chair emphasized the need for educators to have access to correct information.
2. Sagamore of the Wabash award – Sally Tuttle discussed the idea of refreshing the imagery associated with the award. She consulted with the creator of the Native American license plate and also on the Sagamore Award. Director Welch said she would make the inquiry with the Governor's office. Commissioner Red Cloud asked for clarification on who created the license plate design, Vice Chair Tuttle said it was Scott Shumaker.
3. Departure of Matt Walsh – Lisa Welch



4. Welcome Amy Owens from FSSA – Lisa Welch – Director Welch expressed her appreciation for Amy joining and having a commission meeting so quickly. Amy Owens introduced herself.
5. Vice Chair Tuttle asked about a new health commission forming with the Governor's Office and whether or not there was Native American representation. Chair Brewer said he would follow up.
6. Vice Chair Tuttle announced that Wes Studi would be visiting in September and all commissioners interested in joining the group for dinner could see her.
7. Diane Hunter announced that she would be speaking at the Howard County Library on September 18.

Vice Chair Tuttle asked to entertain a motion to adjourn. Motion was offered by Paul Strack, seconded by Felica Ahasteen Bryant. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm.