

Meeting Minutes – Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (INAIAC)

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Eiteljorg Museum

500 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Voting Members Present

Sally Tuttle, Tracy Locke, Erin Oliver, Nathan Underwood, Shannon Turner, Stacy Townsley, Paul C. Strack, Joe Moser, Brenda Summers and Antoniette Holt

Voting Members Not Present

Peter Magnant, Cameron F. Clark, David Liebel,

Non-voting Members

Senator Randy Head (not present)

Representative Dan Leonard (not present)

Two Vacancies:

Indiana Department of Education delegate

Native American Indian appointee

Staff Present

Kerry Steiner, Executive Director

Invocation

By the request of Chairperson Tuttle, Commissioner Turner provided the invocation.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chairperson Tuttle. Executive Director Steiner performed a roll call which resulted in ten voting members being present at the start of the meeting. As a result, quorum was established.

Agenda

Chairperson Tuttle asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Strack made the motion and Commissioner Holt seconded; the agenda was approved unanimously.

Review Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Tuttle offered the February 15, 2017, meeting minutes for review. Executive Director Steiner mentioned there were a couple of blanks that needed to be filled in due to the recording being inaudible. Chairperson Tuttle then asked for a motion to approve the February 15, 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Underwood made said motion; Commissioner Locke seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Chairperson Tuttle offered the budget report for review. Executive Director Steiner explained the entries as noted on the report and some expenses that have or have not yet been moved to the correct fund/category. One project discussed was the art made by those involved in the Native American Circle at the Indiana State Prison. Commissioner Turner asked if those who are making the art are members of a Federally Recognized Tribe with respect to using the term "Native American Art." Executive Director Steiner stated she would follow up and provide a response at the next meeting. Chairperson Tuttle requested a motion to accept the financial report, which was made by Joe Moser and seconded by Stacy Townsley. The report was unanimously approved.

Discussion – Old Business

Hunting & Fishing Permits

Chairperson Tuttle stated she had done some research as to what other states were doing and how they were offering free hunting and fishing to Native Americans. She added that it was being done through a coalition rather than through the tribe or a commission. Chairperson Tuttle stated the Commission is not able to pursue hunting and fishing rights as granted by treaties; that would have to be done by the tribes themselves. Commissioner Turner stated she feels we should be honoring the people and tribes whose family members signed the treaties and who are now living in Indiana. Executive Director Steiner stated they could do so through the legislative process and Chairperson Tuttle responded that they would have to go to their legislators and advocate for those treaty rights because our commission can only make recommendations, which we have done. Executive Director Steiner stated that individuals could get together and form a coalition and proceed that way. Commissioner Strack agreed that pursuing treaty rights by way of legislators is the way to go and that we currently don't know how much to budget for the fees.

Teacher Education Grants:

Chairperson Tuttle brought up the Teacher Education Grant program and Executive Director Steiner stated she deleted the Buffalo Trace Park because they don't do formal school tours. Commissioner Townsley asked if we would be ready to launch the program this year or next and Executive Director Steiner stated if the program was passed at this meeting it would launch the next school year. Chairperson Tuttle asked for a motion to approve the program at a budget of \$2,500. Commissioner Locke made the motion to accept the grant program and Commissioner Strack seconded; the motion was carried unanimously.

Discussion – New Business

Heritage Month:

Chairperson Tuttle stated she'd like to look at having an event at the Indiana State Museum (ISM) and added that she'd like to have an Honor Dinner for Native American Indian Veterans. Executive Director Steiner stated the ISM's doors are open to us having another event there and that we are really at a discussion level now in deciding what we want to do and where we want to do it. She added that if anyone has ideas on how to locate Native vets and how we could logistically get them to a single location to please let her know. Commissioner Oliver asked if we could work with those who coordinate the Stand Down events and Executive Director Steiner stated that might be a resource in that they serve homeless veterans and probably know who the Native vets are and would not be at liberty to disclose them, but might be able to contact them. Chairperson Tuttle stated it might take a couple of years to do the veteran's event but that the youth event at the ISM will occur this year. Commissioner Oliver asked if we wanted to

consider doing something during a time of year when it was warmer and could we tie the event into other things. Chairperson Tuttle responded that we've always done it in November because it's Native American Heritage month and Commissioner Turner added that's also when students are focusing on Native history. Chairperson Tuttle added that when students would come to this event in the past at the Statehouse they would also visit the Eiteljorg and ISM. Executive Director Steiner mentioned to Commissioner Turner about the traveling trunk shows offered by the ISM.

Chairperson Tuttle mentioned that in future meetings we'll be talking about an Indian Health Clinic and will be looking at building partnerships to that end. She also mentioned the upcoming Town Hall Meetings. Commissioner Locke said she and Commissioner Oliver will discuss how they will divide their area. Chairperson Tuttle also added that the Commission will be having a retreat for the Commission in the near future. Executive Director Steiner suggested we look at the August meeting so if that doesn't interfere with other obligations on people's calendars. Chairperson Tuttle stated it will be a brainstorming session not a regular business meeting and is not open to the public. After some discussion about time, it was decided to hold the meeting on our regularly scheduled August meeting from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. near the Nashville, Ind., area.

Public Comments:

Since the business meeting ended much earlier than expected, Chairperson Tuttle opened the floor for Public Comments. A man who identified himself as Dennis Payne, addressed the issue of treaties and guaranteed fishing and hunting rights.

Adjournment:

As there was no other business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned 2:17 p.m.