

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

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Eiteljorg Museum

500 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Voting Members Present

Tracy Locke, Sally Tuttle, Dave Liebel, Cameron F. Clark, Peter Magnant, Nathan Underwood, Joe Moser, Brenda Summers

Voting Members Not Present

Erin Oliver

Shannon Turner

Greg Bedan

Stacy Townsley

Non-voting Members Not Present

Senator Randy Head

Rep. Dan Leonard

Staff Present

Kerry Steiner, Executive Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by Chairwoman Sally Tuttle. Executive Director Steiner performed a roll call which resulted in seven voting members and no non-voting member being present at the start of the meeting. One voting member arrived late. As a result, the meeting established a quorum.

Introduction

Sally Tuttle was introduced as Chairwoman of INAIAC. Sally Tuttle stated there would be opportunities to smudge before future INAIAC meetings in the courtyard of Eiteljorg.

Invocation

By the request of Chairwoman Sally Tuttle, Scott Shoemaker provided the invocation.

Financial Report

Executive Director Steiner reported approximately \$400,000.00 in the Indiana Native American Trust as of last balance sheet received on May 21, 2016. Executive Director Steiner reported \$52,475 income for 2016, expenses of \$15,000.00 for academic scholarships and \$4,500.00 for Heritage Month event. Dave Liebel asked if license plate is only source of income for the Commission and Executive Director Steiner answered yes. Executive Steiner commented that travel expenses for commissioners comes from state budget.

Podcast

Executive Director Steiner reported she will continue to follow-up with tribes about podcast and report back in the future.

Bicentennial Legacy Project

Executive Director Steiner made reference to map everyone received with locations selected to receive a memorial stone for the Bicentennial Legacy Project. Executive Director Steiner referenced a copy of wording on plaque commissioners received. Joe Moser asked why Bicentennial was not written on plaque. Executive Director Steiner said the bicentennial reminds Native Americans that their land was taken. Dave Liebel asked if there would be a formal ceremony when plaques are placed. Executive Director Steiner said no formal ceremony would occur but the placement would be a public event and anyone would be welcome to attend. Chairwoman Tuttle encouraged commission members to attend any plaque placement they could.

Education Scholarships

Executive Director Steiner reported that the Scholarship Selection Committee met and reviewed nine scholarship applications. Four recipients were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.

Education /Employment Subcommittee Report

Executive Director Steiner reported that a combined Education/Employment Subcommittee met by conference call on July 25, 2016. Chairwoman Sally Tuttle noted that the INAIAC works closely with the AICI on areas such as Employment, Education and Health because the AICI is the only other Indiana state entity that exclusively serves Native American Indians in Indiana. Executive Director Steiner added that the discussion during the combined Subcommittee call resulted in the decision that vocational scholarships would be addressed through the Education Subcommittee rather than the Employment Subcommittee. She also stated that subcommittee meetings were on hold until we get through Heritage Month. Doug Poe, the executive director at AICI, said 25-30 Native people per year ask for help with vocational school expenses. Chairwoman Tuttle said scholarships would only be for Indiana vocational schools. Executive Director Steiner suggested ten \$500 scholarships per year. Commissioners Peter Magnant and Dave Liebel suggested the vocational scholarships be on par with the college scholarships. Commissioner Nathan Underwood asked if applicants would also be able to receive both the AICI scholarship and the INAIAC scholarship. Executive Director Steiner said no, AICI does not grant a vocational scholarship if the applicant has received one from another source. Commissioner Cameron Clark suggested we table the vocational scholarship discussion until further discussion with Doug Poe.

Review Meeting Minutes

Arrival of the eighth voting member at this time established quorum and the meeting minutes for the May 9, 2016, commission meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. No amendments were presented. Commissioner Peter Magnant made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cameron Clark and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Cameron Clark moved to approve current agenda. Commissioner Dave Liebel seconded the motion and the agenda was approved unanimously.

Open House

Executive Director Steiner mentioned the INAIAC open house will be held September 24, 2016 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Eiteljorg. Executive Director Steiner said she would do a press release and

put it on social media. Chairwoman Tuttle asked if the INAIAC Facebook page gets many hits. Executive Director Steiner reported the number of followers has tripled since its launch.

Teacher Education Grants

A sample Teacher Education Grant form with all pre-approved locations was provided for commission members. Executive Director Steiner stated the grant would be primarily for fourth grade and possibly high school teachers who request the grant to take students to pre-approved Native American sites. Teachers must have trip approved by school board first before applying for INAIAC grant. Executive Director Steiner said she has spoken with teachers and teachers were in agreement that \$250 would be enough to cover costs. Commissioner Cameron Clark asked if the money would be a reimbursement for trips. Executive Director Steiner said that had not been determined yet. Commissioner Cameron Clark stated a concern about paying \$250 up front and not receiving the unspent money back. Dave Liebel agreed that the money should be a reimbursement so the commission can view receipts to verify money was spent on transportation and park fees. Dave Liebel suggested there be a reimbursement cap on the total number of reimbursements per year. Executive Director Steiner said there could be a large response which could potentially take a lot of time going through receipts. Commissioner Cameron Clark suggested a date be set as a deadline to request the grant and that the commission set a budget amount. Commissioner Cameron Clark also pointed out the grant should not be used for food. Commissioner Peter Magnant suggested the grants start off small the first year and maybe expand in the future. Commissioner Steiner mentioned January as a good deadline for applying because it is a less busy time for her to review applications. Chairwoman Tuttle said we should wait to decide on amount until more information is gathered. Commissioner Dave Liebel asked if the grants were for Indiana schools only. Executive Director Steiner answered yes. Chairwoman Tuttle said to contact Executive Director Steiner if commissioners wanted any other sites added to the grant pre-approved list.

Review Bylaws

Executive Director Steiner reported a conflict between Section III: Public Comment number (4) and the unnumbered paragraph below it as well as numerous typos in the bylaws. Commissioner Dave Liebel moved to delete unnumbered paragraph under Section III in the bylaws. Peter Magnant seconded motion. Commissioner Pete Magnant made a motion to correct typos in the bylaws. Commissioner Tracy Locke seconded motion.

Legislation Proposal

Executive Director Steiner reported Senator Randy Head would be proposing legislation to allow Native Americans to use tobacco for ceremonial purposes. Executive Director Steiner stated the proposal would just be putting new words into the law. Chairwoman Tuttle stated that a lot of people are not aware of the smudging process especially in nursing homes and hospitals. The legislation would ensure Native Americans were not denied their rights to smudge.

Teepee in Indianapolis

Executive Director Steiner stated the Indianapolis Indians baseball team has a teepee outside its stadium and she suggested approaching the team and asking them to replace the teepee with a bark house. Executive Director Steiner's idea is to find an artist to create a bark house out of a material that will last and provide educational information inside for visitors to learn more about the Native people who lived in this area, i.e., they did not live in teepees. She also suggested working with the Civil Rights Commission to approach the ball team since they have a working relationship already and see about putting information on the large screen during the seventh inning stretch.

Health Clinic

Executive Director Steiner to attend meetings and obtain surveys. Doug Poe with AICI will cover the health clinic topic later in the meeting as guest speaker.

Back to School Supplies

Chairwoman Sally Tuttle suggested supplying Native American families with school supplies. Director Steiner also mentioned most Native American families do not attend events that offer school supplies but that they do go to the American Indian Center looking for assistance. Chairwoman Tuttle suggested packets with pencils and other supplies be provided to AICI to provide to Marion County families. Executive Director Steiner said she would find out how many students that would involve.

Guest Speaker

Doug Poe, executive director of the American Indian Center of Indiana, Inc.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.