

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL
MEETING
March 8, 2007**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

**Jim Peters
Andy Whitener
Vince Henry, Sr.
Russell Harper
Will Penn
Pete Kruger
Charlene Krise**

**Chairman (arrived at 10:00)
Vice Chairman
Secretary (left at 12:00)
Treasurer (travel)
1st Council Member
2nd Council Member
3rd Council Member**

**Executive Director
Deputy Director
Legal Counsel
Recording Secretary**

**Ray Peters
Don Whitener
Kevin Lyon
Melissa Puhn**

Andy Whitener called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Pete Kruger offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vince Henry moved to approve the March 8, 2007 Council agenda. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vince Henry moved to approve the February 22, 2007 Council minutes as amended. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

The Council Work Session is March 11-14, at the Quinault Beach Resort.

Little Creek Casino Resort Hotel Grand Opening, is March 12, at 5-7:00 pm

Honoring Dinner for Darrell Hillaire is March 15, at the Silver Reef Casino, Ferndale, WA. Jim Peters, Andy Whitener, Ray Peters, and Charlene Krise will attend.

NIGA is March 25-28, in Phoenix, AZ. Andy Whitener and Ray Peters will attend.

Native Women & Men's Wellness VI Conference, is April 1-5, in San Diego, CA.

2nd Annual ATNI Economic Summit, is April 2-4, at Suquamish. Pete Kruger and Charlene Krise will attend.

Indigenous Wellness Research Institute, April 12, Kane Hall UW, Seattle, WA.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS (continued)

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3rd Annual Training of Facilitators Wellness Conference, is **April 25-29**, in Albuquerque, NM.

Self-Governance Conference is **May 6-10**, in Garden Grove, CA, Jim Peters, Will Penn, Ray Peters, Deb Stoehr and Whitney Jones will attend.

National Native American Economic Policy Summit is **May 15-17**, in Phoenix, AZ.

CHAIRMANS UPDATE

Andy Whitener briefed Council on a letter received from an individual seeking a nomination to the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Group. No action taken at this time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Donation requests: Council agreed by consensus to donate \$1,000 to Senator Patty Murray awards luncheon April 4th, at the Westin Hotel in Seattle. Charlene Krise will attend.

Council agreed by consensus to donate a basket to the Boston Harbor Elementary PTA auction.

Ray Peters shared a letter received from a tribal member regarding the lack of opportunities for tribally owned businesses. Ray spoke with Mike Poier regarding tribal preference policy when it comes to hiring general contractors. Council discussed the option of requiring general contractors to practice tribal preference policy when hiring out sub-contractors. Further discussion will take place at the work session.

Council has purchased four tickets to the Nisqually Land Trust Auction. The tickets will be available to Natural Resource employees if no Council member can attend.

Ray shared a letter compiled in response to questions asked of Council at the winter general body meeting. Council will review this letter at a later date.

HOUSING UPDATE

Brian Thompson presented **Resolution # 07-22**, which authorizes the submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security under the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, to enhance emergency management programs. Charlene Krise moved to approve Resolution # 07-22. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 for and 0 against (*Andy was out of the room*).

Brian provided an update regarding rehabilitation of houses on the reservation, and ways to recover those funds. Brian will provide more information regarding the cost and recovery options at the work session next week.

HUMAN RESOURCES

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Patti Puhn presented **Resolution # 07-23**, appointing Lorna Gouin and Ray Peters to negotiate the Tribal TANF program agreements on behalf of the Squaxin Island Tribe throughout the duration of the Tribal TANF negotiations. Patti Puhn and Whitney Jones will serve as alternates. Charlene Krise moved to approve Resolution # 07-23. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Patti presented **Resolution # 07-24**, authorizing the Intertribal TANF negotiating team to re-negotiate the renewal of the current Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services. Charlene Krise moved to approve Resolution # 07-24. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Patti presented a draft amendment to the GED Policy. The change reflects a waiver in the policy after six years of employment has been served. Council will further discuss the change during the work session.

LEGAL

Kevin Lyon provided an update on Legal.

Kevin also briefed on discussions with LCOB.

Kevin shared a letter he received from an inmate from Washington State Correctional Center seeking assistance from tribes helping inmates participate in cultural activities while incarcerated. Council directed Kevin to contact the WSCC checking to see if cultural activities are allowed, at one time a program was in place to assist inmates with such activities.

Kevin handed out a resolution for judicial services, to be considered by Council at the next meeting.

EDUCATION

Walt Archer handed out the Squaxin Island Curriculum Committee Proposed Structure Projects and Plans for Council's review. Kim Cooper provided an update on the curriculum development group. She will seek Council's approval on curriculum data will check accuracy. Kim asked Council to consider making the Curriculum Development Group a Committee. The Committee status will assist in obtaining funding through grants.

Kim reported she was approached by the Griffin School Library regarding a partnership with the tribe. Griffin would like to write a "One Book Grant" to the state library. The grant will purchase a book title and be distributed to the community. The book Griffin is interested in purchasing is a compilation of thirteen legends. The partnership would allow Griffin school kids to tour the museum and participate in storytelling experiences. The Squaxin Community will be included in the distribution of books. Council has no objections with this partnership.

EDUCATION *(continued)*

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Kim informed Council Washington State Indian Education Association (WSIEA) will be holding a conference, April 11-13th at the Little Creek Casino Hotel Kim has offered her staff as support. TLC will be hosting a “fun run,” which TLC will be supplying t-shirts to all participants. Council encouraged Kim to apply for funding through One Percent.

Kim handed out a survey from Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) regarding tribal and school district relations. WSSDA is seeking input from Council and Education personnel regarding participation of this survey. Kim’s recommendation is Walt and herself to do the survey, and then assist Council as needed

Kim shared that the Chairman will be receiving an invitation from the Shelton School District; inviting Council to attend a concert performance by Ulali Singing Group, April 10th.

ELDERS

Colleen Woodard asked Council’s support for the Inter Tribal Elders Dinner. Council would like to see a draft agenda for the dinner and a budget prior to committing. Don will assist Colleen with the budget. Council stated tentatively they will support the dinner, pending figures from last year.

Ray reported on the status of the elder’s bus, continuing to be an unmet need. The bus will be considered the next budget cycle.

TRIBAL MEMBER CONCERNS

A tribal member was seeking guidance regarding obtaining legal guardianship of a niece. Council directed the tribal member to work with Kevin.

A tribal member was seeking guidance regarding an ICW case. Council instructed the tribal member to work with Pam Hammonds and Kevin Lyon.

A tribal member was seeking Council assistance on a background check. The tribal member was directed to work with Law Enforcement to resolve his issue.

Council went in to Executive Session.

No action taken.

Council agreed by consensus to make a one time donation of \$500 to a tribal member for personal assistance.

A tribal member was seeking assistance in obtaining her commercial drivers license. Ray Peters will assist this tribal member.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 4:00 p.m.