

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
March 24, 2011**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

Dave Lopeman

Chairman (*arrived at 1:00*)

Arnold Cooper

Vice Chairman

Andy Whitener

Treasurer

Pete Kruger, Sr.

Secretary

Misti Saenz-Garcia 1st Council Member (*left at 4pm*)

Marcella Castro

2nd Council Member (*arrived at 9:15*)

Charlene Krise

3rd Council Member

Legal Counsel

Kevin Lyon (*arrived at noon*)

Tribal Administrator

Don Whitener

Council Liaison

Ray Peters

Recording Secretary

Melissa Puhn

Arnold Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Marcella Castro offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Arnold asked for an update on a particular house. Don will have Kathy give an update. Charlene would like to discuss entry level jobs; Don will discuss that later. Charlene would also like a gym usage update. Pete Kruger moved to approve the March 24 agenda. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) for and zero (0) against (*Andy was out of the room*).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pete Kruger moved to approve the February 24 Council meeting minutes, the March Council/NR Work Session Minutes and the March 21 phone poll minutes. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

TRIBAL ELDERS

Herb and Sharon Johns, Colleen Woodard, Margaret Witcraft, Ron Daily, Myrtle Richards, Glen Parker, Mary Whitener, Rose and Don Brownfield and Lila Jacobs were present.

Rose Brownfield thanked Council for the non-slip floor mats that were added to the pool. Ron Daily thanked Council for the doctors that the clinic has had. He shared that during the winter, everyone responded well to the elders' needs, he shared his appreciation.

Myrtle Richards asked about the possibility of a payday loan program at the tribe. Don will look in to that. She shared that going to town for a payday loan is a hassle. She also shared that she has a clam ticket from NR that has nothing on it. Misti will look in to the ticket.

Colleen handed out the elders budget for the 2011 host luncheon. She has not included in the budget the cost for fish. Andy said that fish is a definite possibility. Marcella said that if there is fish, she will get them fish.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Kathy shared the proposal from the casino and the total cost for the lunch is about \$9,350. The elders are requesting funds to host this year. Council has always funded this in the past. Kathy shared that the elders have taken care of the gift items, so no additional funding will be requested from Council. The elders host this event every other year. Myrtle suggested that she would like to see the elders host it each year. Charlene added that the tribe appropriates funds each year for the canoe family, so she does not see why the tribe couldn't do the same for the elders host luncheon. Arnold suggested having Don look in to having money set aside each year for this, instead of the elders requesting funding each year. Don will look in to adding a budget line item for this to be an annual event.

Colleen thanked Council for the charter busses. They have a lot more elders who travel because of the comfort of the busses. Colleen called around to different charter companies in order to create an annual budget for the busses; the total came to \$10,925 for their planned trips. This includes all of the host luncheons and other activities. The only thing that is not included is if the elders want to go to Laughlin, they would need to charter a bus to the airport.

Charlene asked about the elders annual budget; and where it comes from. Colleen stated that their funds come from their fundraising and One Percent. Arnold suggested that Council add a little more to their bus budget to accommodate for more elders and trips if necessary. Charlene would like to have Don look in to appropriating \$20,000 to the elders budget to cover for the bus budget and an annual host luncheon. Council approved the appropriation.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

Tomorrow, March 25: Family Services Open House, BBQ lunch

March 26: Olympia City Hall Grand Opening, 12:45 p.m. Blessing offered by Dave, Rose & Mike.

March 28-29: Dispute Resolution, NWIFC Meeting, Tulalip. Dave, Pete, Marcella, Charlene and Ray will be attending.

April 3-6: NIGA, Phoenix AZ. Marcella and Andy will attend. Charlene moved to approve **Resolution #11-13** that approved the appointment of Marcella Castro and Andy Whitener as the NIGA delegate and alternate. Andy seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

April 11-14: Testimony, Washington DC, Ray and Arnold will attend. Arnold asked about the necessity of him being there. Don felt that it would be a good idea to have a dignitary present.

April 11-13: ATNI Energy & Economic Summit, Quinault Beach, Misti and Pete will attend.

April 13: Region 10 Consultation, Grand Ronde OR, Charlene and Kathy will attend. Bonnie also will be attending. This is for I H S tribal consultation.

April 14: Candidate Forum, 5:00 p.m. Elders Building

April 17-20: NICWA, 29th Annual Conference, Anchorage AK. Marcella and Charlene will attend.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

April 18-19: 8A Financial Conference, Washington DC. Misti will attend.

April 26: Candidate Forum, 5:00 p.m. Elders Building

May 2-6: Annual Tribal Self Governance Conference, Palm Springs CA. Ray, Pete, Misti, and Marcella will attend.

May 7: Annual General Body Meeting, LCC. Council wanted to be sure that there is a shuttle available.

June 13: NCAI in Palm Springs, CA. Andy and Charlene will attend.

CLINIC UPDATE

Bonnie Sanchez introduced the new pharmacist.

Bonnie shared that Dr. Anderson left so the clinic is advertising for a full time position and an ARNP which will accommodate Tiff well and hopefully have good coverage. Misti asked about the regional medical center. Bonnie stated that she will be attending a meeting later this month about that. Kathy added that they way I H S prioritizes, the Portland area has never been able to get on the priority list because of the immediate access to hospitals in this area. The idea of a specialty regional clinic is for the tribes to save money on their CHS dollars. Bonnie shared that they are trying to get on the list. Ray shared that a regional clinic here would be beneficial for the tribe and the region since the tribe is centrally located. Ray added that a critical piece is to have an area ready for a building. Ray suggested a few areas that would work and will continue working on this. Bonnie added that tribal leaderships are invited to a meeting on April 21, she will send Ray that information.

CANOE JOURNEY UPDATE

Deb Meisner and Charlene Krise provided an update. Deb shared that she has gotten a lot done so far. She has been researching the process and protocols. She met with IEI and has a tentative budget for hosting, and has been looking in to the camping situation. She estimated that \$1.44M would provide an excellent canoe journey. She will be meeting tomorrow with the representatives from Olympia with Ray and Don. She has been told that the best landing site will be in Olympia. Arnold would like to see a Plan A, B and C for landing sites.

Kathy shared that the Steering Committee initially was in place to do pre-planning. Everything is subject to change, but the committee members can become leaders for certain tasks. The committee will start meeting on the second Tuesdays of each month. Charlene shared that the canoe family has come up with an idea for a theme: g^wəd^zadad “The Teachings of our Ancestors.”

An advertisement will be sent out for a potential logo for the 2012 journey. Arnold would like to see the t-shirts and sweatshirts that are ordered are of good quality.

This years journey is scheduled for July 17-August 5. There has been discussion about give-away items and ideas.

GOLF UPDATE

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Head Pro Dave Kaas and Superintendent Bob Piersol were present to introduce themselves. They answered questions Council asked about the damage on the course.

Andy shared that he doesn't want to see the course open too soon, if the course is not ready. Ray added that there needs to be some rehab on the holes that were damaged. The clubhouse needs to be ready to move in the first part of June. Andy is hoping to see that when the course is ready there will be a Squaxin only opening for about a week. The following week they could have a tribal opening, then a grand opening for the general public. That could be a two week process and during that time all of the bugs can be worked out before the public opening. Don shared that there is a lot of interest in the local community.

Andy would like to see the course have its own Board to oversee the golf course, including setting prices and dates. This Board can provide feedback to Dave Kaas and Bob Piersol. Ray suggested that Council directs Dave and Bob to set an opening date based on their opinion of the status of the course. They should know when the course is ready. Andy would like to see the hillside fixed before the course opens. He does not want construction going on during the opening. Misti would like to see Bob get some staff hired with some experience in order to get the course open. Arnold says good luck and bring a good course, he does not want to rush the opening.

SOUTH PUGET INTERTRIBAL PLANNING AGENCY

Amadeo Tiam was present to provide an update from SPIPA. He handed out a packet of his presentation. Deo shared who the Board of Directors are as well as the organization chart and their 2009 Annual Report.

He shared a description of the programs that are run through SPIPA as well as an outline of the grants that come from SPIPA. He also provided a handout showing the funds that are funneled through SPIPA; categorized by the programs. Deo thanked Council for the honor to serve the tribe, and enjoys working with tribal staff.

Deo wanted to discuss the updating of the inter-tribal compact since it has not been updated for years. He is hoping to get this process done and approved, then sometime this summer he would like to see the five tribes get together for a signing ceremony to sign the updated compact.

Deo updated on their fund development efforts. SPIPA hosts an annual auction for and they hired a full time fund manager, Vernal Lane.

Clint Hackney, TANF manager also was present. He handed out a briefing memo. He updated that the law creating TANF in 1996 is about a \$16B block grant. The law is reviewed every five years and was up for reauthorization again in 2010. The tribal leaders and operational leadership gathered for a two day Summit, which Clint moderated. They developed a consensus in working, and will convene again this summer. Immediately after the conference, the presidential budget came out and welfare reform was not touched. Everybody present at the summit was going to go back to their Councils to ask for a letter supporting for reform of the TANF program. He will ask each of the five tribal councils to submit a letter but he will find out where to send them. He will let Council know the timeframe within the next couple of weeks.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Misti asked about certain activities that are funded by TANF with other tribes; but not allowed here. She also asked about per capita distributions making tribal members ineligible for TANF. She also asked about clients being cut off for sanctions, there used to be three of four sanctions. She is concerned about the ways of getting clients kicked off TANF. She would like to see a full board for these decisions. Deo will look in to her concerns. He shared that they are governed by the CFR, but will look in to the inclusion of per capita. There is a cap amount where they account for all income, but there also is exempt income. Clint shared that the Obama administration is evidence based and in order to include Culture in the Tribal TANF, it needs to be proven to be helpful. Clint stated that would be easy to prove by sending clients to the canoe journey. Charlene added that one of the TANF clients was able to restore her life and explained how important TANF was in helping her. She also shared how TANF helped restoring getting drivers licenses back has really helped impact the community.

Charlene added that giving people the cultural aspect helps. Misti shared that Kevin drafted a letter to SPIPA about getting drivers licenses reinstated through TANF; Marcella added that in order to get people off TANF they need their driver's license. Clint added that TANF is not allowed to pay collections, attorney and penalties. They do have certain support services that deal with these types of barriers, but are limited with the new interpretations. The number one barrier TANF faces is transportation. How can a client get to a job if they have no license? Housing is second.

Deo shared that they have a high participation rate: 90% of their clients participate in school and work.

Deo shared that he was at the Skokomish Council last night, and there was an expressed need for him to be there more frequently. Council agreed and would like to see Deo provide an update more often.

Misti asked if TANF is on the 60 month limitation also; Clint said that yes, Squaxin is because of the numbers that were looked at to make that justification.

ENROLLMENT

Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve **Resolution #11-14** which enrolls Madelyn Henderson. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against (*Andy was out of the room*).

Some of the members from the Enrollment Committee were present (Tammy Ford, Joanne Decicio, Vicky Kruger, Paula Henry, Diane Stymacks and Sally Brownfield). They were requesting funds for the nine committee members to attend an Enrollment Conference in Las Vegas; the total cost would be approximately \$10,000. Council agreed that the funds come from the Council budget; then be reimbursed from One Percent.

The committee also wanted to ask about the moratorium and descendants of Squaxin members. They wanted to know if Council intended on reviewing the moratorium at all. Enrollment has ten pending applications due to the moratorium. Arnold would like Legal to share why the moratorium was placed.

Misti asked about the case with an incarcerated member.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Vicky would like to come back and discuss this further at a later date. Council will get back to the committee.

NORTHWEST INDIAN FISH COMMISSION

Billy Frank, Lois Allen and Wendy Bowman were present. Billy was here to thank Council and the tribe for the wonderful birthday celebration. He feels that the tribe has come a long way over the past years and feels that it is a good tribute to who the tribe is. He feels good to see what the tribes are doing and accomplishing with their natural resources programs. The Council thanked Billy for all that he does.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Aquatics Annual Regulations: Jeff Dickison shared that the Aquatics Committee met and only a few were in attendance. The turnout itself states that there is no controversy with the new regulations. The regulations have the normal edits and also included are the provisions that were discussed at the work session: filling the additional four (4) quotas. The deadline for the certification of the new quotas will be October 15th. The other adjustments that was made is changing the timed test from ten ducks dug in thirty minutes to ten ducks dug in twenty five minutes; and include an incentive that if a diver passes the test by digging ten geoducks in ten minutes, they will not have to retake the test the following year. The harvest quantity will be similar to last year, although the final numbers are not in yet. Arnold does not want to see an extension for people who did not take their test. Arnold moved to approve the 2011 Regulations with the changes. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Jeff provided **Resolution #11-15** which authorizes the submission of the annual Timber Fish & Wildlife Grant. Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve the resolution. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

ISLAND ENTERPRISES

Community Kitchen: Bob Whitener, Whitney Jones and Jennifer Ulrich were present to discuss ideas for the community kitchen. Bob suggested that IEI take the lead on the kitchen as far as booking and scheduling. Bob handed out a memo with their ideas on how to utilize the kitchen. Don added that the budget was built around the idea of hiring a kitchen coordinator and the management of the kitchen would be under IEI staff. Bob proposed that eventually this would be built into the IEI budget and they would absorb a lot of the costs.

Arnold shared that as long as this plan does not disrupt the current tribal programs such as the elders and youth. Bob shared the only thing that would disrupt anything is if a good program and manager were not put together.

Misti added that she wants to be supportive, but does not want to see a non-indian working the kitchen. There are so many obstacles in place already for tribal members getting a job. Bob shared that the kitchen would be under IEI and they fully practice the tribal hiring practice. He added that in scheduling the kitchen, the tribal government would always come first since that is who paid for the facility.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Sally Brownfield was present because she saw plans a long time ago about a gym expansion and she was unable to provide any input on the facilities. She recently learned that the new industrial kitchen was removed from the gym expansion plan; she now has concerns about her summer rec program having access to a kitchen. She needs to put the summer rec menus in place and she is unaware if she would be able to use the community kitchen, and is concerned about it being run by IEI. She would like to see in writing the priority list of who can use the kitchen.

Don shared that the kitchen will be run by IEI because if not is done the building will sit idle. The government does not have the funds to run the building, IEI is better fit. The building will be available for funeral meals, canoe journey, summer rec, etc. All that IEI is doing is creating an operating plan and managing the kitchen; but it will not be an IEI building. Tribal government owns the building.

Bob stated that tribal government is building this kitchen and he is trying to get ahead of the program to make a plan and operating program. Misti is concerned with inconsistencies like what happens with the elders building. Education and tribal programs will be first priority in using the building. Bob and Don need approval with moving forward with the plan.

Marcella likes the plan but she would like to see the program run by the tribe. She thinks that it would be easier if it were not run by IEI. Bob stated that the person who would run the kitchen would physically be here; the government will own the kitchen. Kathy added that by having the program run by IEI it would cost less since their indirect rate is lower. The youth program can be written in to the schedule of the kitchen creating an easy solution for scheduling their menu. Don added that IEI is capable of running the kitchen efficiently.

Arnold would like Bob and Don to meet with the departments that will use the kitchen. Don sated that he will do whatever Council wishes. Don and Bob have Councils blessing to meet with departments and move forward with the planning. Once the plan is refined they will bring it back to Council.

Gas station: Bob reported that the gas station remodel is on schedule and should be done by April 1. They plan on keeping the extra gas tank, allowing for both ethanol-free and ethanol fuel to be sold. He recently met with the neighbors at Arcadia Point. He plans on testing a temporary fuel tank out there.

Spa design process: Dave Johns reported that they hired AB Concept and Design. They gathered information and are looking at the footprint of the spa.

Dave Lopeman shared that he would like better communication and regular updates with all of IEI projects.

TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

Vicki Kruger shared that she is starting a community craft class. She is hoping that this class will be used to make gifts for the canoe journey. She also would like to get all of the tribal departments making gifts to support hosting in 2012. She suggested challenging each department and offering an inventive for the department who comes up with the most gifts. She suggested awarding a department with four hours of administrative leave. Don is supportive of this idea. Kathy asked

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

where would the costs come from. Vicki stated that she hoped Planning would apply for other tribal One Percent funds. Kathy mentioned that once Swinomish is through their funding requests for this years journey, then Squaxin will start applying. Kathy asked if there is a budgeted amount in the canoe budget for this type of activity, or would it be a personal expense? Ray added that the One Percent Committee has been setting aside funds for planning purposes. Don will bring this up at the Directors Meeting.

Vicki brought up that this is the last opportunity to set aside fish for 2012. Andy suggested that fish that is frozen for almost a year is not that good.

Vicki shared a proposal she had for acquiring geoduck for 2012. She suggested that 5,000 pounds be donated during this and next years seasons. She would expect boat owners to donate the #3 and broken geoducks. Then by 2012 there would be 10,000 pounds of geoduck available for hosting. The oyster company has funds to process the geoduck, and they also have freezer space. The geoduck can be used for fritters and chowder. This would cost less than hot dogs, it would allow for serving traditional food and fritters can be made and frozen in advance.

Glen Parker suggested that recently Council chose to eliminate the taxes for fish and shellfish except for geoduck. He thought that Council could do something similar with geoduck; all of the second grade and broken ducks could be donated towards this effort and not count against the divers quota. Then if the monitor transported those ducks to the oyster company, the pounds could be counted for the state.

Misti would like Vicki to leave this with Council so they can discuss this further. Vicki wants Council to decide soon since the geoduck season opens this week.

Ray brought up that the Olympia City Hall grand opening is this Saturday. Joe Seymour has agreed to do offer the blessing.

Joe Seymour was here to share an overview of the Hands Across the Water Art Exhibit. He is searching for funding for this project. He requested funding from One Percent and was not granted. Council suggested that he resubmit for next quarter. Charlene shared that the Museum is partnering with Joe on this exhibit.

Charlene shared that the Museum wants to partner with Joe on this exhibit. Joe is doing the footwork, so he is applying for grants.

He will resubmit to 1% next quarter. He is looking to raise as much as he can, including insurance, transportation and storage.

Glen Parker shared that Dave has asked him to assist with the memorial service of Frank Wokojanca. Glen has been working with Franks daughter who is doing the arrangements. Frank lived across from the NR building on Taylor Road. The family would like to recognize him as a Veteran and are planning a military service. The service will be held on April 1. Pete will smudge the ashes with the

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

help of Dave. Council agreed to have Glen order an American Flag enclosed in a triangle wooden shadow box for the family. It will cost approximately \$250. Don believes this will be a nice gesture since Frank has been a friend of the tribe.

LEGAL

Enrollment: Kevin handed out the memo outlining the moratorium and history of enrollment. The second question was to why the moratorium was placed. All of these questions were answered. Arnold would like to sit down and go through what the intent really was on the moratorium. Council should meet with the Enrollment Committee. Andy strongly discouraged to make a decision like this before elections. Dave would like to leave it status quo for now.

Johns Creek Decision: Sharon Haensly thanked Council for the support on the Johns Creek Case and especially the NR Dept and John Konovsky for their work and support. Arnold commended both departments

Kevin provided the election protocol resolution and contract for TruBallot. Arnold Cooper moved to approve documents. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. Don shared that there was no progress made on the election committee finding software to do this ourselves. TruBallot will be here the day before elections to do a test run. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against (**Resolution #11-16**).

Fish Buyer Code: Kevin prepared **Resolution #11-17** based on the decision that came out of the work session. The action has already been approved at work session, so the only action today is to ensure that the verbiage on the resolution is correct. Effective March 10, the shellfish and fish taxes will be set at 0%.

Kevin handed out the commercial fish buyer code. Andy would like it to read that Natural Resources can set the bond with the approval of Council. Kevin will make that amendment. The fish buyer resolution was approved; **Resolution #11-18**.

Council discussed the alternate dispute resolution that will be held at Tulalip next week.

Council went in to Executive Session for a litigation update.

Kevin shared a request from Roy Perez. He will be on work release, Dave shared that SCT will hire him.

Council agreed to make a donation to the Shaker Church for the mothers day celebration. Status quo from last year (shellfish and porta potties).

Kathy Block shared a flier she is preparing for lifeguard training. Discover Aquatics is offering the training and the cost per person is \$149, plus \$35 for the book and about \$10 for a CPR mask. Kathy is concerned that tribal members won't sign up because of the cost. Council agreed to pay for ten tribal members, with a total of \$1,940.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Don shared that the BIA is hosting a land owners meeting May 11th at the Casino. This is for land owners from Squaxin, Chehalis and Nisqually. The BIA is funding the meeting. It will start at 2pm and include a dinner. They have asked Dave to welcome the participants and offer the prayer.

Don provided a property update.

Don shared that the paddle for Richard Johns has been installed.

Ray and Andy will meet with DNR on April 1st.

The fireworks stand fees and numbers will stay status quo from last year.

Per capita: Don asked Council to state that there will be no advance payments from per capita checks this year. Dave said that there will be no early release payments. Council agreed by consensus. The checks will be handed out on April 7th; no exceptions.

Charlene brought up entry level jobs for tribal members. She would like to see more job opportunities at the pool. She knows there are tribal members who will never achieve their diploma or GED, but are capable of working. They have seasonal income and need finances during the off-season.

Charlene added that she has heard of frustrations regarding the gym. She would like to see some policies for the gym, and she has heard negative feedback regarding access.

Kathy shared that she met with Sally Brownfield to see what the real issue was regarding gym usage. They discussed how TLC operates the gym and allegations about how the gym gets trashed and not cleaned. Sally has re-keyed the entire building and will be getting a re-programmable key system. When someone uses the gym, they will be given an access code. Another issue is the lack of janitorial services to accommodate the usage of the gym. There are several groups who use the gym; she is working on rules and a sign in sheet. It is difficult to single out a group who may be causing the problems. They will make a budget request to get a janitor in there five days each week. The janitor would also “police” the space. Enforcement does make regular stops by the gym also.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.