

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
March 11, 2010**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

Dave Lopeman	Chairman
Arnold Cooper	Vice Chairman
Andy Whitener	Treasurer (<i>arrived at 1:09</i>)
Pete Kruger, Sr.	Secretary
Misti Saenz-Garcia	1st Council Member (<i>absent</i>)
Marcella Castro	2nd Council Member
Charlene Krise	3rd Council Member

Legal Counsel
Executive Director
Recording Secretary

Kevin Lyon
Ray Peters
Melissa Puhn

Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. Marcella Castro offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the March 11, 2010 Council agenda. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave asked for a report on the elders bus. Ray will provide during his report.

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the February 25, 2010 Council minutes as amended. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

March 12: Special Council/Geoduck Meeting, 10am Council Chambers

March 15-17: NTGC/R Palm Springs, CA. Charlene and Marcella will attend.

March 15-17: NAFOA, New Orleans. Ray and Bobby will attend.

March 21-24: Arnold and Ray will be traveling to Washington DC. Ray shared that Squaxin was selected for testimony on March 23rd at 10am. The Chairman and Vice Chairman are those selected.

March 25: Candidates Forum, Elders Building at 5pm

April 6-9: NIGA, San Diego, CA. Andy, Misti and Marcella will attend.

April 22: DV Community Dinner, 5pm, Gym, Presentation on ‘Cyber stalking’ and a music presentation by the Youth.

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April 23: Sexual Assault Prevention Summit, co-hosted by SIT & Center of Advocacy for Personal Development, Elders Building, 8:30-5pm

April 27-30: Ethics & Politics in the Workplace, Employment Law & Essential of Indian Law, Albuquerque, NM. Marcella and Misti will be attending. Ray also would like to attend. Charlene would like to see HR staff attend, Ray will bring to their attention. Marcella would like to see Astrid go since she is tribal.

May 2-6: 2010 Annual Tribal Self Governance Conference, Scottsdale AZ, Pete, Ray and Deb will attend.

May 1: General Body Meeting, LCCR Events Center.

May 10-15: NTEC, Albuquerque, MN. Dave, Pete, & Andy will attend.

May 28: Sgwi Gwi

June: Native American Fish & Wildlife Society Meeting, Pete and Andy will attend.

Charlene had to step out but she asked about the recent discussion Franks Landing. She believes that they were asking for a per capita from the cigarette taxes. Dave didn't recall that discussion although they did ask about the elders per capita. Kevin stated that 15% of the cigarette taxes are dedicated to per capita checks, perhaps that is what they might have been referring to.

CHAIRMANS UPDATE

Dave shared that Manke has sold the tribe firewood; \$107/cord for 117 cords of dry wood delivered next week. Marcella would like to see fireplaces put in the elders houses. Arnold stated that they are looking for a generator to use instead when the power goes out. Whitney is working with Vince Henry on having the firewood delivered near the Education Building. Manke will also tarp the firewood once it is delivered. The elders will be contacted to see who needs firewood and it will get delivered to them. Ray shared his appreciation for Harry Rydell for contacting the tribe regarding firewood.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Golf Course: Ray stated that Kirk is in town and they will be on the property early. This winter has had a low rainfall, so the integrity of the property is in good shape. They are hoping to take advantage of the weather and start the construction early this year. The site maintained good integrity due to the good drainage as well. They are working with an architect on clubhouse building plans. They are working within the budget. Ray reported that there are two site plans that are being considered, both are beautiful. The clubhouse plans will be available and presented to Council sometime in April.

Arnold asked about the white sand that was going to be transported and stored here last fall. Ray reported that they initially intended to stock pile the sand here resulting in cost savings; but they ended up not going that route while still preserving the cost savings.

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Ray shared the discussion about having the golf shed and parking down below; customers would check out a golf cart and the course would be golf cart only with no vehicles. There are a few courses that follow that structure. Kirk will present the pros and cons of having a cart only course.

Parking will be developed for 60-80 cars, with overflow parking elsewhere. The overflow would be dual use; the casino would use it and it also would be used during tournaments. The overflow parking would have a shuttle service, similar to the Hawks Prairie course.

Ray reported on Buffalo Communications; they will be familiarizing with the course and will create a “buzz” about the course nationally.

Franks Landing Meeting update: Ray felt they had a positive meeting and Franks Landing showed gratitude toward the tribe. It was good to get the Councils together. Franks Landing is working on getting a billing number; Ray understood that the state is holding up the process.

Elders Bus update: Ray shared that they had the old busses appraised and he should get the values next week. Ray will reach out to the casino to see if they would be interested in purchasing one. The casino has discussed starting a shuttle program.

Charlene returned at 10:11 a.m.

Marcella brought up a concern about the elders and the youth busses; if those busses get sold she doesn't want to see either programs hurt and left without a bus.

Council discussed splitting the cost of an elder's bus with the Casino, Island Enterprises and the Tobacco Factory. They can use the busses for advertising. Marcella suggested each entity pitch in \$25,000; that should be sufficient to buy the elders the bus they want. She stated that the elders have a lot of trips coming up and renting a bus is expensive for them.

Dave asked Kevin to draft a letter to the other entities asking them to share the costs of buying an elders bus by contributing \$25,000. The proceeds from selling the old busses will also go towards purchasing the new bus. Ray would like to look at the timing for the other entities in regards to available funding.

Marcella asked if the youth bus really needs to be sold. She does not want the youth to miss out on field trips this summer. Sis Brownfield was present and she commented that the youth bus needs a lot of maintenance. She stated that it is better for her programs to charter a bus than to own a bus. Ray reminded that when a bus is chartered the costs include a bus driver; chartering a bus is more cost efficient.

The elders would like their own bus. Marcella asked if TANF could send a client to school to get their Commercial Drivers License (CDL) and drive the elder's bus. Ray stated that could be developed.

Council agreed by consensus to ask Island Enterprises, Little Creek Casino and Skookum Creek Tobacco to donate \$25,000 each to help purchase the elders a new bus.

Glen Parker commented that he believes there is room for negotiation with the elders in regards to the amenities on the bus. The bus needs to be wheel chair accessible and it would be nice to have a

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restroom; but they do not need a restroom. Many of the elders enjoy stopping at rest stops to stretch their legs. Ray shared that his last direction he received from the elders is that they do not need a restroom. Ray will verify before a bus is bought. Charlene feels that a restroom would be very beneficial.

Council travel policy: Charlene mentioned that in the past Andy has brought up the importance of looking at all travel requests and designating who attends what in order to prevent Council Members traveling all the time. Council needs to look at what is important or send department personnel instead. There are some travels that she feels are necessary and others that are not. Dave suggested dividing the travel budget seven ways; once an individual travel budget is up their travel is done for the year. Another suggestion was to limit no more than two Council Members attend the same conference. Charlene likes the idea of dividing the budget. This discussion will be tabled.

Education update: Charlene asked about this years WASL Test scores. Ray stated that the WASL is no longer in place; it was been replaced by another test which has not been given out yet. There are still challenges on getting the scores from the school. Sis stated that there still are limitations for tribal kids.

Charlene asked Sis about the online diplomas she has seen. Sis stated that usually that is a scam. She really investigates these things to make sure that nobody is in danger of wasting their time or money.

Sis reported that Sylvan has 22 students and they do have openings. She has asked the schools to let her know if they notice any Squaxin kids who may need extra tutoring.

Sis reported that the online academy has about 11 kids participating. The program is going great for some, and not so for others. The program is tougher than kids expect. She feels this is a good program.

Arcadia Boat Ramp update: Ray shared that the planning continues and is going well. They are close to getting the Department of Transportation contract in place. Natural Resources is working on the environmental report, once complete a timeline can be obtained.

Ray provided a brief update on the Natural Resources Building. He met with the USDA and shared the costs and payments. They are going through the archeological plans and will divide the building process in to different phases.

Dave asked about part of the building being funded through the cigarette taxes.

Glen brought up the lady who owns the property that is used for the First Salmon Ceremony. He would like to meet with her and discuss a lifetime agreement for the use of the beach. Ray and Glen will meet with her.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

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Olympic City Council Member Craig Ottavelli and the Director of Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation, Linda Oestreich were present to provide an update on the Percival Landing renovation plans.

Craig thanked Council for the time on the agenda and he shares that the mayor wishes to be here as well, but could not make it due to prior plans. He shared that they will have a dedication of West Bay in June and plan to have a groundbreaking ceremony for Percival Landing in July. They would like to request the tribes help with developing the cultural aspects of the Landing.

Linda shared that the last time they presented the Percival Landing project to Council; the conceptual drawings were 30% complete; now they are 90% complete.

The 2012 Canoe Journey came up and the City of Olympia is excited to help host and would like to hold the event at Percival Landing. Craig believes that the renovations will be ready by 2012. The Olympia City Council will do everything within their means to help support the journey.

Linda shared that the Olympia Council would like to host the next dinner with the Olympia and Squaxin Councils.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Rhonda Foster provided an update on the whale project. She shared a power point presentation that outlines the plan for the whale. The whale bones are currently at Salish Seafoods soaking in a tank of hydrogen peroxide. Rhonda stated that the soaking period will take about four weeks. After the soaking period the bones will need to be dried; either needs to be stored in a large container with a fan and head or allowed to air dry (air drying will take much longer). Rhonda discussed different ideas about where to build and store the exhibit once it is complete.

Rhonda would like to see a policy developed for future whales that might come in the area. She will meet with NOAA to get written authorization for possession of the whale. Charlene would like to see the policy address all marine mammals. Cultural Resources is recording every step they take in this process.

Mud Bay: Rhonda shared that Cultural Resources wishes to not pursue the field school at Mud Bay this summer. CRD experienced extreme pressure during the planning and writing of the final report required by the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. This, amongst other time commitments required of CRD for the Mud Bay Project caused neglect to other departmental necessities. Rhonda is requested that Council support CRD's wishes in not pursuing the outdoor school this summer.

Rhonda explained that the submission for the necessary permit is due April 1, 2010. SPSCC also is proposing not doing the outdoor school at Mud Bay this summer as well. Dale Croes will speak with Ralph Munroe about the decision. Dave suggested that a meeting be set up with Council, Dale Croes, Ralph Munroe and Cultural Resources. March 19th at the Museum. He would like to discuss this further and be sure everyone is on the same page.

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2010 Basket Weaver Conference: Margaret Henry stated that this year the conference will be held at Warm Springs, OR, September 30-October 3. Council will sponsor a group again this year. Hotel rooms will be reserved. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

ENROLLMENT

Tammy Ford presented the following enrollment resolutions:

Resolution #10-37 enrolls Sande Lee Smith III;

Resolution #10-38 enrolls Lolyta Jean Johns;

Resolution #10-39 enrolls Ethan Edward Pugel;

Resolution #10-40 enrolls Marie E Snyder (Carman);

Resolution #10-41 enrolls Julie Lynn Austin.

Charlene Krise moved to approve all of the enrollment resolutions. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

Tammy shared that there is a vacancy in the Enrollment Committee and Russell Cooper is interested in filling that position. Charlene Krise moved to approve the appointment. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Tammy would like to send him to Suquamish for their Enrollment Conference; Tammy also would like to attend.

Tammy shared that the committee will draft surveys regarding constitutional changes on blood quantum. The committee would like to hand them out at General Body.

Tammy reported on the pending DNA investigation on enrollment.

LEGAL

Kevin provided an update on Nisqually vs. Gregoire.

Kevin brought up a state park that will be sold as surplus; Ray encouraged Council to have Legal draft a letter explaining the tribe's interest in the tidelands. If it truly is surplus, Ray would like to talk to DNR about the land on the Island.

Kevin handed out at the last meeting a compilation of their work efforts on the shellfish settlement.

Kevin brought up Shaker Church. He discussed a piece of property that a neighboring land owner would like to sell. Kevin will prepare some paperwork for a purchase/sale agreement.

Kevin brought up two guardianship issues. If a guardianship petition is filed, it comes to Council for recommendation. Council went in to Executive Session.

Kevin handed out the loan agreement between the Burk Museum and Tribe for the totem pole that was commissioned by Doug Tobin. It has been arranged to be at the Casino. Kevin has negotiated all of the terms necessary to have it placed at the casino. He is seeking approval for the agreement and the resolution. Squaxin bears the cost of installation, transport and insurance only. The Burk will continue to hold the title and it will be loaned for 99 years. Charlene Krise moved to approve **Resolution #10-35** which authorizes the agreement with the Burke Museum and will insure the pole

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for #75,000. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. Motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Kevin shared that he has arranged for a meeting on March 19th with the external auditors regarding the Casino audit.

Andy arrived at 1:09 p.m.

PLANNING

Brian Thompson handed out a grant report update.

He shared that with the help of Bridget Ray, they have identified foundations that can help assist with funding the canoe journey.

Ray asked about constructing funds through Department of Justice. Brian stated that DOJ has funds for feasibility studies and construction of jails; but not for construction of offices. There may be some funding through BIA. Ray stated that Council has talked about building a small cabin on the Packwood property for law enforcement to use while they are patrolling the hunting areas.

Brian reported that the resurfacing of Klah-Che-Min will start this spring. The groundwork for the new housing units is ready and hoping to start construction this spring.

Brian handed out a resolution that the Housing Commission has approved. This resolution authorizes the sale of homes on the reservation to families who are over income. As of now, there is a process for families with a lease option, but there is nothing addressing selling a home to a family. This issue has been recently resolved with HUD and now has the authority to sell a home at the appraised value. Per the tribal code, the home must be sold to a tribal member. The proceeds to the sales can be used for the Slocum Ridge loan payment. Andy Whitener moved to approve **Resolution #10-36** which makes the appropriate changes to the Eligibility, Admissions and Occupancy Policy. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

Brian provided an empty unit report.

Ray commented that Mary McBride was recently appointed as the new HUD Region 10 Director; she has been a good friend to the tribe.

Brian handed out a draft resolution for review; he will need a phone poll done next week for approval.

Andy asked about the construction of the Arcadia Boat Ramp and how it might impact the First Salmon Ceremony. Brian stated that the construction will be fast once it's started; he does not have a timeline yet.

Marcella asked about the new housing project. Brian and Dan Neelands are working out some minor details on the bid process. They hope to start construction in May.

Charlene asked Brian about the HIP Program funding remodeling projects. Brian stated that one project has been funded. This program will help families add additions to their houses. The

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maximum allowed amount per house is \$35,000 and many standards need to be considered with the project. Charlene is aware of tribal families who are overcrowded in their homes. Brian reminded that the HIP Program is designed for low income families.

2012 CANOE UPDATE

Bridget Ray and Joe Seymour were present to provide an update on the planning process. They recently had a Steering Committee Meeting and only two committee members showed. Bridget handed out a flier showing the next meeting date of March 23rd at 3pm. She will do what she can to coordinate schedules. The meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month. They would like to create a “green team” for recycling efforts during the journey.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE

June O'Brien, Bonnie Sanchez and Whitney Jones provided an update on the Behavioral Health Program. June handed out the job description for the Program Manager position. She wanted input on the job description. The description was compiled from similar positions at other tribes.

Ray reported that he met with the mental health counselors and discussed this. They have a better understanding of the process of building the right program to better serve the community. The job description needs to go out and the right native person needs to be hired for that position. The program needs to be developed and the position needs to be in place to help with the development.

June stated that this will be a professional position and she would like to see the position filled with someone who has experience with these types of programs. The job description will be advertised across the state. This position will report to Ed Fox as the HHS Director.

Ray shared that the hiring committee for this position will consist of June, Ed or Bonnie, Council representative if necessary and himself or Whitney.

Charlene noticed that in the description it states that this position will have supervisory responsibilities and she had a concern about them exercising authority without the consent of the director. June stated that this position will still answer to their director but needs to have the independent abilities and decision making skills due to their expertise.

Charlene asked about funding this position. Whitney stated that she, Ed and June have identified a funding source and they are prepared to send a budget modification to the budget commission. Ray stated that there is funding for this position and it will not necessarily affect the budget. The Outpatient budget is already in place and will be moved to the clinic.

Tribal Council agreed by consensus to approve and advertise for the Behavioral Health Program Manager position.

Bonnie Sanchez stated that she is attending the Portland Area Indian Health Board Meeting and she would like to be appointed as an alternate. Charlene Krise moved to appoint Bonnie as an alternate to the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Whitney will draft a resolution for signature and it will be **Resolution # 10-42**.

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Council discussed the 2010 Basket weavers Conference. Council will reserve 10 hotel rooms.

Dave requested an executive session for a discussion about Geoduck.

There being no further business, the March 11th Council meeting adjourned.