

DRAFT

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL
LITTLE CREEK CASINO ISLAND ENTERPRISES
VISIONING SESSION
April 16 -17, 2008**

Attendance:

Tribal Council	Jim Peters	Chairman
	Arnold Cooper	Vice Chairman
	Vince Henry, Sr.	Secretary
	Russell Harper	Treasurer
	Will Penn	1st Council Member
	Pete Kruger	2nd Council Member
	Charlene Krise	3rd Council Member
Executive Director	Ray Peters	
Deputy Director	Whitney Jones	
Little Creek Casino	Cameron Goodwin	
	Mark West	
	Terry Mehl	
	Mark Chandler	
Island Enterprises	Bobby Whitener	
	Dave Johns	
	Bryan Johnson	
	Lisa Bielski	
Tribal Gaming	Desi Smith	
Recording Secretary	Melissa Puhn	
Legal Counsel	Kevin Lyon	

**Economic Development Vision
Workshop Agenda**

Wednesday April 16th

8:30am-9:00am Continental Breakfast

Jim called the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

9:00am-9:10am Opening Remarks- Jim Peters, Tribal Chairman

9:10am-10:30am Facilitated Discussion- Ray Peters, Executive Director

What is your vision for the economic future of the Squaxin Island Tribe?

What is common about these viewpoints?

What is missing from our current economic development plans?

How can we fill in the gaps?

Kevin provided an update on Franks Landing litigation yesterday. Kevin stated that he was pleased with the coordination and briefing that was done. Now waiting for the judge's decision; went over the three potential motions to dismiss.

What is your vision for the economic future of the Squaxin Island Tribe?

What is common about these viewpoints?

What is missing from our current economic development plans?

How can we fill in the gaps?

Charlene stated that in the past synergy of tribal members was discussed; she would like to see that being tapped in to. Tribal members getting educated in their entrepreneurship abilities. Bobby stated that they have developed the Business Center to assist tribal members and he will present tomorrow. Bobby stated that the design of the hotel came out of visioning with LCC. Charlene stated that the most important step is that when a tribe makes an economic step- to be sure that the tribal members are supporting. The proper steps need to be taken to educate and inform the tribal members to keep their support. Maintain open communication. Russell would like to see the shellfish enhancement plan incorporated in the "Draft Vision Plan." Cameron would like to look in to allowing tribal vendors to run a stand at Casino events such as WIGA, Tribal Leaders Summit, etc. The Casino holds events monthly; allowing lot of opportunity for them to sell their goods. Dave Johns discussed a potential inter-tidal geoduck fishery. Geoduck enhancement may be stopped, if it could be figured out his to transfer the money from the Shellfish Settlement to farm geoduck. He feels that an expert should be hired to help determine how best to use Squaxin Island to harvest geoduck because of its natural enhancement grounds.

Jim stated that the vision for the future is to continue growth of diverse economic development for both Casino Resort and Island Enterprises. Golfing, RV, bike trail, tourism: kayaking, boating, diversity of enterprises. If gaming goes away, what other economic areas could be developed. Jim would like to see a mechanism that IEI provides a forum on a quarterly basis that on a Saturday, offer a forum to tribal members to share what IEI is looking at. Offer an open forum to tribal members, similar to what IEI/LCC does for Council. Open communication. Needs to be more interaction, informal. Have Bobby set up, showing maps and successes of Factory, Salish and Store. Offer ideas, ask tribal members what their ideas would be and display. Vision of the tribe is to be all inclusive. There is a gap of entry level jobs. Provide an open house to include IEI, LCC, SIT TANF. Cameron stated that right now, they do a one on one discussion. But really like the idea of an open house, allowing everyone to share their ideas and comments in an open forum. Charlene would like to see the synergy increased between Enterprises and tribal members. Kevin followed up on Dave Johns, he suggested a "visioning exercise" that was treaty related. Discuss where we would be in the future of fish and shellfish and see what opportunities are available. Discussed the dilemma that the Factory and Casino come to when they strive to hire tribal members, but also incorporate fishing, canoe journey, clam digging, etc. and still maintain employment. Because of this dilemma; work schedules are tough to accommodate treaty activities. Discussed working with tribal members in starting their own "business" of fishing and shell fishing.

Discussed vision for the elders. Looked in to assisted living; increased per capita for elders; discussion/strategies to get wills in place. Continued to try to get a constant revenue in to the elders program. Charlene would like to see a fund for elder assistance; Ray stated that is in place, an elder

emergency fund for repairs and needs. Vince asked about a CHR Program for transport. Whitney stated that they really rely on family to transport, then public transportation, then CHR staff member. The CHR staff are very stretched, so try to utilize other services first. Arnold would like to see a full time CHR on staff. Jim added that he would like to see someone dedicated to take care of the elders; provide driving, taking to appointment or shopping. Suggested having a list of employees that can be on call for driving an elder. Whitney shared that there usually is not much problem that she has heard of elder transport.

Discussed trades, mentorship and trainings for kids. Ray briefly discussed the TANF program and the 13-16 year olds that need something to do; on island predator control.

10:30am -10:45am BREAK

Cameron would like to discuss what is missing economically with the Casino/Resort. How fast does the Council want to pay off debts; with increased revenue do distributions and per capita increase, or increase payments. Bobby asked how does Cameron approach the Spa or RV Park (in the vision of the tribe), does the casino provide a plan on how to move forward using someone else's money. Charlene would like to see a financial analysis showing when it would be feasible to expand with the rest of the vision.

Will asked about the Cash-in Ticket-out system with MultiMedia. Cameron reported that they have finally gotten the final report. MultiMedia is almost complete with their system. Discussed the negotiations with MultiMedia, Ballys and IGT and using cash in.

Cameron would like to purpose taking the square footage of smoke free and expand building outside almost doubling the area, to accommodate the goal of 1500 machines at some point. It would no longer be smoke free.

10:45am-Noon Little Creek Casino Resort-Cameron Goodwin, CEO

Cameron handed out a 3-5 year development plan. (see handout)

Discussed the poker move. Right now poker will be moved up to Skookum Spirit, but suggested to move the entrance of Island Grille, and creating a small room taking up some space in Island Grille to serve as a poker room. The Grill and Seafood Bar usually are not that busy. Poker room would be near the kitchen accommodating better for their orders. Then with poker off the floor, it would allow more gaming floor space. Brainstormed different ideas of moving poker, expanding gaming space to serve additional machine space.

Discussed family attractions. Bobby brought up zip lines or alpine slides on Clary's hill. Brainstorming ideas of using the hill.

Discussed retail space and location. Gallery and consignment sales.

Discussion of the Resort's future with, but not limited to the following:

Expanded Gaming Floor

**Food & Beverage
Events**

Spa- discussed different ideas of the spa. Include a sweat lodge. Including it in the “shell” or doing a separate building. Native motif. The need for a spa is always an issue at the hotel.

Retail

Adventure Sports (including Kamilche Adventures)

Family Attractions

Golf- Okie golf. Discussed “using someone else’s money” to build the course. Thus can be done sooner, but will need to figure out the relationship with Okie. Their profits could be used to pay off their course, once payoff a percentage would pay for the management. Discussed youth programs and tribal programs at the golf course, men’s programs.

Cameron reported on the tribal discount card system at KTP, looking for a new vendor.

Discussed the liquor control and that the tribe still has to follow state and federal law.

R.V. Park- Discussed location and looked at Seven Feathers RV Park.

Outdoor Venue (open space)

Noon-1:00pm

LUNCH

1:00pm-3:00pm

Little Creek Casino Resort-Continued

3:00pm-3:15pm

BREAK

3:15pm-5:00pm

Little Creek Casino Resort-Continued

Cameron shared some signing option changes, creating more visibility for parking signage. Cameron presented a slight logo change. The change will reflect better clarity. Seeking opinion of moving the water down beneath the “Little Creek” for clarity. Can keep the font and color. Council wants to keep the font, and likes moving the water. Move water, big fish, same font and white. Jim says to be flexible with the color; depending on the background color. Council discussed copywriting the logo. Cameron will have Brandi proceed with the change and present for approval.

Museum Library and Research Center, Charlene Krise, Director

Charlene discussed cultural programs and the high desire from the tribal members to learn. Ray stated that they are working on hiring tribal members to learn the language. Jeremiah and Barb were both moved to the Museum to help build the cultural programs. Have been getting more tribal members who are interested in teaching weaving and carving.

Discussion of Blake Island and their model that they use to share their tradition. They would like to look in to doing something like that; hold a traditional salmon dinner, dancing and story telling.

Cameron would like to bring up discounts. Right now there is no tribal or veteran discount other than the hotel. He would like to extend that 20% discount across the property; casino, hotel and restaurant. Discussion of how to bring it out; announce it on Memorial Day. Jim thinks it sounds good, but would like to discuss with LCOB. Like the idea of tribal member discount.

Cameron also asked to look at the trust land that tribal members own along steamboat. Cameron would like to offer incentives to those tribal member land owners who are willing to have casino advertising on their property.

Adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

6:00pm-7:30pm

DINNER BREAK

7:30pm-9:00pm

Continuation only if needed.

Economic Development Vision Workshop Agenda

Thursday April 17th

9:00 am -10:00am Childcare Discussion-Whitney Jones, President

Whitney stated they have a work session planned for next month to discuss projects, then present to Council for suggestion or direction. Discussed before/after school care for school age kids. Looking in to and a new room was set up to license for older kids. Looking in to eliminating the before/after school first graders. Now licensed for up to 7 years old. Would like to look in to additional space. Modular buildings, but would prefer to add on to the building. Doing research of different ways to expand, then will present to Council. This will also help with Kims program in lightening her load. Discussed modular's versus stick build addition, pros and cons of both; cost and permanence. Discussed funding; Jim suggested a "Friends of..." board be created just for campaigning for additions, changes and upgrades. The Board meets once a month and Council is always welcome; please stop by. Discussed the subsidy for tribal members (100%) and employees (50%). Discussed subsidy change for employees.

Jim asked about the bus situation at the day care. The board has not heard of any recent issues of cars not stopping for the bus. The bus shed will be constructed once the location is determined.

Scheduling a work party in June for staff and parents to perform maintenance on the building. Charlene brought up doing a unified maintenance plan for all the buildings; childcare, tribal center, IEI, etc.

Whitney highlighted they are in the middle of the NIAC Credit process. Currently have nine staff members enrolled in the classes; part of the minimum qualifications for the credit process. Received a recognition for disability service. Licensed for 123 kids. Graduated 25 pre-school students last fall, largest class.

Jim brought up the shellfish issue that came up last Friday; not enough clam buyers on the dig. Some diggers were not able to sell their clams. Need to improve communication between Natural Resources, Salish Seafoods and other buyers. Brainstormed ideas to alleviate this problem. Rod Schuffenhauer and Jeff Dickison were both present for discussion. Arnold would like to see a solution if this happens again; no buyer the day of a dig. Discussed a "safety net" Council could create a fund to purchase any clams that could not be sold- but that system could be abused. Better communication.

Discussed staff knowledge at the Seafood Bar; Dave would like to take the cooks/staff out to the seafood company for training.

10:00 am -11:00am Island Enterprises Inc.-Bob Whitener, CEO

Discussion of Island Enterprises Inc. future including but not limited to the following:

Additional Gas & Retail

Arcadia Boat Storage: Bobby shared the arcadia development plan. Including dry stack boat storage and an open compound. Public parking, rented parking, convenient store. Will be presented at General Body. Jim suggested holding a community meeting to discuss this development, because there have been issues about the land owners in the area.

Bobby shared a drawing of the rail spur and Petrosol.

Discussed fuel and industrial development.

Ray will look in to the water issue at the Tobacco Factory.

Business Development Center: Bobby shared his BDC powerpoint.

Seafood Expansion: Dave reported on their expansion and changes. Geoduck expansion planning on contracting with Taylors for seeding.

Discussed geoduck and the increasing pressure for enhancement on Squaxin Island.

Bobby and Dave will be presenting at General Body an update on Arcadia boat ramp and clarify the branded gas station rumors.

Council is directing Bobby to move forward with a conceptual drawing of the shellfish enhancement plan.

Discussed a talking circle in the next month and would like to discuss/questions on economic developments. Also brought up the open house idea again.

Outdoor Advertising: Bobby introduced Dick Trudell and Don McChord of Four Points. Sales pitch on outdoor advertising billboards.

Energy Development (wind): Briefly included with the above presentation.

Tobacco Operations: Brian updated on the new machine. Traditions is a new premium brand, would like to launch two more

Island Optics: Products coming in now from Osaka, equipment should be in this week. Hired Pete Jr. full time employee. Will be able to do large orders soon. Discussed Costco as a customer.

Discussed Pam Clarys business and what is left on her agreement.

Fast Food

Professional Building Leases

Construction: Bobby updated on the IEI Construction companies; Doug and Richard Gouin. Did the remodel of the police station which turned out well.

Island Search and Consulting: has been a good service. Quick update

Gallery

Bobby brought up the Moore property; right hand side as you come off the HWY from Oly, and the Kruger property across the street. Branded gas station discussion of which side of Old Oly Hwy. The side of road by the day care is too close the creek, but has the most space. Kruger side has larger footprint, but the problem is the road location.

11:00 am - 11:15am BREAK

Kevin went over the bond financing and tax exempt.

Bobby will update the vision plan and present back to Council for approval. Bobby suggested a draft economic development vision plan, then a separate governmental vision plan.

Charlene would like Bobby to look in to the reverse mortgages on conveyed homes, or have the tribe look in to buying houses from tribal members. Discussed ways to provide income to elders. Elders per capitas.

General Body Meeting; by ordinance quorum runs. IEI will be up first presenting. Would like to suggest that Council/Ray is able to field questions from tribal members; but asking Councils assistance for answering questions during the appropriate presentation. A lot of questions would be answered during presentations if they were to be allowed to be done. Charlene would like to make a request that each table has give-aways for tribal members.

IEI Board member appointments. Copies of the letters will be given the Council and decided on April 25th.

Adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

11:15am-Noon **IEI Continued**

Noon-1:00pm **LUNCH**

1:00pm-1:30pm **IEI Continued, Presentation by Don McCord on Outdoor Advertising**

1:30pm-3:00pm

IEI Continued

3:00pm-3:15pm

BREAK

3:15pm-5:00pm

IEI Continued

5:00pm-5:15pm

BREAK

5:15pm-6:00pm

Wrap-up and next steps—Ray Peters

6:00pm

ADJOURN

April 25th 7:00 am Council Meeting at the Casino with breakfast.