

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
June 11, 2009**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

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

Legal Counsel
Executive Director
Recording Secretary

Kevin Lyon
Ray Peters
Melissa Puhn

Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Andy Whitener offered the opening prayer.

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

Ray Peters, Jeff Dickison and Dan Neelands provided an update on the construction of the golf course. Ray briefed on the two potential locations of the club house and discussed the pros and cons of each location.

Ray asked Council if the construction can proceed with those two options for the clubhouse locations. Council is okay with moving forward on those two options.

Dan provided a construction update. The excavation is looking good. The water feature will be a wetland theme.

Jeff updated on the progress of the Salmon Safe Certification. Jeff had met with Salmon Safe earlier this week and they were interested in having this course as one of the first three golf courses certified. With that initial "pilot" certification, Salmon Safe will do an assessment at no cost. After the assessment the construction committee will provide a formal recommendation whether that certification is worth the cost.

Dan stated that if anyone goes up to the site to watch for dump trucks. The drivers have a hard time seeing through the dust, so be careful.

Jeff has been keeping an eye on the wetlands. He has submitted a Nation Wide Permit with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Andy Whitener asked about hiring a superintendent. Dave Lopeman would like to wait until the loan is secured before a superintendent is hired.

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Dan stated that about three to four holes are about 80% complete. Andy would like to see the rate of work projected out in order to get an accurate completion time. Also would like to see the timeframe of work to be completed before the rainy season starts in the fall.

Arnold Cooper asked about hiring tribal members. Dan stated they have begun interviewing the applicants.

Ray gave a financial update.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

June 19: Youth Community Health & Awareness Fair, TLC Gym

June 22-23: Centennial Accord, LCC. Ray discussed the Centennial Accord and went over the agenda. Ray and Kevin will put together specific talking points.

June 24: Council/IEI Board Meeting 9am at Salish Seafoods. IEI Board will meet in the morning, and Council will meet in the afternoon.

June 25: Council meeting with Nisqually, 9am – 1pm at Red Wind Casino. Follow up to previous meetings regarding the canoe journey.

July 13-17: Council will meet with Directors to discuss budgets. They may want to change the dates to the 16-17th in order to accommodate the WIGA travel.

July 13-15: NW Indian Gaming Conference (WIGA), Tulalip. Misti, Marcella & Charlene will attend. Misti wanted to see Council sponsor a team for their golf tournament. Council agreed by consensus to sponsor a team: Misti, Marcella, Charlene and Rhonda Foster will participate. Council agreed by consensus to appoint Andy Whitener as the WIGA Council Representative.

TRIBAL GAMING UPDATE

Desi Smith and Jeff Peters presented an issue regarding Tribal Gaming's regulatory issues with a certain manufacturer. TGA has already fined this manufacturer, and the issue has come up again. Desi will be discussing this with the Gaming Commission and will present to Council their decision. Desi presented this to Council for informational purposes only; no action needed at this time (*Andy spoke with a representative from the manufacturer; Council would like to meet with the manufacturer and discuss this issue*).

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Ray stated that Charlene had mentioned to him the importance and need for assisted living. Council discussed this need and Ray will work with Bobby to see about planning for this project. Planning has been applying for grants to help fund long term assisted living. The grants are on a two year cycle and this happens to be an "off" year. Planning is preparing to apply next year.

Council went in to Executive Session. No action taken.

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Council discussed the house recently purchased on Whitener Road (Rawson House). This house could possibly house three. The idea was discussed that two elders and one tribal caretaker could live there. Liability issues were discussed. Care giving would be the elder's family's responsibility. The tribe would have landlord responsibilities only. Council directed Ray and Kevin to look in to their options.

Misti requested that Council discuss the possibility of hosting a "Treaty Days" Celebration. Ray stated that the tribe doesn't feel it necessary to celebrate the day the treaty was signed. The tribe already hosts Sa Heh Wamish Days and Salmon Fest.

Marcella Castro shared that she received a phone call from a tribal elder who would like to purchase a front row ticket to the upcoming Beach Boys Show. Ray suggested that if Council doesn't want to buy those tickets, to make them available for the elders. Council agreed to block 10 seats for the elders.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Ray provided **Resolution #09-47** which implements a corporate compliance plan and policy and actions necessary to prevent and minimize the potential for fraud, waste and abuse in Northwest Indian Treatment Center Programs. Arnold Cooper moved to approve Resolution #09-47. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Job Ready Program: Ray handed out the draft program policy. This policy captures the tribal members who are truly in need, allowing them the opportunity to make money through a temporary job. Pete Kruger moved to approve the program. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Pool Schedule: The grand opening BBQ for the pool is scheduled for July 6th. This will be advertised to the community, as well as a contest for the first youth in the pool.

Ray went over the pool schedule. It will be open 6am-8am, Monday, Wednesday & Friday for lap swim. 3pm-6pm will be open swim. Tribal members will not be charged, but discussed charging non tribal members during the open swim in order to help offset the operating costs. Ray asked for Council direction regarding scheduling. Summer Rec will hold swim lessons during the off hours. There is the ability to rent the pool out; for example a tribal member could rent the pool by the hour. Council discussed the possibility of allowing outside organizations to rent the pool during off hours.

The lifeguards are hired through Discover Aquatics; those lifeguards will have a training program through TANF so clients can learn and be trained lifeguards.

Dave mentioned that Sis would like the pool table that is at the Linder House for the Teen Rec Center. A tribal member asked about purchasing the boat that is parked there as well. Council is okay with both requests. Whitney will contact Jeff Peters to help transport the pool table. Whitney will get a report on what has been sold and what is left.

Ray provided two proofs of two signs that DCD would like to post; one is a seatbelt sign and the other is a drug abuse awareness sign. Both signs will be posted at both entrances to the reservation. Council agreed by consensus.

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Ray provided an update on a possible property purchase. Council agreed by consensus for Ray to move forward with negotiations. Ray brought up another piece of property for sale on Harstine Island that includes tidelands that have good potential. Ray will meet with the owner and he would like to take Council out to see the property. Ray also will look in to a piece for sale along Mill Creek.

Kevin Lyon handed out the Island Enterprises Business Plan that was developed at Cow Creek.

Kevin discussed the NIGC and updated on changes that will be made.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Dennis Bear Don't Walk presented an ICW case that is at Skokomish. They would like to transfer this case to Squaxin jurisdiction. Dennis briefed on the case. Council agreed by consensus for the transfer of jurisdiction.

LEGAL

Kevin discussed a Natural Resources issue regarding treaty licensed fishing vessels acting in non treaty business without a state license.

Kevin discussed the random drug policy. Tribal Government, Island Enterprises and Little Creek Casino all have a random drug policy; but all three policies are different. Kevin has been reviewing the three policies and is working on unifying the three. Dave would like to see a strong drug policy in place. Kevin will bring a draft policy back for review at the next meeting.

Dave stated that he would like to see the recently approved seatbelt and drug awareness signs posted at the Casino and Tobacco Factory entrances as well.

PLANNING

Brian Thompson presented the following resolutions for Council consideration:

Resolution #09-48 supports the submittal of a grant proposal for operating expenses needed for bus driver and dispatch coordinator as recommended in the Transit Implementation Plan.

Resolution #09-49 increases the grant amount to help fund the Squaxin Skate Park.

Resolution #09-50 authorizes SPIPA to prepare a grant proposal for the Child Care and Development Block Grant on behalf of Squaxin, to help address community child care needs.

Resolution #09-51 authorizes the submission of a grant application to the US Department of Energy Program to develop an energy efficiency and conservation strategy that will include an energy audit of Tribal campus facilities.

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the four grant resolutions. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried three (3) in favor and zero (0) against *Andy Whitener was out of the room.*

Brian then presented **Resolution #09-52** that requests the BIA approval for the Grant of Easement on tribal trust land known as T-1189; and **Resolution #09-53** which authorizes Washington State Department of Transportation to construct a turn lane located on SR 108 therefore requests a Grant of Easement to Squaxin for the property held in fee known as the Clary parcel.

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Brian provided a housing update.

Brian updated on the animal control ordinance; the Animal Control Officer will give one warning to owners if their dog is picked up. After that the dog is taken.

Brian reported that Housing has a tenant with a Lease with Option to purchase and the tenant is ready to purchase their home. This is a low income family, so the home will be discounted. Brian is seeking recommendation from Council for the cost of the home. Council agreed by consensus to use the actual construction costs instead of the appraised cost for the price of the house.

Marcella asked about a tribal member with a high rent and low income. Brian suggested having that person come in to housing and work with the staff to go over their payment.

Brian reported that next week his staff will have a grant application ready for approval. This application is for funding for additional houses.

Brian reported that July 1st is the deadline for tribal members who have conveyed homes to pay their insurance. Housing has been in contact with everyone via telephone/letters. If the tenants do not respond Housing will have to terminate their insurance, therefore the tenant will be in violation of their Housing Agreement, and will then receive a notice to quit. The Housing Insurance is a tribal policy per Council decision; this is put in place to protect all homeowners. Council discussed different ways of getting everyone up to date on their payments.

Brian provided a copy of the letter sent out to the 17 tribal members who are over income. There will be a meeting tonight in the lunchroom, regarding these changes. Housing has not received many comments regarding these changes.

Brian handed out an Island Purchase Project update.

Land Management. Brian handed out an Island Purchase Project Update.

Arnold Cooper moved to approve resolution #09-52 and resolution #09-53 regarding the easements. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Brian provided a grant status report.

Brian updated on utilities and public works. The street lights have been fixed and the ones that are most commonly vandalized have been upgraded to a stronger design. They have received some good bids to re-side the rest of the Ta Ha Buts Learning Center and will award the contract next week.

Brian sent the results of the transportation planning initiative; he will be back at the next meeting seeking Council approval.

Brian presented **Resolution #09-54** which requests that the dollar amount of the existing BIA contract for Reservation Wide Safety be increased in the FY09 Construction Shares for the Commercial Area Traffic Safety Project. Arnold Cooper moved to approve Resolution 09-54. Andy Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

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Ray updated on the budget for the new NR/CRD Building.

Ray presented **Resolution #09-55** which directs the Canoe Family to select officers, take and distribute minutes of their meetings, and follow the other Committee and Commission processes as outlined in the Tribal Code in the conducting of all business of the Canoe Family and of the Canoe Journey of 2012; and that neither the Canoe Family nor any individual member of the Canoe Family may obligate the tribe to any commitment, financial or otherwise, of the Canoe Journey 2012 or any other activity of the canoe Family without the concurrence and authorization of the Tribal Council.

Arnold Cooper moved to approve this resolution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Ed Fox provided an update on the Swine Flu. The main part of the flu ended May 15th; Ed feels that this is no worse than the seasonal flu. Council agreed by consensus to lift the travel ban. Council requested that if in the future Ed sees any danger in airline travel to let Council know and they will reconsider airline travel.

NORTHWEST INDIAN TREATMENT CENTER

June O'Brien was present to discuss the unified drug policy with Council. Council would like the drug testing to go through her office for all entities. Dave asked June to work with Kevin and Ray in unifying the policy. Council agreed to have June charge the entities for her staffs time.

CANOE FAMILY

Jeremiah George and John Smith were present and handed out the route for this year's canoe journey. John is encouraging everyone to go as traditional as possible; fishing off the canoes and digging clams along the way. Jeremiah handed out the Canoe budget.

Jeremiah asked about the Stepping Stones participant's assistance with the hosted dinner on July 27th. He would like to ask if next year the Stepping Stone youth could help out more with the journey.

The Canoe Family will return at the next Council Meeting to go over their budget. Council discussed the employee policy pertaining to the canoe journey. Employees may use annual leave or leave without pay; but need to get approval from their supervisor. Council has been consistent in not paying people to participate in the canoe journey. Jeremiah stated that this is a significant community event supported by the tribe. He would like to see employees help but is aware that employees are not paid for this event. He asked if there could be a policy that would allow employees to be paid if they are helping with planning/preparing for the journey.

Council wanted to make it clear that funds for the canoe family are not to be paid out without receipts provided; personal items should not be paid for, no exceptions. Council would like a narrative of each line item in the budget. Ray will contact Island Enterprises and let them know as well.

TA HA' BUTS LEARNING CENTER

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Bill Kallappa and Madeena Rivera shared with Council that the Health Awareness Fair is next Friday. Starting at 3:30 that day will be a Meth Walk. They wanted to know if employees could be released from work in order to participate in the walk, which starts at 4:00. Council agreed by consensus to release employees who are participating at 3:15 that day, in order to allow sufficient time to get ready. T-shirts will be handed out to all participants. They would like to see Council participate.

Whitney Jones wanted to verify that Council would like to continue awarding scholarships to five Mason County graduates. The Education Commission usually goes through the applicants and selects the recipients. Council agreed to leave the review and decision to the Commission, and will continue awarding five awards.

Marcella requested that Council be included on the Family Services hiring board. Arnold will sit in as well as Charlene or Misti.

There being no further business the June 11, 2009 Council meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.