

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2006

Attendance:

Tribal Council

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

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer *(left at 1:37)*
1st Council Member *(absent)*
2nd Council Member *(absent)*
3rd Council Member *(absent)*

Executive Director

Ray Peters

Legal Counsel

Kevin Lyon

Recording Secretary

Melissa Puhn, sitting in for J. Ruby Fuller

Jim Peters called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and Ray Peters offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES & AGENDA

Vince Henry moved to approve the August 24th Council agenda, and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 for and 0 against. The August 10th Council Meeting minutes were tabled until the next Council Meeting.

TRAVEL REPORTS & PLANS

Jim Peters returned from, and Pete Kruger is still at the **Tribal Leaders Summit**, at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Pendleton OR.

Jim Peters and Pete Kruger plan on attending the **ATNI Annual Meeting in September 11-14**, at the Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City, OR. Ernie Stengasar from ATNI has contacted Jim Peters asking the Squaxin Island Tribe to sponsor a coffee break for the meeting.

Jim Peters and Ray Peters plan on attending the **Self-Governance Tribal Strategy Session, September 26-27**, held at the Lummi Indian Reservation.

Jim Peters, Andy Whitener, Vince Henry, Russell Harper and Ray Peters all plan on attending the **NCAI Annual Meeting, October 1-6**, in Sacramento CA.

Charlene Krise stated that she may be interested in attending the **5th Annual Tribal Gathering, October 4-5**, Port Madison Indian Reservation, Poulsbo WA.

October 13th, the Learning Center is hosting the Shelton School District at the Little Creek Events Center. TLC will be providing training and sharing the heritage and culture of the Squaxin Island Tribal youth.

Charlene Krise and Ray Peters plan on attending the **2006 Potlatch Gala, November 18**, in Seattle, WA. Tribal Council will sponsor a table for this event.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Glen Parker asked the Council if he could also attend the NCAI Conference in October. Council approved his attendance.

Political Donation Jim Peters shared that he had received a letter of appreciation from Jay Inslee, for Councils' support. Jim spoke highly of Jay's time and work.

Kennedy Creek Trail Donation Jeff Cedarholm, who worked with the Department of Natural Resources, recently passed away. He had worked closely with the Washington State Tribes, as well as Squaxin. The Cedarholm Family had requested that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Kennedy Creek Trail, in Jeff Cedarholm's name. Council agreed to make a donation to show their appreciation for his work.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ray Peters reminded Council of the In-service Day at the Events Center, which TLC will be hosting the Shelton School District, on October 13th. This will be a one time opportunity to work with the Shelton teachers regarding the Squaxin youth. Kim had requested Councils presence, and she will be coming to Council at a later date with her ideas and plans for that day. Jim inquired about handouts and material to give the teachers to take home. There were suggestions of the Treaty, the Boldt Decision, background information on the Tribe, etc.

Ray Peters shared a letter he had received from the Emergency Planning Committee of Mason County Emergency Management Council. The letter stated that they will be hosting a training session to review disaster preparedness, on September 14th. The Emergency Management Council is requesting the presence of an elected official to attend this session. Ray will ask John Taylor to attend, and asked if a Council Member would be available. Vince Henry stated that he will check his schedule. Russell Harper inquired about having a team of Tribal Members who live on the reservation being trained and prepared in the event of an emergency. Ray will check with John Taylor.

Ray received a letter from DSHS that thanked the Council in advance for the August 30th meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the services that DSHS provides to Squaxin Island families, and to hear about any thoughts or concerns that Squaxin Island Tribe might have about those services. Whitney Jones, Ed Fox and June O'Brien are planning on attending this meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (continued)

ATNI Resolution Ray presented **Resolution 06-75** which designates Jim Peters as the ATNI delegate, and Pete Kruger as the ATNI alternate. Andy Whitener moved to approve this resolution, and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NCAI Council approved to designate Jim Peters as the NCAI delegate, and Andy Whitener, Russell Harper and Vince Henry as alternates.

Fire station update Ray reported on the progress of the fire station. The Tribe is ready to break ground on the building. Ray is negotiating with Fire District #4 on funding.

NR/CRD Building Ray provided a report on the NR/CRD Building. They are close to closing on the piece of land, and with hopes of having the land in to trust status by next year. Natural Resources have been looking into grants for “green” buildings.

Ray provided a property acquisition update.

Pier Removal Andy Whitener gave a report regarding pier removal on Squaxin Island. Natural Resources have been researching grants available to fund creosote pier removal. Ray told Andy to work with Planning on seeking grants, and move forward with the removal.

Budget Update Ray provided a brief update on budget allocation. Funds for Natural Resource enhancement has been allocated for a shellfish comprehensive plan, this includes additional funds for a Biologist to manage the enhancement plan.

ENROLLMENT

Tammy Ford presented the following enrollment resolutions: **Resolution 06-71** which approves the enrollment of James Patrick Sen, with full benefits; **Resolution 06-72** which approves the enrollment of Isabel Rose Cools, with full benefits; **Resolution 06-73** which authorizes the enrollment of Tanalee Ann F.M. Mendoza with full benefits; **Resolution 06-74** which authorizes the enrollment of Trent Anthony Brown with full benefits. Vince Henry moved to approve the above mentioned resolutions, and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Jim asked Tammy about the progress of an enrollment committee, and enrollment by-laws. Tammy will bring the draft by-laws to the next council meeting. Jim wants to discuss the enrollment committee at the next talking circle.

TRIBAL GAMING AUTHORITY

Mike O'Donnell and Desi Smith provided their monthly report to Council. Mike reported that TGA is still looking for an external auditor. The Gaming Commission is in the process of interviewing two different companies. Jim inquired about a situation involving an external auditor last year, and Mike assured him that everything discussed at meetings with the external auditor will be in writing. Mike handed out minutes from the NIGC with the new minimum external control standards for accounting. The new standards which are supported by LCCR, covers the hotel, food and beverage, events, etc.

Mike reported the smoking ban in Washington State has hurt the card room industry. The state is losing gaming revenue; therefore Mike is concerned of how this will affect the Tribes. He has been looking closely at the State's billing, and with Council approval, TGA will not pay the quarterly bill without clear and concise explanation, as stated in the code.

Mike handed out a budget for the surveillance expansion to accommodate the addition to the hotel, Starlight Lounge expansion, retail expansion and parking lot expansion. Mike asked to be included in the Construction Meetings, in order to state what camera coverage will be necessary for all expansions. The current camera system needs to be doubled already. Southwest Surveillance put together a quote, which Desi explained to Council. The quote included all equipment, with the capability of 704 cameras to record 24 hours a day. Jim asked that the estimate reflect coverage of 900 gaming machines. Mike will bring the estimate back to Council. Jim also encouraged Mike to attend Construction Meetings, which are announced during the LCOB Meetings.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT

Doug Boon and Joe Calabrese provided an update on construction. Joe handed out a cost breakdown by Bates and Landscape Unlimited, for landscaping of the golf course.

Russell Harper left at 1:37.

Doug discussed the progression of the Starlight Lounge expansion. He also provided a report of hotel construction, and handed out a cost breakdown from Korsmo Construction. Doug provided an update on the sewer system and golf course.

Council went in to Executive Session.

There was no action taken.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Larry Ross provided a DNR/CRD survey update for the Slocum Cemetery. They are waiting for approval from the State Cemetery Board and Mason County Superior Court. The paperwork is in progress to move the remains, and once the permit is obtained they can begin transporting to the new site. The Phase I of the Slocum Cemetery is complete. Margaret Henry has been doing field surveys at the head of Kennedy Creek. She found old fish traps along Schneider Creek. Larry showed a PowerPoint presentation of the traps. Larry shared pictures of archeological findings from the Skookum Inlet survey, including pictures of evidence of a food processing site along Woodard Bay on Henderson Inlet. Jim suggested for Larry to show this slide show to the Elders, and have them discuss their knowledge of the history of that area.

TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

Debbi Obi asked for Council's support for ten Tribal Members to attend the Annual Northwest Basketweavers Conference, being the first of October in Coeur d'Alene, ID. By consensus the Council agreed to support their trip paying for four hotel rooms, conference fee and basket kits; totaling to \$2,724.81.

Brian Thompson and Liz Kuntz briefed Council on a housing issue.

LEGAL

Kevin Lyon provided an update on a Tribal Elder. The Legal Department will assist with this situation, and direct it to Law Enforcement as well.

TRIBAL MEMBER REQUESTS

Council went in to Executive Session.
No action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.