

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

July 14, 2005

Attendance:

Tribal Council: Jim Peters, Chairman
Andy Whitener, Vice Chairman (absent in afternoon)
Vince Henry, Sr. Secretary
Patti Puhn, Treasurer
Will Penn, 1st Council Member
Pete Kruger, 2nd Council Member
Charlene Krise, 3rd Council Member (absent)

Executive Director Ray Peters
Deputy Executive Director David Whitener Sr.
Recording Secretary J. Ruby Fuller
Legal Kevin Lyon

Jim called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES/AGENDA

Ray Peters requested Executive Session during the Executive Director update. Patti Puhn brought up a concern which Ray will look into. Patti made motion to approve the agenda. Will seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against. Patti made a motion to approve the June 9 minutes. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against. Pete made motion to approve the June 23, 2005 minutes. Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

Will Penn and Jim Peters will attend the **Capitol Land Trust Celebration** at the Colonial House in Shelton this evening.

Ray agreed to attend a reception honoring **Governor Gregoire** on Monday, **July 18** at 6:00 p.m. in Olympia. (*Jim also attended*) They will be attending as guests @ \$100 each.

Andy Whitener and Jim Peters plan to attend the **WIGA Conference** in Tacoma **July 25-27**.

The First Salmon Ceremony will be at the Arcadia Boat Ramp at noon on **August 6**. Work will begin about 9:00 a.m. to set up for the ceremony.

Also on **August 6**, The **Capitol Land Trust Summer Gala** will be held at Ralph and Karen Munro's beginning at 4:00 p.m.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS *(Continued)*

Pete Kruger plans to attend the **Washington Tribal Economic Summit** on **August 21-24** at the Quinault Beach Resort. Jim may also attend.

The **Global Gaming Expo** will be held **September 12-15** in Las Vegas. Pete Kruger, Patti Puhn, Vince Henry and Andy Whitener plan to attend.

Ray and Jim will be attending the ATNI Annual Conference, September 19-23 at the Couer D'Alene Casino Resort Hotel.

There will be a Self Governance Tribes, Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Interior fall conference held in Washington D. C. which will run from October 10 -14. Ray and Will plan to attend.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

NCAI Report: Jim gave a short report on the session he attended at NCAI. Jim attended a session on elders. Jim would like more information exchange between the elders and the Council and would like to make sure they know what is being done on their behalf.

Dave Whitener also reported on the NCAI meetings that he attended.

2005 WST Economic Summit: Council's direction was to sponsor this event at the same level as last year.

Meeting with County Commissioners: A dinner meeting with the Mason County Commissioners is scheduled for August 1 at Alderbrook.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Properties Acquisition update: Ray gave an update on properties acquisition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Legal

CRAIG BILL -DIRECTOR OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Craig Bill, the new Director of the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs was introduced to Council. Craig told Council that he is planning an open house.

CRAIG BILL -DIRECTOR OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS *(Continued)*

He spoke briefly about the issues he will be working on in his role as director: *government to government relationships between the Tribes and the State of Washington; cultural resources protection and management; tourism; how to reduce health disparities; the education achievement gap; water, gaming.* Craig told Council he wants open lines of communication.

Jim conveyed his desire that the government-to-government relationship be taken seriously by all of the State departments. Jim said that "water" is also an issue which requires attention.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Fishing Regulations: Joe Peters presented the 2005 Fall Chinook Fishing Regulations and the 2005/2006 Coho and Chum Commercial Net Fishing Regulations.

Joe indicated he plans on cutting a regulation for the First Salmon Ceremony. Notice should be sent out in the first salmon fishery. The first one caught is the ceremonial fish.

Andy made motion to approve the 2005 Fall Chinook Fishing Regulations and the 2005/2006 Coho/Chum Commercial Net Fishing Regulations. Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against. Jim suggested Joe recruit people who would actively participate on natural resources committees.

LOTT: Jeff Dickison, Natural Resources Assistant Director brought a Memorandum of Agreement between the Tribe and the Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, Thurston County Wastewater Utility for Council's consideration.

Jeff asked Council for a general direction of which way to go. By consensus Jeff is to work on the memorandum of agreement and to work on projects that both the tribe and LOTT agree to.

PLANNING/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Squaxin Island Land Initiative Report #1: Brian introduced Penni Giles, the new Real Estate Manager Intern. Brian reported they have identified 33 individual sellers interested in selling their interest in property on Squaxin Island and that appraisals have been requested from the BIA on eight of those.

There is a Public hearing coming up for the new Forest Management Plan.

PLANNING/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES *(Continued)*

Home Ownership Initiative Report #1: Brian Thompson, Planning Director, reported on the number of HUD homes that have been conveyed (21). Five (5) residential sub-leases have been completed and one (1) has been recorded with the BIA. One HUD 184 loan on the reservation is in progress.

Strategic Planning: The Strategic Planning Initiative with the help of Don Chalmers has been progressing. The focus groups have been working on goals and objectives for 5 strategic areas and felt that the next step was to brief Council and ask for a tribal council work session with the strategic planning group as they want to be assured that Council is in agreement with their planning.

Jim urged Council to spend the time needed to meet with the leaders of the strategic planning initiative. Council committed to take time in August and additional time if needed. The Strategic Planning focus groups have been working on plans for the following:

- Drug Free Community
- Jobs and Employment
- Education
- Cultural and Natural resources
- Health and Wellness.

Patti requested informational packets. Brian and Whitney Jones will work on a schedule.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE *(Continued)*

On island land acquisition: –Brian gave overview.

Debt service and on island land acquisition: This topic will be brought to next meeting.

Community clean up day: There will be a Community Clean-up day tomorrow, July 15 with a barbeque at noon. All staff are to participate and the community is invited also.

Talking Circle: A Talking Circle is scheduled for Friday, September 16.

Flag: The design has been given to Planning so they can order the Flag. It was discussed that the Veterans will need their own flag and one needs to be available to take to meetings. Two more flags need to be ordered.

Donation request: Billy Frank sent a letter soliciting a donation for Dave Somers who is running for Snohomish County Council. Council agreed to donate \$500 to his campaign.

Janita Johnson's letter to Council was discussed. Patti will follow up.

Dave Whitener reported that a potlatch is being planned for September 23 and that September 25 is the 10th anniversary of the Casino opening.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO HOTEL/UPDATE

Doug Boon reported on Casino finance, gaming revenue, gaming, marketing, and human resources.

NIGC Notice: Kevin Lyon reported on the warning notice received from NIGC by the Casino.

Knudsen Property: Council approved by consensus that Island Enterprises move to the Knudsen property as soon as the sale closes and to convert the building to office space.

Island Grill: Doug reported that the projected cost to convert Island Grill to an oyster bar is less than anticipated. Doug Boon asked for approval for the conversion and was told that it is up to LCOB.

Bob Whitener talked about a spa. He said they are looking for approval on the design not on the actual construction. He indicated they have been doing site visits.

THURSTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Rick Peters presented **Resolution 05-62** which approves and supports the watershed education efforts and teaching Squaxin Island Tribal history and the tribe's relationship to, knowledge of, and dependency upon shellfish and their environment. Patti made the motion to approve. Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Salish Seafoods: Dave Johns gave a report on Salish Seafoods. He said that Natural Resources sets the schedule for the clam digs. There are six groups.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Canoe Family Journey: Vicki Kruger, Donna Penn, Tully Kruger, Sam Penn, Iyla Ball, Myrtle Richards, Lila Jacobs, Liz Perez, Russell Harper came to Council to ask for stipends for participants in the Canoe journey and motel rooms for elders. Vince said they have his full support. Vicki asked for Council to vote on paid leave, stipends, and stipends for kids and elders and administrative leave for employees.

Children have to be over 16 or be accompanied by a parent.

Council will meet Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m. to consider the request.

Ray will check with progress of the curtains for council chambers.

TRIBAL MEMBER CONCERN

Tribal members reported that outpatient treatment had been denied. June O'Brien was present to answer questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL

Kevin Lyon presented **Resolution #05-63** approving renewal of the contract between the Tribe and Kanji and Katzen PLCC. Vince moved to approve the resolution. Patti seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 in favor and 0 against.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.