

Squaxin Island Tribal Council Meeting
August 25th, 2005

Attendance:

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

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 9:11 a.m. and Will offered the opening prayer.

AGENDA

Jim asked for changes and or approvals of the agenda. Forest Management Act and Forest Management Plan were added to the Legal Update. Pete Kruger moved to approve the Agenda. Charlene seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Will Penn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 11th with corrections and/or amendments. Pete seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 for and 0 against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

Andy and Ray would like to attend WIGA, September 7th, in Yakima.

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

Kim Cooper is rescheduling the meeting between Tribal Council and the Shelton School District Board of Directors.

The MLRC Annual Auction will be held on September 17th at the LCC Bingo Hall. Jim inquired about a table for Council. The Casino together with Charlene and Dale have created a TV Commercial for this event.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS *(Continued)*

ATNI Annual Convention is September 19-23 is at the Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel, in Worley, ID. Ray, Jim, Pete & Will plan to attend.

September 23rd is a Potlatch put on by SIT, at the Gym.

Evergreen State College Longhouse Education and Cultural Center 10 year Anniversary Potlatch, September 24th. Jim inquired about donations of food. Charlene motioned for Council to donate \$1000 towards this event. Pete seconded the motion. Ray will arrange for this.

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, Jim and Will plan to attend.

NCAI is October 30th – November 4th in Tulsa OK. Jim, Andy and Ray plan to attend.

Potlatch Fund 2005 Annual Gala will be November 19, 2005 in Seattle. Charlene plans to attend. She also plans to travel to Pasadena in November to a fundraising conference where she will be a presenter on tribal philanthropy.

NIGA will be November 14th-15th in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Andy would like to attend.

Ray Peters plans to take annual leave August 29 through September 6 with Council approval.

Ray will check on the date for the Centennial Accord. He believes it is November 10 and will again be held at LCCR.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Council recognized the Natural Resources Department for doing such a great job on the First Salmon Ceremony and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation. Julie Owens was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for all of her hard work.

Jim Peters briefed on his recent trip to the Economic Summit last week at the Quinault Beach Resort. Jim said that he felt that this was a good conference, and that he would like to attend in the future. They had discussions regarding how to develop things such as art, Natural Resources, Tourism and Marketing. Jim would like to get together with Doug Boon and Bob Whitener and see what we can do to get involved. He reported that there was a really good presentation on education as well as community development. Charlene mentioned a scholarship program through the University of Washington Business College called "gear up." Quinault has become part of this program, and has reduced their drop out rates to 2%.

CHAIRMANS UPDATE *(Continued)*

Charlene would also like to see Inter-Tribal Communication. A sharing of ideas, pitfalls, and knowledge with each other.

Jim stated that we as the Tribe need to be the caretakers of our information instead of going to the state for statistics. There needs to be a designated person for each department to provide these numbers, i.e. the number of employees, per capita income, drop out rate. We need measurable goals & objectives.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

HOC/Casino Invoices: Ray reported that it was discussed at the last Directors Meeting, the complications with the Oyster Company and the Casino Invoicing. It was requested that if you have an event at the Casino/Hotel, encourage the coordinator to attach a name and/or event to all correspondence tied to that event. Ray also reminded Council that any requests for Salish Seafoods needs to go through Ruby first. Salish Seafoods has been directed not to accept any orders for Council, except from Ruby.

Health Clinic Expansion: Ray also reported on the Health Clinic Expansion. The clinic is in the need of more exam rooms. They may renovate the old SPIPA building once SPIPA moves out, and move the Dental Office there; and move CHS into the Conference Room. This would allow for more space for exam rooms. Ray will move forward on the budget allocation.

Tourism Program: Ray discussed the possibility of having a Tourism Director as well as a Cultural Activities Coordinator. These two positions could be responsible for coordinating public events, such as the First Salmon Ceremony and revitalizing Sah-He-Wamish Days. These positions would be funded through the Hotel Occupancy Tax. There will be a Commission created to oversee the Tourism Director, and the Cultural Coordinator will be overseen by the Museum. The Cultural Coordinator position will be filled by a Tribal Member.

Kevin Lyon asked Council, not expecting an answer today, but wanted to know who would be exempt from the Hotel Occupancy Tax. Kevin will work on this code with Ray, and present to Council at the next meeting. Ray would like to have Jim look at it prior to the next Council meeting, as well as the two above mentioned job descriptions.

Property Acquisition: Ray provided a property acquisition update.

Cemetery Construction: Ray provided a Cemetery update. Land has been identified, and they are looking into the cost of construction and purchase of the land. There was a consensus to have Ray move forward with this project.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE *(Continued)*

Natural Resource Project Update: Ray read a memo written by Jon Konovsky and Nadine Romero, which provided an update on the projects that the Natural Resource Department is working on.

At Charlene's request, Lorna came in and introduced Mary McBride, she works with the office of Patty Murray, and is the Senators South Sound Director. Mary has been a great friend and asset to Squaxin Island Tribe. Mary asked for permission for the Senator to send a personal message to Council at the upcoming Auction. Unfortunately she cannot attend this year.

PLANNING

Brian Thompson handed out a Home Ownership Initiative Report, as well as a SIT Land Initiative Report. He reported that the BIA announced the first appraisals and are planning to send out a second letter to land owners announcing the appraised value of similar lands. There are thirty five people interested in selling their trust.

Brian also handed out four policies: Mutual Help Policy, Occupancy Policy, Leases & Leases w/ options to Purchase, and the Collection Policy, the latter two with revisions. Brian will ask for Councils approval at the second meeting in September.

LEGAL

Council went into Executive Session. There was no action taken.

Kevin presented **Resolution # 05-72A**, which was approved at the last Council Meeting.

Forest Practice Act: Kevin presented **Resolution # 05-73**, which approves the Forest Practice Act, with a couple technical changes, which Jim approved. Pete motioned to approve the Forest Practice Act, Charlene seconded the motion, the motion carried 3 for and 0 against.

Kevin also presented **Resolution #05-74**, the Forest Management Plan. Charlene motioned to approve, and Will seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 for and 0 against.

Kevin presented **Resolution # 05-75**, which renews their contract with the Northwest Inter-Tribal Court System (NCIS). Charlene motioned to approve, and Will seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 for and 0 against.

Resolution #05-76 was also presented which renews the Berkley Risk, Self Insured Workers' Compensation. Pete motioned to approve, and Charlene seconded. The motion carried 3 for and 0 against.

LEGAL *(Continued)*

Charlene brought up a concern regarding a Tribal Members spouse, Jim will look into this matter.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO HOTEL/UPDATE

Doug Boon reported on Casino finance, gaming revenue, gaming, marketing and project updates.

Doug also discussed the NIGS letter.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Rhonda Foster presented the Draft Programmatic Agreement, Section 106. Jim asked for the full agreement prior to Councils approval. The full agreement will be included with the next Council notebook. Rhonda requested an hour at the next Council Meeting to go over this agreement.

CANOE FAMILY

Terri Capoeman, her two girls, and Jeremiah George came to Council to express their gratefulness for Council's support.

Tribal Member Concern: Rose Blueback wanted to express her concern regarding the curfew code. She also requested to be included on the Law & Order Committee.

There was discussion regarding Law Enforcement availability, Ray will look into this matter.

EDUCATION

Kim Cooper and Barbra Whitener handed out a Memo regarding a pilot program for teaching language. Barb went over the program in detail and presented a proposal to have a language certification. Kim provided a recommendation for this proposal. Kim requested a verbal approval on the idea, and the okay to pursue this idea. Council approved the idea by consensus. Kim was encouraged to talk with Brian regarding grants to fund this program.

Tribal Member Concern: Connie Whitener voiced her concern regarding the promotion policy. There was no action taken.