



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

PO Box 314

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TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 8, 1996

OPEN FORUM

Katie said the elders have been talking and they want to be the hiring committee. They want to go through all the applications. They feel there is too much nepotism and too much one sidedness going on here. Bill Brooks said Chris and Mark were working on setting up a committee to go through applications, do the interviewing and hiring. Katie wants only elders. Bill Brooks said the committee would probably consist of Mark, two employees and some elders. Katie doesn't think any employees should be on that committee. She thinks there are too many members of one family here working. Percy and Katie said the committee should be the Tribal Manager (Mark), one or two members of the committee (for the job), and three elders. Bill B. thinks that could be doable. The Council wants to get out of hiring. They want to have a committee do it. Katie said we should have respect for the elders. Bill Brooks said Mark, the program director and three elders or four. Katie said no even number. The elders need to have a say in hiring.

Mark said okay to himself, the department head, and elders. He also wants to propose a personnel policy change. Katie wants at least 4 elders. Jerry Guenthardt said you could have one from each committee. Katie said no. Jay Sam questioned the fact that Katie wants the hiring of a conservation officer to be done by the elders and not the Natural Resource Committee. Katie said the committee could sit in on the decision process, but the elders have the final say. Katie said it seems that under qualified people are getting hiring because they (the committee) like the person for the job and not their qualifications. Bill B. said the Natural Resource Commission has the authority to hire their own staff because of their ordinance. Percy asked why. Bill B. said their commission is set up separate because they have their own jurisdiction and they have so many special issues and policies, the Council can't approve them all. Percy said the elders can go over policies and applications just like anyone else. Bill B. said they would have to amend that ordinance. Katie said they (the elders) want it amended and they want it legal! Katie believes that the hiring of the secretary was done as follows: They went through the applications, said okay to this one,

maybe this one, no, not this one, lets hire this one. Mark said it was not done that way. They interviewed at least six people for the job after going through 30 applications. The recommendation was made to Council through closed session. Katie thinks it should be open session.

The constitution reads that the recommendations be done in closed session. Percy asked who did the hiring. Kathy and Mark said each committee was different depending on the job opening. (i.e. the education committee interviewed the Ed Coordinator, the N.R. Committee interviewed the Natural Resource Coordinator). Katie said the elders should have a say in everything. No one listens to them. Kathy asked Katie how long it has been since there was an elders meeting. She said about three months. Mark said there are elders on each committee. When the committees were formed there was an elder appointed to each committee. Mark said John Pete is on Economic Development Committee. Katie said that John Pete said, "why should one go to those meetings, they do exactly what they want anyway, even if I put my two cents in." Katie doesn't realize that it is a majority rule vote. Jerry Guenthardt said maybe that's what was done at the time, but that doesn't mean they didn't listen to what was said. Katie said there should be a lot of changes made around here. Jerry said we have to have the committees to run the tribe. Jerry said to Katie that maybe she could get more elders involved in the committee. Percy wants there to be a hiring committee period. Mark should set it up. It should be three elders, the committee head and Mark. Those five people make the final decision based on recommendations after the interviews. Mark said that was basically what he was looking at. (i.e. an education position was open the committee would consist of the supervisor, the chair from the Ed committee and if the chair can't make it, they appoint someone in their place from the Ed Committee and two others). Mark said he hadn't come up with the two others. Percy said make them elders. Mark said okay. Katie said no because the elders would be out numbered. Jerry said you don't want one side to out number the other. Katie said that the elders should have a say so. Mark said he hoped it wouldn't come down to the elders vs. Everyone. He hopes that they could all agree on the best person to be hired. Kathy said to make a hiring committee and put three elders on there. Katie said three is better than two.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER: Kathy called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. on September 8, 1996.

ROLL CALL: Margaret Chandler, Steve Parsons, Bill Memberto, Kathy Berentsen. Absent: Bob Guenthardt, Jerry Koon and open seat.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion by Margaret, second by Bill Memberto. All in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion by Bill, second by Margaret. All in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Won't received it till second Sunday in October at the next meeting.

STAFF REPORT: No Report.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: No guests.

II. OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE ON CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICE (CHS) AVAILABLE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS. Council reviewed booklet on guidelines and rules. You must call Denise only.

SURVEY OF PROPERTIES: Looking for bids for Indian Village and Orchard Landing sites. The trailer at Indian Village could be a problem. The Natural Resource Commission said it was important for them to know the land dimensions even if it wasn't needed for the trust. At the October meeting there will be costs available and estimates.

III. NEW BUSINESS

SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE: As it stands now, anyone could dump waste on the property and not be prosecuted for it. Jay is in the process, with the Natural Resource Commission, of developing an ordinance to protect the property we already own. The ordinance would be enforced by the Natural Resource Commission. Bill Memberto wants anything like ordinances or laws run past the lawyer before being presented to the Council. Bill Brooks thinks the ordinance should be limited to a fine and banishment of person from all tribal lands. (No matter if it is a member or non-member). Possibly community service. Also, there was a question of it being handled by Tribal Court or Civil Court. Motion to adopt solid waste ordinance made by Bill, second by Steve. All in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF GAMING COMMISSION ORDINANCE: Ordinance was made during Council's work session. Kathy asked if there were any changes or discussions on it. Bill Brooks said this is just the first part of a gaming ordinance

which creates a gaming commission. The Commission and Council will go over the rules for gaming. There will be advertising of commission openings. There will also be background and financial checks on all appointees.

PURCHASING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES PROPOSED: Left until next meeting when Chris could be here.

OTTAWA/CHIPPEWA DOCKET SETTLEMENT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 25th WITH THE TRIBES THAT THIS AFFECTS: The Sault Ste. Marie tribe claims that the entire Eastern half of the Upper Peninsula is their historical territory. They claim they should receive 38.4% of the award because their territory is 38.4% of the total territory. Little Traverse Band has and will object to this because they believe that part of the UP is their territory. Roughly from St. Ignace along the North Shore to Escanaba. Mark believes the purpose of the meeting is to bring together officials from GTB, LTB, LRB, Bay Mills, Sault Ste Marie, and Northern Michigan Ottawa Association. Kathy asked if there was a proposal. Mark said it only discusses Bay Mills and the Sault Ste. Marie tribe.

UPDATE ON TRIP TO WASHINGTON REGARDING BIA & IHS FUNDING FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Mark, Chris, and Bill Memberto went to Washington D.C. for the week of September 3rd to try and increase the budget for the tribe. They met with the BIA and IHS to try and explain why we need more for the budget. Our tribe has expanded since the last enrollment list. BIA said they could do something about the '98 Fiscal year, but they weren't sure about '97.

FEDERAL RECOGNITION DAY CELEBRATION AT INDIAN VILLAGE ON SEPTEMBER 21, 1996 will be a picnic for all and a blessing of the land. You are to bring your own table service and a dish to pass. The Cultural Preservation Committee will provide a pig roast. There will be a tent, chairs and also a port-a-john.

MEETING SCHEDULED WITH KENNY PHEASANT REGARDING OTTAWA LANGUAGE CLASSES TO BE HELD AT THE CHITTENEN CENTER ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1996, AT 7:00 P.M. A letter was sent to all the elders for a dinner and meeting with Kenny so he can see what the dialect is for this area. Katie said that he doesn't speak true Ottawa Language. Bill said that was part of the reason for the meeting, so that Kenny could depict the dialect for our tribe.

SCHEDULING OF FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Bill Willis submitted a proposal that the membership meeting coincide with the November Council meeting on the 10th. Mark said the constitution states that there should be at least two membership meetings a year. The last one was held in January. Bill M. made a motion to have a Tribal Membership meeting on November 10th, 1996. Seconded by Kathy. All in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

IV CONCLUDING BUSINESS: Next meeting scheduled for Sunday, October 13th, 1996 at noon. The 4th Sunday is a work session for the council and the Housing Committee. It is open to anyone. The next work session is the 27th of October.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. for closed session.

CLOSED SESSION: A contract proposal for Kim Kequom and a recommendation for hiring the Secretary.