



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

PO Box 314

Manistee MI 49660-0314

TRIBAL COUNCIL/MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 1996

I. INVOCATION 12:15 FOLLOWED BY LUNCH 12:00-1:00 P.M.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 1:20 p.m. at the Stronach Township hall by Tribal Chairman Robert Guenthardt.

ROLL CALL. Roll call was taken by Kathy Berentsen. Present: Chuck Fisher, Margaret Chandler, Steve Parsons, Jerry Koon, Bill Memberto, Bob Guenthardt, and Kathy Berentsen.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA. Moved by Bill M. to accept agenda, second by Jerry, all in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES. Kathy brought up a few changes to the minutes and they are as follows: Peoples names need to be consistent throughout the minutes such as either using first names or use first and last names. Another thing brought up was that the minutes need to be two sided because this saves on paper. On page (4) in the middle of the page the sentence that says, "Chris stated that the Natural Resources Commission did a mailing to all elders in the state of Michigan and the response was only eight people. So that shows just how bad things are getting with the post office and our mailings." The second part of the sentence was incorrectly stated. Chris made a comment that when sending out these mailing to the membership we usually get little response from them. The third class bulk mailing is what was referred to about Tribal members never getting material we send out and how long it takes for them to get what we send. On the top of page (6) sentence that says, "We only have Kathy, Bob, Diane, and still Bonnie (referring to check signing)." There should of been something added in here to say that we no longer have Bonnie sign checks since she resigned from the Council. On the top of page (7) where it talks about the phone system and calls being lost or not being directed to the proper people. Bill

M. talked about this and Bob had asked Tammy to give her demonstration on how she answers the phone and directs calls so she spoke up and gave her line of how she answers the phone: "Good morning (or afternoon) Little River Band Tammy speaking." Tammy said that when she gets calls she doesn't have any problem directing them to where they need to go because she does know who handles different things and directs them in that direction. She said she wasn't aware there was a problem at the River Street office. What was said about the phones was left out of the minutes and should of been mentioned. Finally the last thing was on page (9) concluding business. Kathy wondered why the membership meeting was changed to 12:00 noon instead of 10:00 a.m. like the minutes stated it would start. There was really no response to this question because know one knew why. The minutes were passed with changes. Moved by Bill, seconded by Jerry, all in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT. Chris spoke and said that he has all the program budgets posted on a board behind his table and if anyone wants to look at them and has any questions he'll be there to answer them. Moved by Steve, second by Jerry, to approve financial report, all in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS. Mike Malik and Tom Celani were introduced as the gaming partners. The staff present was introduced: Mark Dougher, Chris Holz, Bob Guenthardt, Diane Lonn, Bill Willis, Jay Sam, Tom Guenthardt, Tammy Carter, Denise Pieczynski, Yvonne Parsons, Bill Memberto and Valerie Chandler. The Tribal Attorney Bill Brooks was also introduced. The Tribal Council was introduced: Kathy Berentsen, Chuck Fisher, Margaret Chandler, Steve Parsons, Jerry Koon, Bill Memberto and Bob Guenthardt.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VOLUNTEERS. Bob introduced the committees which are: Constitution, Education, Cultural Preservation, Economic Development, Housing, Land Acquisition, Enrollment, Health, Elders and Natural Resource and asked that they stand up when he mentioned them.

III. OLD BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT. Mark Dougher gave this report and talked about what happened from federal recognition to the present day. He explained about the Tribes funding source from the BIA and IHS. He explained how the committees provided a lot of the work for the Tribe because we had limited staff to work by. He explained about the committees giving their reports and the members having a chance to give their input by questions and answers. Mark mentioned who was on the team and explained what the teams function is and the kind of things they do work on.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCE TEAM. Bill Memberto talked about who makes up this team and the issues they deal with such as Indian Child Welfare and Contract Health Services. He explained that we cover a four county service area which is Lake, Wexford, Mason and Manistee. This teams purpose is to make sure and meet the needs of the people. He explained about using the strategic plan as a guide to develop the intra structure to make sure it's working for the people. There are a few people that had questions and some of the main topics of discussion were:

- (1) Burial place/funeral place was brought up. It was asked if we had available funds for these type of things.
- (2) Why do Tribal members have to go to other Tribes for services that IHS provides funding for with our Tribe.
- (3) It was asked if we have representatives to go to area hospitals to visit our people. Bill M. explained about the two CHR'S being hired and they will be starting on November 18th to be able to start to provide services to our people.
- (4) It was asked if we have a substance abuse program.
- (5) There were a lot of questions about Health Services and why people living out of the service can't get help but they are counted in the funding figures. It was a big concern of theirs that they be able to get help with health matters just like other Tribal members living in the service area. Bill mentioned that CHS is a new program and we haven't had it for very long so people have to try and be patient because we are trying to work on Health Services for all Tribal members. He said even though we can't provide health services for all Tribal members right now but we do have other programs that members can benefit from. Bill M. stressed about visiting the committee tables to see what is offered.

Mark spoke about all the long term services we will be able to provide by our own revenue from gaming. But for right now as long as we are getting funding by the State we have to follow their guidelines.

It was talked about that the agenda would be moved around a little bit and we would have the report by the Economic Development Committee come first because the gaming partners had to get back to Detroit.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. Bill Willis introduced himself and his committee. He talked about the gaming code which the committee has been working on and read the report he had prepared (see attached report). Bill then introduced Mike Malik and Tom Celani and gave them the floor to speak. Tom spoke about the facility itself and gave some background on himself and their business. Mike also spoke about proposal E when someone brought it up and what it has done for the Tribe. They both answered questions that people had about our facility from construction to who would be drawn to come to this area to gamble.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE. Jay Sam introduced himself and all the committee members and talked about what the committee did and read the report he had prepared (see attached report).

CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE. Bill Memberto talked about our Pow Wow and had everyone who participated in this stand up and basically briefed everyone on what he had written in his report (see attached report). It was brought up that we need to pass a resolution to Lake County regarding the burial mound that was found on this State property. Motion by Bill, second by Steve to pass resolution 96-1110-96-01, all in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE. Yvonne Parsons spoke on behalf of Janine Szpliet who wasn't able to attend and read the report she had prepared (see attached report). She also introduced the committee members.

ELDER'S COMMITTEE. Katie Glocheski spoke on behalf of the Elders and said they haven't had a meeting in awhile. Katie also talked about lack of respect people have for the Elders by not listening to them when they speak. Kathy spoke up to her and a few things were said. Once again it was not a pleasant experience.

ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE. Diane Lonn read her report she had prepared as the enrollment officer and introduced the board members of this committee. (see attached report).

HEALTH COMMITTEE. Kathy Berentsen introduced the people on this board and had Bill Memberto speak because he is involved with the programs that are running. Bill talked about the different things that the health office is doing and these things were on his report (see attached report).

HOUSING COMMITTEE. Mark Dougher talked on behalf of the committee and talked about the draft of the housing ordinance that they had completed and would like the Council to pass today. This would able the Tribe to access funding from the different sources. Kathy moved to pass resolution 96-1110-96-02, supported by Jerry, all in favor, 1, (0) opposed. Motion carried. Bob said that Mark needs to be recognized and thanked for the great job he did on the grant from HUD that awarded us some money to help build our Community Center. He put a lot of time and effort into getting us this funding. Megwetch.

LAND ACQUISITION. Bill Willis spoke on behalf of this committee and introduced the members. He said that this committee has been working on a land reservation restoration plan (see attached report).

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION. Tom Guenthardt introduced all the members of the committee and read his report that he had prepared (see attached report).

IV. NEW BUSINESS

JUDGMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION REPORT. Bob gave a brief report to the members basically what was in the memo that went out to all Tribal members and he talked about his feeling on how this money could be used. He stressed that these were his ideas not anyone else but when the time does come for this distribution the Tribe would hold public hearings like what they did in regards to the Constitution draft and members would be given a chance to voice their ideas. Basically there would be a brain storming sessions to see what they could propose to do. There were a few concerns from Tribal members feeling like this was money their ancestors never saw that it should be distributed to the members that are living now. It seemed to be a concern that the blood line is going down and what happens if people who are eligible now, pass away and they have no one who is eligible for this distribution what happens then. It was mentioned that our ancestors would of wanted this handed out to their people who are living now in a money distribution. Really there were no other questions.

V. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 1996 at 12:00 noon.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was never adjourned but everyone started to pack up and leave at 5:10 p.m.

11/25/96-tsc