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LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 1994
MINUTES

APPROVED
3-25-95

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Call to order at 12:15 p.m., at the office.
- b. Roll Call: Board members present: Daniel Bailey, Bonnie Kenny, Kathy Berentsen, Bob Guenthardt, Anne Avery, Margaret Chandler. Absent Marcella Leusby. Staff present: Mark Dougher, Diane Lonn. Guest present: Jerry Guenthardt, Bill Brooks, Elizabeth Roth, Dale Chandler Jr., Katie Glocheski, June Sam, Jonnie Sam and Lavern Oren.
- c. Adoption of Agenda. Motion was made by Bonnie to accept the agenda with no revisions, seconded by Anne, passed unanimously.
- d. Adoption of Minutes. Motion was made by Bonnie to accept the minutes from the October 18, 1994 meeting with no revisions, seconded by Kathy, passed unanimously.
- e. Financial report. In the Council's packet is two financial statements from Loretta for the months of October and November, plus a breakdown of what has been spent out of the ANA grant from April 1, 1994, to September 30, 1994. Bonnie passed out a packet that was drawn up from Valerie Ulmer's suggestions of how to document expenditures. Valerie thinks we should have a better break down of how the money is spent each month, and what account the money is coming out of. Each month the Council will be receiving a statement of expenditures. Loretta has already started using the new accounting system. Bonnie and Loretta want to meet with the staff to explain the new system. There will be new forms to fill out for various things, such as travel forms, travel advance, etc. It will mean more paperwork, but leaves a paper trail to follow.

Bonnie mentioned the craft sales that we have had. Margaret wanted to know what happens to the money made from the craft sales. Bonnie said that 10% of each sales goes to the office. It goes in a savings account. The individual crafter gets the other 90% of their sale.

Mark mentioned to the Council that in their packets there was a handout on a phone system by Ameritech and price quotes. The board decided at this time to wait on getting the new phone system until we receive our new ANA grant. We will have more money to work with then. We have no monies budgeted in this grant for equipment. A motion was made by Margaret to put call waiting on the 723-8288 phone line, seconded by Kathy, passed unanimously. Dan wondered why the phone bill for November wasn't included on the financial statement. The phone bills for November haven't come in yet. They will be next months statement.

Margaret made a motion to accept the financial statements for the months of October and November, seconded by Kathy, passed unanimously.

f. Staff reports. Ginger and Diane have written staff reports in the Council's packet. Diane mentioned that she has our enrollment cards in from the printers. They will be laminated and she will start sending them out soon, along with a letter stating what the card is. Diane also mentioned that she is sending out the official first letter of three letters, that goes to the applicants asking for the missing information to complete their files. The enrollment committee meets twice a month now, instead of once a month. The enrollment committee has to approve the files before any enrollment cards can be sent out.

Mark's verbal staff report is as follows. Irma Parrish of Inter Tribal Council was down at our last board meeting with the proposal of starting a head start program here. The head start program will not be able to start until next September. The school has to be on Tribal land if it is to run independently. Otherwise if it's on non-Tribal land, then the local community action agency, such as Five Cap has some say how the program is run. There has to be at least 17 Native American children between the ages three to five years old enrolled in our Head Start program, in order for the tribe to receive full funding. There will be four jobs available with the head start program. There will be one teaching position, a teacher's aide position, a cook's position, and a bus driver's position.

Mark mentioned that last Friday we had an elder's meeting here at the office. Katie, Laverne, Jean, and Anna stopped in. The elder's would like to form an elder's council that meets on a regular basis. We should put an announcement in the next newsletter, asking the elder's of the Tribe if they would like to join. Also it was mentioned that the elder's would like to see some kind of meals on wheels program set up.

The suggestion was made that maybe we could contract with the Senior Center to have hot meals brought to the office on a certain day of the month, and the elder's could come here and eat. The next elder's meeting is to be held on December 16, 1994, at the office, at 1:00 p.m.

Mark stated that Kim Epley of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes, would like to set a date to come here and meet with our Tribal Council and members to help in setting up a strategic plan. Kim proposed that she come here on the weekend of January 21, and 22, 1995. We would have a two day work session with Kim discussing the strategic plan for development of the Tribe for the next 10 years. If this date is good for everyone, then we will have to put an announcement in the newsletter. This would be the first of two weekends sessions with Kim. We will have to rent a hall to have the meeting at. June Sam said that she would check into the Stronach hall to see if it was open on those dates.

At the last meeting the Council approved to send a letter of interest to the DNR on the management of the Little Manistee weir. Tempotech is losing it's contract with the DNR, to manage the weir. Little River expressed an interest in a fish hatchery, and the management of the weir. Bill Brooks mentioned that he spoke to John Robinson of the DNR, and he indicated that he would be interested in meeting with representatives of the Tribe to go over the things that the Tribe would have to think about to take over that operation.

Anne motioned to accept the staff reports, seconded by Margaret, passed unanimously.

g. Public Comments: Daniel mentioned that the Forest Service would like to know if we would like to start a Native American fire fighters team. The team would consists of 21 people and the applicants have to be in good physical shape. We should put a notice in the newsletter asking interested individuals to contact us. There is some training but the money that you make is good.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Gaming Questionnaire. Ginger sent out 510 gaming questionnaires to the tribal members over the age of eighteen. Out of the 510 questionnaires that were sent out 156 answered yes, equalling 87%, and 24 answered no, equalling 13%. Out of the 156 yes questionnaires, 102 had additional comments, and out of the 24 no questionnaires returned, 17 had additional comments. In the Council's packet is a printout of the comments made. After some discussion, Kathy motioned for the Tribe to proceed with gaming, Bob seconded, Dan and Margaret dissented, passed.

On December 19, 1994 there is going to be a meeting held at the Governor's office. Michael Gadola is Governor Engler's Legal Council. He would like to meet with the Chairmen of the three newly recognized Indian tribes, to discuss various issues.

In the Council's packet is a letter from Ben Bifoss, City Manager, of The City of Manistee. Ben Bifoss indicates in the letter, that the City Council is ready to work with the Tribe in any way possible with getting a gaming facility open. The City Council would like to see the gaming facility within the city limits. Daniel said that we should look into all possibilities. Little River should look into the problems that other Tribes are having with their gaming facilities and what they are doing to solve them. Elizabeth also mentioned that now Grand Traverse is issuing per capita payments, which is causing alot of problems.

b. Committee Formation. We need to set up various committees. We would like to see a Tribal Council member be the Chairpersons of the various committees. The following committees were created and chairpersons appointed:

Health Committee: Chairperson - Kathy Berentsen,
Education Committee: Chairperson - Marcella Leusby,
Housing Committee: Chairperson - Bonnie Kenny,
Economic Development: Chairperson - Bob Guenthardt,
Natural Resource Committee: Chairperson - Anne Avery,
Enrollment Committee: Chairperson - Margaret Chandler.

Motion was made by Bonnie to approve the committee chairpersons, seconded by Anne, passed unanimously.

c. Update on Consumers Power Case. Elizabeth enclosed a memo in the Council's packet. The memo discusses what happened at the meeting that took place on December 7, 1994, at Ann Arbor.

d. Update on Inland Hunting and Fishing. Bill Brooks suggested that the Tribe establishes a Natural Resource Committee as soon as possible. The Grand Traverse Band and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe have already been dealing with hunting and fishing issues for some time now. Bob and Bill attended a meeting in Sault Ste. Marie last week. The meeting was to find out what the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe was up to. There was a newspaper report that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe was negotiating with the State about hunting and fishing rights. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe is having some trouble, because they didn't regulate their fishing and hunting rights from the beginning. That's why Little River needs to get started on their own management system. Little River needs to identify their fishing and hunting territories. Buddy Raphael suggested that the members of the three Ottawa tribes sit down and identify their basic concerns.

e. Proposal to Indian Health Service. Included in the Council's packet is a model proposal from Char Hewitt of Inter Tribal. She prepared a draft proposal that we could use to seek funding from Washington to hire staff to help set up a Health Department. The proposal would open up two more job positions. One position would be a Health Director, and the other position would be a Secretary/Records Management person. The amount of \$110,000 - \$115,000 has been suggested in the proposal. That doesn't mean the proposal will be approved for that amount or even approved at all. This proposal is not a grant program, like the training that Kathy is going to go to in New Mexico.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. FOREST FESTIVAL. Diane reported that the Forest Festival Committee has invited Little River to be the Master of Ceremonies for the Festival this year. The Council accepted the invitation with Diane's suggestion that we work on having a float, a booth and other public relations activities as a part of the Festival.

IV. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. NEXT MEETING. The next meeting was set for January 15, 1995, 12:00 noon at the tribal office.

B. ADJOURNMENT. Motion was made by Kathy, seconded by Bob to adjourned. Passed unanimously at 4:30 pm.