

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Biskaabiiyang Committee**

Open Meeting Minutes for January 29th at 9 am EST via Zoom

**I. Opening Prayer**

Done by Al Metzger

**II. General Business**

**A. Call to Order**

This open meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Chairperson, Nikki Nelson.

**B. Roll Call**

Nikki Nelson - Present	Chelsea Densmore - Present	Al Metzger - Present	Vicki Wells - Present
Delia Ross - Absent	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	

Attendees: Julie Wolfe -Council member

Chelsea D. made a motion to approve the agenda and Vicki Wells seconded that motion.

Nikki Nelson - Yes	Chelsea Densmore - Yes	Al Metzger - Yes	Vicki Wells - Yes
Delia Ross - Absent	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	

*Agenda approved 4 in favor and 1 absent.*

**D.** Chelsea made a motion to approve the minutes from September 2021- December 2021 and Vicki seconded that motion.

Nikki Nelson - Y	Chelsea Densmore - Y	Al Metzger - Y	Vicki Wells Y	
Delia Ross- absent	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>		

*Minutes approved 4 in favor and 1 absent.*

**E. Reports**

Chelsea made a motion to approve the 4th quarter report and 2022 Calendar and Vicki seconded that motion.

Nikki Nelson - Y	Chelsea Densmore - Y	Al Metzger - Y	Vicki Wells - Y
Delia Ross - Y	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	

*Report approved 4 in favor and 1 absent.*

**III. Old Business**

**A. Elder's Read to Children**

***DISCUSSION***

Chelsea reported that we are adding a children’s section to our website. We’ve put out a flyer and are trying to coordinate with the Elders. Due to covid, the Elder’s have not met. We will keep it on the monthly agenda and keep reaching out to Elders. We'll be putting a children’s virtual page on the website where children can go and read and do other fun activities. Since we had all agreed previously, Nikki agreed that we could move this to items of information and keep on the agenda.

**B. Book Club**

**DISCUSSION-** Chelsea reported that the last book club went well. We sent out 20 books and had 7 that attended on a regular basis and some had purchased their own books. The next book the club was reviewing to read is *The Only Good Indian* by Stephen Graham Jones. It is written by an Indigenous author and will take us into a different genre of readings. We discussed getting digital/audio books and gifting them as we had previously. We all liked the idea of audio books due to the ease of listening to them. Discussed budget issues regarding purchase of books. Chelsea will email the council to see if we can use the rest of our budget from last year. Julie said the budget discussions by the council will be continued in February. Chelsea asked if we could just send it in like we did last year, with the proposal.

**VOTE**

Chelsea, made a motion to approve a budget for the purchase of 20 copies of the book by Stephen G. Jones for the book club to be started this winter and Vicki seconded that motion.

Nikki Nelson - Y	Chelsea Densmore - Y	Al Metzger - Y	Vicki Wells - Y
Delia Ross - absent	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	

*Motion approved 4 in favor and 1 absent.*

**IV. New Business**

**A. Winter Weekend**

**DISCUSSION-** Snow Snakes- Nikki reached out about the snow snakes but found it to be expensive. She then reached out to Dave Corey who said he would do it. It will be for two weekends Starting Saturday Feb.12th and 19th. Looking at doing a 3-hour workshop where they would be made and painted with the following weekend holding a competition. Also talked about ice fishing, decoys and stories. The flyer was reviewed. The fishing decoys were left off the flyer, Nikki will add. Dave will coordinate snow snake. Nikki said we can do virtual stories during the snow snake and live stream or put on our website and Vicki offered to make rabbit stew as a lesson at Aki where those who are participating can eat.

Chelsea made a motion to send the proposal to council and Vicki seconded that motion.

Nikki Nelson - Y	Chelsea Densmore - Y	Al Metzger - Y	Vicki Wells - Y
Delia Ross - Y	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	

*Motion passed 5 in favor and 0 against*

**B. Sugar Bushing**

Talked about how many days it should be held. Thoughts were we should coordinate with whoever is doing the sugar bushing this year. Julie asked about recording it and whether it would be on the website. We record all our teachings, some teachings may only have parts recorded but those that run a whole day will not, because of length. Martha and Dave will be doing it and we are looking for citizen participation. We will be sugar bushing in the traditional ways.

**V. Concluding Business**

**A. Items of information**

1. Dave and Martha will be doing the sugar bush.

**B. Council Liaison – updates**

Julie says not to send items to Rebecca anymore, as that is no longer her job because of the change in public relations. We should upload flyers and any communication items to her from here on out. She can upload to the website. All budget issues should be sent to the council liaisons.

**C. Public Comment Period**

No public attendance. Thank-you to Julie Wolfe for attending. We are still looking for committee members.

**VI. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn this open meeting of the Biskaabiiyang Committee was made by Chelsea and seconded by Vicki and Chairperson, Nikki Nelson, adjourned the meeting at 9:46 am which passed 5 in favor, and 0 against.

Nikki Nelson -Y	Chelsea Densmore - Y	Al Metzger - Y	Vicki Wells - Y
Delia Ross - Y	<i>Vacant Elder Seat</i>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	