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Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



**Aki Community Center
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

Elders Monthly Meeting

June 3, 2023

No July Meeting

Elders meeting started at 1:02 pm. Gary said Prayer

Tammy Burmiester was elected to Council in May. There will be a Special Election after lunch to fill her seat.

Special Election

Running: Dale Chandler and John Pabami

Nominations: Darlene Martin, Richard Bailey and ok'd by Virgil Johnson

Counting the votes: Councilman Gary Dipizziz, Elders Connie Waitner and Mike Burmiester.

Dale Chandler won the election.

All Elders Committee agreed to Dale being on Committee, Dale takes his seat.

Roll Call

Quorum: All Present

<i>Jessica Steinberg-Here</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-Here</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-Here</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-Here</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-Here</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

Approval of Agenda: *Sandy accepted Agenda; Marcella seconded*

<i>Jessica Steinberg-yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-yes</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Chuck accepted minutes; Sandy seconded

<i>Jessica Steinberg-yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-yes</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

1. Old Business: None

2. New Business:

Guests were the Warriors Society, Tammy Burmiester, Julie wolfe, Gary Dipizzia and Larry Romanelli.

Jessica congratulates Dale and welcomes him to the Elders Committee.

Jessica asked the elders if they wanted to have a meeting for July. They voted to have a meeting for July 8th. She also reminded the elders of Language Camp for July 28th and 29th.

At the July meeting Jessica wants to go over the 2024 budget and asks the elders what they would like to see in the budget. Jessica also told the elders that the Elders Committee would like to do a Strategic Plan based on the next three years. And would like for the elders to give the committee any ideas they can think of.

Chuck Fisher talked of finding grants for the Elders. He is looking into one where the elders can purchase a vehicle to use for the Muskegon meals and to take Aki elders to doctor appointments and other necessities. Service areas will have to be made in the grant. He is working to get this grant done and to Council so it can be in place by August or September.

3. Public Comment

Tammy Burmeister stated council hasn't voted on liaisons yet but they were going have a round table meeting that week. They would be voting on the liaisons then.

Tammy suggested to the Elders about getting with Manistee Elders group about getting ideas for the elders' strategic plan.

Julie Wolfe asked the Elders to put in their 2024 budget a trip to Mt. Pleasant to the Boarding School event. She also asked for volunteers to work at the Pow-Wow.

Warriors Society said they would be at the Pow-Wow.

Larry Romanelli said that the Tribal Budget meeting will be August 5th from 9 m to 11 am at the Aki Center. He encourages tribal members to attend. He also stated that the tribe hosted the United Tribes meeting at the Casino. It was very well attended by the Michigan Tribe. Council was invited to attend; He was very pleased that 7 of the 9 council members attended. The Bishop from United Tribes asked the tribes to come together to go over the program of the Indian Schools.

Jessica was invited by her brother, Jay Sam, to go with him down to Lansing to the college to pick up remains of our ancestors.

When they got down there, she said she was surprised to see that that the remains were in boxes with just numbers on them and stored in a room with other remains.

After they returned to the government building, she asked Jay what he was going to do with the remains. He said for the time being he was storing them in Cultural Preservation until the cemetery was reopened back up and could get natural Resources to dig the graves for them. Jay also stated he had about a dozen sets of remains stored because he couldn't get any help with doing a ceremony for them. It was suggested that someone needed to get involved to take care of our ancestors remains if Historical Preservation couldn't do it.


Next Meeting: August 5, 2023 Elders Picnic at Pavilion

Meeting Adjourned:

Dale made a motion to adjourned the meeting, Sandy seconded, all agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Elders Secretary,


Marcella Leusby

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