APPROVED

VERMONT COMMISSION ON NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS



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COMMISSION Carlton Bertrand Jr, Chair Jeffrey Benay, 1st Chair Trudy Ann Parker, 2nd Chair Charlene McManis, Secretary Andrew Beaupre Lucy Cannon-Neel Dave Van Deusen Shirly Hook Patricia Johnson



VCNAA Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Members Present: Joe Bertrand, Chair., Jeffrey Benay, First-Chair., Trudy Ann Parker, Second Chair, Charlene McManis, Secretary, Andy Beaupre, Lucy Cannon-Neel, Dave Van Deusen, Shirly Hook, Patricia Johnson.

Guests: Doug Bent, West Braintree; Trudy Thomas, Montpelier; Giovanna Peebles, Montpelier; Lauran Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer; Duncan Mattewson, CCV – Middlebury; Donald Parker, Lunenburg; Carol Irons, Albany; John Moody, St. Albans; John Kessler, ACCD; Billie LeMay, Derby.

The meeting was brought to order by Joe Bertrand, Vice-Chair at 1:05 at the State House, Room 10.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Joe welcomed everyone who came to the meeting and who accepted the commission position. Joe gave a brief overview of the past achievements. Each commission member introduced themselves.

2. John Kessler and Giovanna Peebles

John gave a recap of open meetings, emergency meetings and public records. The agenda should be sent as least five days before the meeting. Minutes can have administration corrections before the meeting. In executive session, a motion must be given as for the reason and no decision can be made while in session. The voting must be conducted after coming out of executive session.

On public records, the commission can recycle the handouts at the meeting. It is preferred to have one copy over at DHP. The commission secretary can keep additional information for referral references. Joe asked if someone asked for public records. The statute states the custodian agency provides the records which is the DHP. However, it is not the duty of DHP to provide public information.

3. Overview of 1 VSA Chapter 23

Giovanna introduced Lauran Trieschmann is the new State Historic Preservation Officer. Giovanna then gave an overview of the statute set forth by the Vermont government. Giovanna noted at on the top of page 6 of the handout, it reads: "(f) A decision by the commission to recommend denial of recognition is final unless an applicant or a successor of interest to the application that has previously applied for and been denied recognition under this chapter provides new and substantial documentation and demonstrates that the new documentation was not reasonably available at the time of the filing of the original application."

OLD BUSINESS

1. Results of VT Archeology Month September 8th Program

Handouts of the Times-Argus September 9th article regarding the Women's Voices was passed out. 45 people attended the program. Giovanna was given a copy of the video of the program. Giovanna is looking into creating an annual event of this. Discussion was held regarding commission appointments. Giovanna will check on pushing back the commission appointments so the September retreat and meeting could go more smoothly.

4. Selection of Chair

Shirly moved to nominate Jeff as Chair and Trudy as Vice-Chair. Charlene seconded. Discussion held. For the record, Dave believed the top leadership should go to a Native American. He also felt the Chair should seek audience with the Governor. Discussion was held. Dave moved to create a first Vice-Chair and second Vice-Chair. Shirley seconded. All agreed. Discussion held. Dave move to have Joe Bertrand Jr as Chair, Jeff Benay as First Vice-Chair, Trudy Ann Parker as Second Vice-Chair. Charlene will remain the secretary. Shirly seconded. Andy moved to cease the nominations. All agreed.

2. Update on the VCNAA website

The DHP cannot give administrative license to the commission members. Giovanna requested that the commission considered creating a speakers' list. Discussion was held regarding fundraising. Discussion was held regarding payment of speakers.

Joe moved to break at 2:25pm. Meeting reconvened at 2:40pm.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Strategic Planning

Discussion was held regarding our goals and ideas for the commission. Discussion was held regarding acquiring monies for fundraising. Discussion was held regarding press awareness. Some goals mentioned were: Creating a survey was discussed in order to support data for projects. Lucy moved to approve the proposed mission and vision statement as read. Trudy seconded. All agreed.

Mission statement:

The Vermont Commission of Native American Affairs will advocate for cultural needs, economic needs, dignity, environment sustainability, and political empowerment for all Native Americans in Vermont.

Vision Statement.

The vision of the Vermont Commission of Native American Affairs is to ensure the Native American population in Vermont with racial equality, sustainability economy, family development, progressive growth, education, health and dental care and political empowerment.

Some action plans proposed: Elder Housing, daycare, business opportunities, arts & crafts support, and state-wide pow-wow.

Lucy moved to have the secretary prepared a draft a letter and a questionnaire to all the tribal chiefs requesting their highest needs of their people by the October 4th. Charlene seconded. Discussion was held. All agreed. Charlene will place a blurb and questionnaire in Mark Mitchell's VCNAA. Also place the questionnaire on our website. Lucy will help with the questionnaire.

The secretary will be responsible to assure commission information will be placed on our website and to process all correspondence accordingly.

2. Approve minutes of April 17, June 26 and September 18.

Charlene moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jeff seconded. All agreed.

3. Public Comment

John Moody would like to discuss with the commission regarding the 30 extended family bands in Vermont.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be October 9^{th} at 1pm - 4pm in Room 10 over at the State House. On the discussion will be the action plan from the surveys, organize action committees, and National Native American Month.

5. Announcements

Nulhegan will be having their gathering this weekend, starting Friday at 6pm, Saturday and Sunday at 10am at Brighton State Park, Vermont.

6. Future Items

a. Have Mary Johnson, VT Women's Business, placed on the November agenda.

Lucy moved to adjourned at 4:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene McManis Secretary