

Minutes of January 4, 2011



Members Present: Luke Willard, Chairman; Melody Walker, Vice Chair; Charlene McManis, secretary; Dawn Macie, Takara Matthews, Nathan Pero, Shirley Hook, David Vanslette, Fred W. Wiseman.

Guests Present: Doug Bent, Roger McManis, Carollee Reynolds, Chief Don Stevens.

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COMMISSION CHAIRMAN
Luke Willard
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COMMISSION
Charlene McManis, Secretary
Melody Walker Brook
Dawn Macie
Takara Matthews
Nathan E. Pero
Shirly Hook
David K. Vanslette
Fred W. Wiseman

This meeting was brought to order by Chairman Luke Willard at 5:00 pm at the Calvin Coolidge Conference, 6th floor, National Life Building, Montpelier, Vermont.

1. Approve Minutes of December 21, 2010

Charlene moved to approve the minutes with the amendment of adding Shirley Hook with Melody Walker Brook's name as the respectful recorders. Takara seconded. All agreed.

2. Application Review Status: Koasek of the Koas

Review panelist, Eloise Beil's report has not been submitted as of today. Discussion was held regarding William Haviland's report not addressing each criteria. Charlene moved to establish a time-frame for the submission of additional information. After examination of Act 107, Charlene withdrew her motion. No action was taken upon Koasek's application pending Eloise Beil's report and further review.

3. Application Review Status: Elnu Abenaki Tribe

Luke gave an overview of the work group's findings and presented a draft of the commission's report to the legislature. Luke asked if the commission has enough information regarding the application to make a decision to which the commission agreed. Luke asked for a roll call vote to recommend state recognition of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe to the General Assembly by saying [Yes] or deny by saying [No]. Takara [Yes]. Dawn [Yes]. Shirley [Yes]. Charlene [Yes]. Fred [Yes]. David [Yes]. Nathan [Yes]. Luke [Yes]. Fred moved to approve the commission's report and submit to the legislature after proofing and printing. David seconded. All agreed. Melody excused herself from all actions of this item.

4. Application Review Status: Nulhegan Abenaki Tribe

Melody facilitated this item and gave an overview of the work group's findings and presented a draft of the commission's report to the legislature. The commission agreed that sufficient information has been presented and review to make a decision of recommendation or denial to the General Assembly. Commissioners voted [Yes] to recommend state recognition of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation or [No] to deny. Takara [Yes]. Shirly [Yes]. Melody [Yes]. Charlene [Yes]. Fred [Yes]. David [Yes]. Nathan [Yes]. Charlene moved to approve the commission's report and submit to the legislature after proofing and printing. Takara seconded. All agreed. Luke and Dawn excused themselves from all actions regarding this item.

5. Promotion of “The Abenakis and Their Neighbors” Teacher’s Resource Guide

Discussion was held regarding promoting the resource guide. Luke will be preparing a press release. The commission echoed a statement on page two of the document, “THIS IS A LIVING DOCUMENT; IF YOU KNOW OF ANY ADDITIONS, CHANGES OR DELETIONS PLEASE CONTACT: Melody Walker, Vice-Chair.” After much discussion, it was decided to send an introductory letter to all social studies educators offering a PDF format on the VCNAA website and offer to mail a hard copy.

The Commission adjourned at 7:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlene McManis, Secretary