

Nevada Indian Commission
February 5, 2016
Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5500 Snyder Ave., Carson City, Nevada

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Buck Sampson	Alumni	✓	
Terri McBride	Knowledge of School		✓
Karyn deDufour	State Historic Preservation Office	✓	
Betty Badgett	State Buildings & Grounds	✓	
Meg McDonald	Knowledge of School	✓	
Rachel Delovio	Nevada State Museum	✓	
Skip Canfield	State Lands	✓	
Max Symonds	Knowledge of School	✓	

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer, Nevada Indian Commission

Others Present: Scott Carey, Project Manager, Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA); Cheryl Blomstrom, SISPA; Ron Bodnar, Supervisor, Stewart Buildings and Grounds; Bonnie Thompson, General Public; Martin Phillips, Grounds Supervisor, State Buildings and Grounds; Rupert Burt Powers, General Public

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. Buck Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:06am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

- II. Invocation
 - A. The invocation was given by Buck Sampson.

- III. Initial Public Comment
 - A. There were no initial public comments made at the meeting.

- IV. For Possible Action: Approval of December 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes
 - A. **With no changes made, Rachel Delovio motioned to approve the December 4, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Meg McDonald. Motion carried.**

- V. For Possible Action: Approval of Appointment of Representative Forms for the Stewart Advisory Committee.
 - A. Sherry Rupert reported two appointment forms have been received for the Stewart Advisory Committee - Terri McBride, Vice-Chair of the Stewart Advisory Committee and Karyn deDufour from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
 - B. **Rachel Delovio motioned to approve the appointment of representative forms for Terri McBride and Karyn deDufour, seconded Max Symonds. Motion carried.**

VI. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School

- A. 2014 Commission for Cultural Affairs Grant - Chris Ann Gibbons reported the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) had a 2014 Commission for Cultural Affairs (CCA) Grant in the amount of \$137,000 which funded a design development manual and complete construction documents for Building 1. In addition, the Commission submitted an application for the FY 16-17 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant (formerly the CCA Grant). In this grant cycle, the Commission asked for a portion of construction funding in the amount of \$360,016 for Building 1. Also, Chris said she has recently located the 1963 and 1969 Building 1 drawings, is doing some research on the 2009 discussion in regard to the windows in Building 1 and is still trying to locate the original source of rock used on the Stewart buildings. Lastly, the following project meetings have been held:
1. On December 8, 2015 NIC, SHPO and H&K Architects met with Mel Green, a Structural Engineer who completed a 2004 seismic report on the Stewart Facility. During the meeting, Mel gave input on the design development manual.
 2. On January 12, 2015 NIC, H&K Architects and the State Public Works Division (SPWD) met to discuss SHPO's review comments on the Design Development Manual and subsequently the response to SHPO from H&K Architects.
 3. On January 21, 2016 NIC, SPWD and H&K Architects met to discuss the construction documents. In addition, NIC, SHPO and H&K Architects met in regard to windows, doors, walkways and ramps.
 4. The next project meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2016 and will include NIC, H&K Architects, SHPO and SPWD.
- B. NV 150 Grant, Stewart Indian School Oral History Project - Chris reported that in March 2015 the NIC received funding in the amount of \$20,000 from the Trustees of the NV 150 Foundation for the Stewart Indian School Oral History Project. Since then, Chris said the NIC has met twice with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Shared History Department on the project. Also, UNR recently contacted the NIC as they have students ready to assist with the project. Chris said that the NIC has a concern in regard to ownership of the final interviews and NIC is still looking at hiring an Oral Historian to lead the project. In addition, JoAnne Peden contacted her yesterday to remind the NIC that she has film footage of alumni interviews and would still like to see the footage used in a documentary about the School. Sherry said that it may be possible to revise the scope work of the NV 150 grant to include the documentary.
- C. Positive Train Control, Cultural Resource Fund Grant - Sherry said the NIC is assisting SHPO in applying for this grant. The grant needs to display a strong partnership with Tribes and Sherry reported that to date the project has received three partnership letters from tribes. Karyn added this is round 2 of a national grant with separate funding for Tribes and SHPO Offices and that her office is submitting a \$50,000 grant proposal for an interpretive plan for the Stewart Indian School. A consultant will be hired to conduct interviews to get everyone's perspective on interpretation of the campus which includes over 65 buildings that are included on the National Register. Karyn said the grant

application is due Feb 15th and they will hopefully hear back on the status of the application at the end of March or beginning of April. Sherry added the NIC is working on reviewing the draft grant application and will get comments back to SHPO soon.

VII. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan

- A. Sherry reported the SPWD is working on hiring a consultant for the Master Plan project. Also, it has been decided that in addition to the master plan, marketing, business and interpretive plans are needed. The interpretive plan will identify themes that should be interpreted at Stewart and the marketing plan will discuss sustainability which includes ways to reach out to the public and keep them coming back. Sherry said the NIC is working on locating sources of funding for the interpretive and marketing plans and the business plan will be done in house.
- B. Sherry said to coincide with the Master Plan project, Peter Barton from the Division of Museums and History suggested that a core message statement be developed for the Stewart Indian School. Sherry said it is important to have a core message statement because it gives an overarching message and is something to take away when visiting Stewart. Karyn added that attitudes about Stewart changed over the years and that it is important to tell the story through today.
- C. Sherry reminded the Committee that a draft core message statement was presented at the last meeting and that all of the comments were taken into consideration when finalizing the statement. With assistance from Peter Barton, Sherry said the statement was finalized. Sherry read the following core message to the Committee: *“The Stewart Indian School changed the course of generation of American Indians. For more than 90 years American Indian children were removed from their homelands, family and culture with profound impacts on their lives. The Stewart Indian School Living Legacy preserves their stories and cultural legacy – Never to be forgotten.”*

VIII. Report on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project

- A. Martin Phillips reported they are currently working on gathering materials to recreate the stone planter which is a project from the Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Plan.
- B. Betty Badgett added the projects are moving along and she handed out a packet with the scope of work for the stone planter which included historic photos, detailed plans and a quote from artist Benjamin Victor to create the sculptures for the garden area. Betty said there will be a bidding process for the sculptures. Sherry added that the former Governor of the Pueblo of Pojoaque is an artist and has created beautiful sculptures for the Tribe’s resort. Betty also said they will meet with the NIC one more time on the project and then will section off the work area. Betty noted that work is estimated to begin on the stone planter on March 1st and completed on June 15th. Also, the project will straddle fiscal years which may include adding the trellises and purchasing supplies for the entryway. Karyn reminded the Committee that construction will be occurring on Building #1 so consideration should be taken as to which landscape projects may come in conflict with the building.

- C. Sherry noted the Stewart Landscape Preservation plan was done in 2009 and that is great to see that some of the projects have been accomplished and that others are in the planning stages.

IX. Update from Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance

- A. Scott Carey, Project Manager for the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) began by noting that SISPA is a private non-profit organization whose purpose is to raise funds to protect and preserve the unique history of the Stewart Indian School. Scott said that raising funds for the overall Stewart Indian School Living Legacy Project is critical to the State of Nevada's effort to protect and preserve this important piece of Nevada's history.
- B. Scott stated that over the past several months SISPA has undertaken several successful steps to set up a non-profit. The main priority for the organization in the coming months is to secure funding for operations and the Stewart Living Legacy which includes the rehabilitation of Buildings 1 & 2.
- C. Scott pointed out the newly created SISPA logo and said that it is modeled on the Carlisle Indian School preservation project's logo.
- D. SISPA is working on developing packages for fundraising and outreach. The fundraising package will be used for one on one meeting's or in front of groups when pursuing donations. The speaking package will be used for outreach to community groups. Sherry added that SISPA could utilize the Stewart Indian School marketing video in their outreach.
- E. SISPA is using Constant Contact to develop an email database of potential SISPA members, volunteers and donors. They are targeting legislative lobbyists, Federal, State, Tribal and Local officials, chambers of commerce, business leaders, Stewart alumni and others. They will continue to build this database and are looking for contacts to add. Scott said they are planning to send out their first e-mail blast in the next few weeks.
- F. Through a generous donation from AT&T, SISPA now has a phone number that people can call to get information. Scott said the phone number is 775-544-7269.
- G. Scott announced that SISPA's first fundraising event is being planned in conjunction with National Historic Preservation Month in May and the theme for the celebration is centered upon the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. Scott said that details for the event are still being worked out, but at this time they anticipate a guided walking tour of the campus. Scott noted that Cheryl Blomstrom has volunteered to help plan the event and that it is great to have her on board.
- H. Meg McDonald asked if SISPA has received any monetary donations. Scott replied they did receive some donations at the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction and added that they are definitely set up and ready to take donations.
- I. Scott noted that under the direction of Board Member Terri McBride, SISPA staff has begun to pursue grants to support the Stewart Living Legacy Project and funding for administrative costs related to SISPA. Also, all grants applied for by SISPA will be done in close coordination with NIC staff.
- J. Lastly, Scott shared SISPA's e-mail contact information and read a list of SISPA meetings since the last Stewart Advisory Committee meeting.

- K. Sherry mentioned the NIC is working with SISPA to submit a proposal to the NV150 Foundation to fund the interpretive and marketing plans for Stewart.

- X. For Possible Action: Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - A. Stewart Indian School Master Plan
 - B. Review and Approval of December 4, 2015 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 - C. SISPA Update
 - D. Grant and Fundraising Report
 - E. Letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Stewart Indian School Collection

- XI. For Possible Action: Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
 - A. Sherry said the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 1, 2016 from 9:00-11:00am at the Nevada Indian Commission.

- XII. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
 - A. Max Symonds shared that Stewart used to have its own Post Office and that it would be great to see the zip code reactivated.
 - B. Sherry said she has been contacted by UNLV in regard to hosting one of their alternative spring break trips that would involve learning more about the Stewart Indian School and American Indian culture. The trip is planned for the week of March 21st and the students will be at Stewart for five days. UNLV would like the NIC to coordinate 75% service learning and 25% recreation. Sherry said she is looking into the possibility of having the students stay on campus in the Stewart Gym. Also, Sherry said she is coming up with a list of projects for the students which may include fixing the fence at the Tahoe Indian Parish, cleaning up the historic Stewart Cemetery and assisting the Washoe Tribe in cleaning up the Catholic Church across the street. Lastly, Sherry said she will be working on coordinating presentations which will include a presentation on the Stewart Indian School. Scott added that part of the recreation could include the northern Nevada itinerary. Ron added that the students could help build and hang the bat houses on campus. It was also added that Jennifer Newmark from the Department of Wildlife could do a presentation on bats. Meg suggested the students help with repair of the two story rock house located in the Stewart Community. It was also suggested that the students could repaint the Stewart "S" and there could be a presentation on how to make arrowheads.
 - C. Sherry let the Committee know that she recently met with the Carson Sierra Youth Football League (CSYFL) and State Buildings and Grounds in regard to rehabilitating the Stewart track and field. CSYFL would like to partner with the State and the Washoe Tribe to benefit all youth in the community.
 - D. Chris reminded the Committee the NIC is now the contact for all use of the Stewart Gym which includes issuing keys and scheduling. The state and non-state user agreements have been revised and procedures for use of the Gym have been developed. Also, the Gym is now available to tribal organizations/individuals and tribal users fall under the NIC for insurance purposes. Sherry noted an e-mail should be sent out to Tribes about

use of the Stewart Gym. Betty added that Buildings and Grounds Leasing Services is under the impression that the NIC handles review of the insurance documents for use of the Stewart Gym by non-state agencies. Also, they do not issue use permits for the gym. Sherry replied that she was under the impression that Leasing Services handled the insurance. Betty said she will set up a meeting to discuss the matter.

- E. Sherry said the Stewart Father's Day Powwow will be held June 17-19, 2016 and the Powwow Committee is looking for donations for both the raffle and silent auction.
- F. Chris mentioned that Buildings and Grounds has done walkthroughs of all Stewart buildings, has put together a comprehensive report on the items in each building and would like to clean them out in the spring. Chris said the NIC is currently reviewing the information and asked if other agencies would like to review the information. Karyn said that SHPO would like to review the information and it was also mentioned that the Divisions of Museums and History may want to review the information.

XIII. Final Public Comments

- A. There were no final public comments made at the meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

- A. Max Symonds motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Skip Canfield. Motion carried.
- B. The meeting was adjourned at 11:43am.