

Nevada Indian Commission
April 4, 2014 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5500 Snyder Ave., Carson City, Nevada

Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission; Rachel Malloy, Anthropology Collections Manager, Nevada State Museum; William Oliver, Former Employee, Stewart Indian School and Vice-Chairman, Nevada Indian Commission; Meg McDonald, Member, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; Terri McBride, Ethnographer; Karyn de Dufour, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office; Shannon Mandell, Director, Pyramid Lake Museum; and Lovnit Kaur, Intern

- I. Welcome and Introduction
 - A. The invocation was performed by Sherry Rupert. She added that Andy Allen had passed away. He was an alumnus of the Stewart Indian School and a huge supporter. He was very dependable and would often participate in Stewart-related activities the Commission was hosting. Services will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014, in Schurz, Nevada. She added that there would be a viewing tonight. Meg McDonald also wanted to add that her thoughts and prayers were in Cedarville, CA, after a mass murder at their tribal council meeting killed 4 people, and wounded others.

- II. Initial Public Comment.
 - A. There was no public comment.

- III. Approval of February 14, 2014 Meeting Minutes
 - A. Terri McBride corrected Page 3, 8d, from Terri McBride to Karyn de Dufour. Rachel Malloy moved to accept the minutes with the correction, seconded by Meg McDonald. All were in favor. The motion carried.

- IV. Possible Approval of Stewart Advisory Committee Appointment of Representative Forms:
 - A. There were no forms for approval at this meeting.

- V. Presentation on Stewart Indian School Exhibit at Pyramid Lake Museum – Shannon Mandell, Director, Pyramid Lake Museum
 - A. Shannon introduced Lovnit, a visiting student from India. Shannon stated that an exhibit at the Pyramid Lake Museum was going through the annual change over. Ralph Burns suggested a Stewart Indian School exhibit. She stated that they were in the process of digitizing a collection of Stewart yearbooks. She said that a lot of tribal members are looking for family members. She said the goal was to display a historical account of the past, present and future of the Stewart Indian School. The display case is approximately 20 feet. She explained that there are kiosks for an overview of the exhibit and oral histories. She is currently looking for more oral histories and inquired as to whether the Stewart facility had some. Karen said that the State museum has photos. Sherry stated that Stewart has no oral histories on video. She said that Joanne Pedan, a committee member, would have oral histories. She included that The Stewart Indian School Trail only has oral histories specific to the Stewart Trail. She added that the Stewart Indian School website has on the audio recordings as podcasts.
 - B. Shannon advised that last year's event was a success. She said that over 100 tribal members and over 100 members of the general public attended. Sherry stated

that many of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal members had attended the Stewart Indian School.

- C. Sherry added that currently, there is a lot of activity with the Stewart facility. She feels it is important to bring more awareness to the public and target legislators to attend the opening of the new exhibit. Shannon said that the exhibit will run for one year. Kevin Glover, from the National Museum of the American Indian, is currently working on a boarding school exhibit.
 - D. Bonnie made a motion to move forward and solidify a partnership with the Pyramid Lake Museum and the Stewart Indian School, seconded by Rachel. The motion carried.
- VI. Update on Planning for the 2014 Stewart Father's Day Powwow
- A. Sherry made a brief statement that the Stewart Indian School received three grants. A Projects Related to Tourism grant from the Nevada Commission on Tourism in the amount of \$7,500.00 is for tents. There was no allocation for picnic tables or a mobile stage at this point. A marketing grant from the Nevada Commission on Tourism was awarded in the amount of \$2,650.00, and the third from the Nevada Arts Council was for \$3,296.00. She added that the grant applications for 2015 will be awarded in May, 2014.
 - B. Sherry said the t-shirt design had been finalized and the shirt will be on a $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve, baseball shirt, using colors of a medicine wheel. She confirmed the host drum will be the Sage Point Singers.
 - C. Sherry also added that the Stewart Father's Day Powwow had partnered with the Carson City Visitor's Bureau (CCVB). The CCVB had created the event flyer and also printed flyers and posters. She added that the Powwow is a Sesquicentennial Signature Event. This designation is used in a website and media releases. There will be 2 cakes at the event this year: A Father's Day cake and a Sesquicentennial cake. The sesquicentennial events will end in October 2014.
 - D. Chris said the taco vendor slots were already full.
 - E. Sherry thanked the Washoe Tribe for providing the certificate of insurance for the special use permit. The Alumni reception will be held in building 1 of the Stewart Indian School. Chris was able to have Buildings and Grounds turn the water on to the building, so it can be used more readily for events. Raffle tickets are currently available for sale.
- VII. Report on Meetings Held in Regard to the Stewart Indian School Preservation Project – Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission
- A. The Nevada Indian Commission hosted the Carson City meeting of the Nevada Arts Council's strategic planning series. The group met in Building 1, on March 13, 2014, at 5:30pm. Over 40 people attended. This was the test run for the building for future needs. There was running water and electricity. Chris stated that many people didn't know the property was accessible to the public, nor did they know the history of the Stewart Indian School.
 - B. Sherry said that the Arts Town Meetings are generally held at Brewery Arts Center. She said that the Arts Council wanted something different. Sherry thanked Chris for all her efforts. She added that this meeting was important because it provided awareness about the Stewart Indian School to other local entities, as well as the general public.
 - C. Sherry said there is need for a National Landmark Subcommittee and that notices will be sent out, sometime in May, 2014. She said that this will be a brainstorming session.
 - D. Sherry had an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) meeting with the State Public Works Board (SPWB), in February, 2014. The SPWB wanted to make structural changes

to Building #3 (the Nevada Indian Commission Office) that would violate compliance with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Sherry made Rebecca, from SHPO, aware of the plans. Karen advised that any further construction, plans, etc., must have SHPO's approval first. Sherry stated that a master plan is needed because there currently is not one for the Stewart Complex. Karen added that Dave Marlo is very active in this project. She also said that a master plan is necessary prior to building any ramps or ADA compliant fixtures.

- E. Sherry stated that the Nevada Indian Commission put in a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for buildings 1 and 2. The Commission requested \$2.199 million dollars. This funding would be used for both buildings: to bring building 1 up to code as a museum and cultural center, and to create a welcome center in building 2. Those preliminary estimates were gathered from schematics and architectural drawings. This will bring awareness to the Stewart Facility for capital projects, separate from budget requests. The money would be housed with the State Public Works Board, with input from the Nevada Indian Commission.
- F. Sherry had been involved in discussions with State Lands. State Lands is looking at the potential sale of certain properties. Funds received would be placed in an account for the preservation of the Stewart Indian School. These funds would be separate from capital funds. Legislation would be required to allocate those funds, therefore, State Lands will be writing a Bill Draft Request (BDR). The Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs is also in support of the Stewart Indian School and is looking at potentially reallocating some funds to support the Stewart project. Sherry continued with saying that this is a perfect time to partner with Pyramid Lake, as mentioned at the beginning of the meeting. The Nevada Indian Commission is moving forward with a BDR to change the statute that currently limits the Commission's authority, and will broaden the services provided, in addition, to add language about the Stewart Indian School. Currently, there is no statute, so legislation is needed. Sherry stated that she is confident that she now understands the revisions that are needed in the statute and where the Indian Commission is going. She also added that the Governor is very supportive of this initiative.

VIII. Fundraising Subcommittee Report – Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission

- A. 2013 Nevada Historic Preservation Fund Grant Award - Chris read the minutes from February, 2014 meeting. She added that the contracts are ready to go. Two of the three needs for building repair, are immediate. She is waiting to see if Buildings and Grounds will have matching funds. In addition, she was waiting for a determination to be made about the roofing materials to be used. She believed that it would be treated cedar shakes. Buildings and Grounds was going to get a sample for SHPO.
- B. 2014 Commission for Cultural Affairs Grant Award - On March 6, 2014, The Nevada Indian Commission received the highest grant, in the amount of \$180,000, for seismic and structural retrofits. Chris received an email from Rebecca Palmer, SHPO, advising that the board unanimously voted to sell bonds April 2, 2014. The funding should be available April 22, then funding agreements will be executed.

IX. Discussion on Stewart Indian School Nevada Day Parade Entry

- A. Sherry stated that the Nevada Day Parade will take place on November 1, 2014. She also stated that the Nevada Indian Commission supports a parade entry of the Stewart Indian School on even years. She said we need to start thinking about the entry and what it would include. Applications are usually released in July and due by September, 2014.

- B. Meg is working on a Princess Reception in honor of the Centennial Indian Princess celebration. The princesses from 1964 will be honored with a reception and photos. However, funding is needed. Meg thought that it would be nice to have the women, or their grandchildren, wear their actual dresses from that event. Meg will contact the Governor's office, and state senators about obtaining certificates for each of them.
 - C. The conversation continued with other ideas for regalia, float design and other details for the Nevada Day Parade. Karen suggested looking at float entries from 1964.
 - D. Deborah was advised to try and locate someone to donate a truck. The idea was also brought up to have a bar-b-que at the Stewart Indian School, after the parade, for public awareness.
- X. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- A. Updates from Meg and her Sesquicentennial Indian Princess Committee Nevada Day activities
 - B. Chris will update on any meetings, Pyramid Lake, the Powwow, U.N.R. Field School inventory items.
 - C. Sherry will update on the budget and the bill draft requests that she is working on with the Attorney General's office.
 - D. Chris will give an update on the progress at Building 2.
- XI. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
- A. The next meeting will be held at the Nevada Indian Commission office in 5500 Carson City, Nevada on June 6, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.
- XII. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
- A. Sherry announced that the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference is scheduled for April 22-24, 2014, in Incline Village. She advised that today, April 4, 2014, was the last day to register for the early bird rate. Sherry continued by saying that tourism is part of economic development and empowers native voices. Roger Saterstrom, from Tauck, Inc. (one of the oldest and largest tour companies in North America), will provide information on why he includes certain things in a tour, how to package tours and price them.
 - B. Sherry stated that on Wednesday, April 23, 2014, the Conference will include a tour. The tour guide for April 24, 2014, will be Ben Rupert. Darrel Cruz and some elders have been involved with Donner Memorial State Park. They, and the museum, will be improving the exhibit about the Washoe Tribe. They are working on placing artifacts into their exhibits, with the approval of the Washoe Tribal Committee. The tour will then proceed to Meeks Bay Resort, with demonstrations, to include a grinding stone. The tour will continue to Taylor Creek for a demonstration of fish trapping and on to Cave Rock. Darrel Cruz and John Dayberry, helped preserve the rock by removing the pitons from rock climbers. Ben will explain the spiritual connection to Cave Rock. The conference attendees currently include 8 tribal leaders. The focus will be to enlighten tribal leaders to the potential economic advantages in the tourism business with ideas such as birding centers, cultural centers, tribal centers, photo tours, and the advantages for rural communities, such as South Fork and Yomba. Most tribes do not have their own tourism departments.
 - C. Chris said this will be a busy spring for Stewart presentations. With tours set for the Department of Health and Human Services, Carson City Leadership, and school groups coming up from Las Vegas, the Nevada Indian Commission will be busy.

XIII. Final Public Comment

A. Terry McBride said that Joanne Peden's work would be good to have for the write up for the nomination designating Stewart Indian School an historic landmark since it has oral histories. Meg added that a thorough documentation is needed to become a National Landmark.

XIV. Adjournment was called at 10:58am. Rachel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Meg. The motion carried.