

Nevada Indian Commission  
 April 1, 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 Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer, Nevada Indian Commission; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III

Others Present: Ron Bodnar, Supervisor, Stewart Buildings and Grounds; Guy Parra, Grounds Supervisor, Buildings and Grounds; Larry Hale, Retired Supervisor, Stewart Buildings and Grounds; Gracie Dick, General Public

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - A. Buck Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:03am 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 February 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes
  - A. With no changes made, Skip Canfield motioned to approve the February 4, 2016 meeting minutes, seconded by Max Symonds. Motion carried.
  
- V. For Possible Action: Approval of Appointment of Representative Forms for the Stewart Advisory Committee.
  - A. Sherry Rupert reported one appointment form had been received for the Stewart Advisory Committee – Bonnie Thompson, a member of the General Public.
  - B. Terri McBride motioned to approve the Appointment of Representative form for Bonnie Thompson, seconded by Meg McDonald. 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) is working with H&K Architects, State Public Works Division and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to complete construction documents for Building #1 (future Stewart Indian School Cultural Center). The construction documents were funded by a 2014 Commission for Cultural Affairs (CCA) Grant and the NIC has submitted an application for the FY 2016/2017 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant (formerly the CCA Grant). In this grant cycle, the Commission has requested funding for structural repair, strengthening and seismic retrofit of Building #1 in the amount of \$360,000. Buck asked when H&K will be back and Chris said they will return next week for a meeting.
  - B. NV 150 Grant, Stewart Indian School Oral History Project - Chris stated that the NIC is currently working with the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs on drafting a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Stewart Alumni oral history project. Funding for the project in the amount of \$20,000 was received from the trustees of the NV1 50 Foundation and will be used to hire an oral historian to interview and document the school's alumni. Chris shared that the NIC will update the Committee on when the RFP is submitted.
  - C. Positive Train Control, Cultural Resource Fund Grant Submission – Sherry reported that this grant is a collaboration with the SHPO. The NIC requested \$50,000 to go towards an interpretive plan which is part of the overall Master Plan at the Stewart Facility. The grant requires strong support from the tribes and the NIC in turn received letters from four tribes agreeing to be the NIC's "partner" if the grant is awarded to the NIC. This means that the tribes would be able to give their input on what they believe the most important places on the campus are and how they would interpret those places. Committee member and officer of the SHPO, Karyn deDufour recently went to Washington, D.C. to check the status of the grant submission. Karyn informed the Committee not to expect a reply until April or May 2016.
- VII. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan
- A. Sherry reported the NIC has received Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for design and construction documents for Building #2 (the Welcome and Information Center) and funding to develop a Master Plan for the entire Stewart facility. On March 8, 2016, the State Board of Examiners approved the \$225,900 contract for both projects and awarded the contract to H&K Architects. The architects want to meet with the NIC and tour the facility. Sherry also stated during the Master Plan process, there will be an opportunity for input from the Committee, the community as well as Stewart alumni. She stated that the first meeting will be mostly informational and then the meetings will get more specific as the project progresses.
  - B. Sherry also mentioned that Governor Sandoval had purposely set aside this particular contract so that she would be given the opportunity to speak more about Stewart and the projects that are going on out here. Sherry said that while she was unable to attend the Board of Examiners meeting, she had prepared a document highlighting the importance of the Master Plan and the future use of the Stewart Indian School campus.

VIII. Report on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project

- A. Ron reported that work on the stone planter is on hold due to needing to determine the materials used and the exact location it should be placed in. Guy Parra commented that the decision will be made once B&G meets with Rebecca Palmer, Administrator of SHPO. Ron went on to say that B&G will also be planting a garden on the east side of Building 1. Additionally, he said that contractors will be coming to look at replacing 840 square feet of the sidewalk on Wa-Pai-Shone Avenue. Sherry said she received an email from Betty Badgett about meeting with Ms. Palmer about the fountain. Ron then said that he will be talking to a man from Montana about the bronze statues today. Sherry reported that there have been several meetings with the Carson Sierra Football League who are interested in rehabilitating the track and field out here at Stewart. She said that it would be a huge benefit for the youth in the community. Terri concurred and said that she would love to see families and community members enjoying the field and bringing it back to life. Ron offered that meetings for the track and field rehabilitation are on the second Tuesday of each month.

IX. Update from Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance

- A. Terri McBride for the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) began by saying that SISPA applied for a grant from the NV 150 Foundation. SISPA asked for and received \$25,000 to complete a video documentary about the Stewart Indian School with Joanne Peden. She said Chris and Sherry will administer the grant to make sure the proper facts are recorded. She anticipates that Joanne will use past oral histories to be included in the documentary.
- B. Terri also reported that they are researching private foundations to apply for money. She said they already have three dozen organizations to start with. They have begun drafting introductory letters and looking at the application process online. She said that not all organizations have a website; some just need to be written to. She said that SISPA is looking at organizations that are interested in supporting causes for American Indians, arts and culture, history, museums, historic preservation, as well as capital and infrastructure. Terri said that SISPA is currently waiting for the determination letter from the IRS about being an official nonprofit 501(c) 3. She said that organizations that they have been approaching want to see that designation. Chris commented that SISPA works closely with the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) to make sure grants aren't overlapping. Terri said it's important to complement each other and not compete against each other. Chris said the NIC has given SISPA three priorities to focus on: funding the interpretive plan, the Stewart marketing plan, and also construction for Building 1.
- C. Terri reported to the group that a fundraising event called "Under the Stewart Stars" will be held on May 21, 2016. It will be held outdoors in the evening. A catered dinner, entertainment, and attendees will have the opportunity to tour some of the buildings on campus. Buck asked Terri about the type of entertainment that will be at the fundraising event. Chris replied that Scott is working on hiring a drum group.
- D. Terri reported that Scott Carey is now employed with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. While he is no longer the Program Director, Scott is still volunteering and will be doing a

membership drive once the letter from the IRS has been received. Meg asked when Terri anticipates the letter will be received. Terri said it takes about six to eight months from the beginning of the process to receive the approval letter.

- E. Terri asked the Committee to think about people that SISPA can solicit for funds.
  - F. Buck asked Terri if SISPA will be having a booth at Native American Heritage Night at the Reno Bighorns game on April 2, 2016 and Terri said they weren't. Buck handed out flyers about the event to the group.
- X. Update on Planning the Powwow
- A. Sherry reported that the Stewart Father's Day Powwow will be held June 17-19, 2016 at the Stewart Facility. This year the Powwow has been awarded a Nevada Commission on Tourism Marketing Grant in the amount of \$2,000 as well as a 2016 Nevada Arts Council Project Grant in the amount of \$4,691. Also, the host drum will be the Blood River Singers from Porterville, CA and for the first time there will be gourd dancing at the event. In addition, vendor booth fees have been increased, the t-shirt design is complete, request for donation letters have gone out and the Stewart Indian School Alumni Reception will be held Thursday, June 16, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00pm in the Stewart Gym.
  - B. Sherry asked that members of the Committee take letters to the community in search of sponsors. Also, if any member of the group wishes to donate an item for the raffle or silent auction, it would be greatly appreciated.
  - C. Chris updated the Committee that Tribal letters went out.
  - D. Chris asked the Committee to think of alumni to honor and passed around the alumni reception flyer.
  - E. Ron commented that there are 76 more days until the Powwow.
- XI. Report on University of Las Vegas (UNLV) Alternate Break Trip to the Stewart Indian School, March 21-25, 2016.
- A. Sherry reported that students from the UNLV's Alternative Break program came to Stewart to collaborate with the NIC and the Washoe Tribe. The eleven women cleaned up the Stewart Cemetery and repaired the fence at the Tahoe Indian Parish. Sherry thanked B&G for assisting with the coordination of this project. The students also cleaned out the Catholic Church across the street. The NIC facilitated recreation by suggesting they visit Pyramid Lake and touring Lake Tahoe. Michon Eben, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer from the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony came to Stewart and gave a cultural presentation. It was very interactive and the students learned so much. Sherry said that Nevada Appeal reporter, Teri Vance came and interviewed the students prior to their departure. Chris then passed the article around to the group.
- XII. For Possible Action: Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- A. Stewart Indian School Master Plan
  - B. Review and Approval of April 1, 2016 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
  - C. SISPA Update
  - D. Grant and Fundraising Report

- E. Update from the Committee on getting the support letters out to their friends in the community.
- XIII. For Possible Action: Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
- A. Chris said the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2016 from 9:00-11:00am at the Nevada Indian Commission.
- XIV. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
- A. Meg asked Terri if she was still part of the Cultural Commission. Terri acquiesced and said that applications are available online via the Carson City Government website and will be due April 15, 2016. Sherry mentioned that the Nevada Day Powwow should apply for this funding and that the Washoe Tribe Chairman had asked Sherry for marketing assistance for that event. Terri reported that the Cultural Commission's Board of Supervisors approved a 1% room tax to pay for an arts and culture employee for the City as well.
  - B. Terri asked Skip about the land ownership issue. Skip said that the land is not State land. He stated that money and time got diverted for other landscape projects, but that he agrees that the issue needs to be revisited at a later date.
  - C. Chris reminded the Committee about the Tribal Tourism Conference to be held on April 27- 28, 2016 at the Governor's Mansion. The Nevada State Museum will host the opening reception and Chris said that members of the Nevada State Museum will be there to present on Cultural Collections Management, including committee member Rachel Delovio. Sherry invited the Committee members to attend if they are able as it is a great place to network and much of what the NIC is doing at Stewart is tourism. Sherry went on to say that tribes and tribal members can use scholarships for registration.
  - D. Chris mentioned that the NIC is in charge of the scheduling, keys and insurance for the Stewart Gym. All State agencies that use the gym have been good about calling to schedule and adhere to the new rules about its usage. Chris commented that if there is a tribe or tribal member that wants to use the gym and it is approved, the insurance will fall under the NIC. All non-state entities require a \$2 million insurance policy.
  - E. Sherry mentioned that the Washoe Tribe will be having their Earth Day event at Stewart and that the Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting at Stewart in June. The Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting will also be at Stewart in June. Sherry also mentioned that the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Summit will be held at the end of June as well.
  - F. Terri commented that she had spoken to Carson City Supervisor Karen Abowd and that she is interested in having a "Farm to Fork" local event at Stewart in the near future. Terri reminded the group how important agriculture was to Stewart in the early days.
  - G. Meg commented on the painting of the quail by Ben Rupert and the meticulous beading of the Pyramid piece on the wall of the NIC.
  - H. Terri said that Great Basin Native Artists have an exhibit at the Community Center right now until July 6, 2016.

XV. Final Public Comments

A. There were no final comments at the meeting.

XVI. Adjournment

A. Terri motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rachel. Motion carried.

B. The meeting was adjourned at 10:18am.