

Nevada Indian Commission
 August 12, 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	✓	
Bonnie Thompson	Knowledge of School		✓

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Program Officer, Nevada Indian Commission; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III, Nevada Indian Commission

Others Present: Neena Laxalt, Chair, Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA); Max Hershenow, H&K Architects; Martin Phillips, State Buildings and Grounds; Jess Hughston, Member of the Public; Ron Bodnar, Stewart Buildings and Grounds; Lisa Menante, Secretary, SISPA

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. Buck Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:08 am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
 - B. Jess Hughston introduced herself as a graduate student from the University of Massachusetts; the Stewart Indian School is the subject of her thesis.

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

- III. Initial Public Comment
 - A. Terri asked for some Indian Territory brochures to display at the Markleeville Museum, where she is now working part time.

- IV. Approval of June 3, 2016 Meeting Minutes
 - A. Sherry found two areas that need correcting: For Item IX, number C, “The Governor” should be added to the beginning of the sentence, “The Governor shared with the cabinet that he enjoyed the SISPA event”. Also, for Item X, number C, “business” should be changed to the “businesses” in the sentence pertaining to Rupert’s Auto Body. Terri made a motion to approve the June 2, 2016 meeting minutes with corrections and Karyn seconded. Motion carried.

- V. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan and Stewart Welcome and Information Center
- A. Max said the Cultural Center construction documents are done and are now at the State Public Works Division (SPWD) and the Welcome Center construction documents will be turned in next week. Max said that the Welcome Center and the Cultural Center will be a combined Capital Improvement Project (CIP) instead of being split up. Sherry clarified and said that the reason they were separated in the first place was that the Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant (CCCHP) awarded funding for design and construction documents for the Cultural Center, so it was pulled out of the CIP. After it was pulled out, design and construction documents for the Welcome Center and the Master Plan were left. Max said he has given budget numbers to the State and he feels positive that the projects will be approved by the Legislature. Terri asked Max if he is talking about actual construction, not just planning and he said yes. Sherry said that on August 25, 2016, the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) will present it to the State Public Works Board (SPWB), who will form a list and then it gets submitted to the Governor's Office for his approval and submittal to the Legislature. The Legislature will then decide which projects move forward. Sherry commented that she feels positive that it has a good chance of getting through because of the support Stewart has received from Governor Sandoval and she reminded the Committee that the Stewart Indian School is specifically named in the State Strategic Plan to be completed by December 2018. Sherry also said that the NIC is in the process of updating their strategic plan and will make sure it aligns with the State plan. Terri commented she is hopeful that SISPA will lobby and provide testimony when the legislative session begins so there can be a coordinated effort in support of the Stewart Indian School. Karyn asked Max if the Master Plan is up for the CIP too and Max said no. Sherry clarified that excess lodging tax funds have been identified through the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs (DTCA). \$325,000 will be going towards various Stewart projects and \$75,000 will be used for refurbishing Building 4 to house two new staff members for the Cultural Center. There is also funding for the Interpretive Plan, Marketing Study, and Business Plan, as long as the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) approves it on August 23, 2016. The NIC would like to add this as an endorsement to the existing H&K contract.
- B. Max said H&K has a contract for a Master Plan at Stewart to include the Interpretive Plan, Business Plan, and Marketing Study, but in the last few months have decided that they need to broaden the scope and get a planning team together to complete the market study and test the idea of cultural tourism. Max said the Master Plan will be put on hold temporarily so that the Interpretive Plan and Market Study can be completed. Karyn said that SHPO is very appreciative of H&K Architects taking a step back and figuring out what the Stewart Indian School really needs. Meg asked who will be involved with the market study and Max named Gallagher and Associates. They have been involved with similar projects and are museum professionals. In preparation for the IFC meeting, Sherry said she will be meeting with Adrienne Horn of Museum Management Consultants (MMC) to discuss each component on what they are proposing. Meg asked if the Stewart Indian School has been mentioned in the strategic plan before and Sherry responded that this is the first time there has been a strategic plan for the State of Nevada.

- VI. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School
- A. 2014 Commission for Cultural Affairs Grant – Chris said that the construction documents received from H&K Architects are extensive, but very exciting because it is the last of the planning before construction begins. Chris said that the only thing left on this grant is paying project management and inspection fees to the SPWD for their oversight of this project. Chris also said that there were also some miscellaneous construction costs such as a limited asbestos survey, selective demolitions, as well as some electrical work that needed to be done totaling, \$24,050.00. Sherry asked if that was the last of the fees for that grant and Chris said she believes this is it. Sherry asked Chris to confirm this. Betty suggested that Chris contact Natasha Kepler for answers on whether the Commission will be receiving any more invoices.
 - B. 2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant Award (formerly the Commission for Cultural Affairs) – Chris reported that \$147,000 has been awarded to the NIC to fund structural repair, strengthening and seismic retrofit of Building #1. The Commission is working on a revised scope of work and budget to SHPO so that a funding agreement can be signed for the project. This amount will not cover the entire retrofit, however. Chris said that although the NIC didn't receive the amount that was requested, the NIC is thankful for the portion that was awarded.
 - C. NV 150 Grant, Stewart Indian School Oral History Project – The NIC drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) and is now in the process of reviewing the three proposals that have been received. As soon as the individual is chosen, the contract process will begin through the State of Nevada and the \$20,000 will be awarded. Chris said that once this individual has been hired, the \$25,000 documentary project on the Stewart Indian School will begin shortly thereafter. Fortunately, SISPA already received the \$25,000 grant so the funds will be easier to access. Meg asked who the individuals competing for the project are and Chris reported that JoAnne Peden, Alicia Barber, and Terri McBride have submitted proposals.
 - D. Update on Positive Train Control, Cultural Resource Fund Grant Submission – Karyn reported that SHPO originally applied for \$50,000, but was awarded \$40,000 instead. Karyn explained that freight railroads were building Positive Train Control towers all across the country and were fined several million dollars for violating Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Act states that federal agencies must consult with federally-recognized Indian tribes when a project may affect a historic property of religious and cultural significance to the tribe. Karyn said the money will be awarded by a private entity and given to tribes and State Historic Preservation Offices that were affected. The funds will be distributed through rounds and so far, SHPO has received \$10,000 for project management. Karyn said the SHPO can't spend the money until the October IFC meeting. Karyn invited Committee members to a workshop on Project Management, introducing attendees to tools and techniques such as Scopes of Work, Timelines, Stakeholder Identification and Management, and Risk Analysis. This training will be on Friday, September 30, 2016 from 9:00am-4:00pm at the Bryan Building in Carson City. Contact Karyn at 775-684-3447 for more information.

- VII. Report on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project
- A. Martin reported to the group that B&G has been working on the stone planter and getting that completed. Betty stated they had some mishaps with the first attempt as the person in charge wanted to rush the project and it didn't work. The grout was redone and the placement of the rock that was used before wasn't in the correct place. Betty mentioned that she has received proposals for the bronze statues, but that a decision needs to be made on the correct look before that project can proceed.
 - B. Martin commented that B&G is running low on the original stone. Jess asked where all the stones came from and the Committee members answered her by saying they are found all over Nevada.
 - C. The Committee needs to decide on the new signage in the front entryway. Where will the sign be? Will it be off to the side? Or on an archway? What will it say? Sherry asked if the current sign will be replaced and Betty said that decision needs to be made as well. Sherry asked Ron if there are hazardous materials out at the Stewart campus. He said that he would ask the Fire Marshal and update the Committee at the next meeting. Perhaps the HazMat sign will be able to be removed. Buck mentioned that he has noticed signs that say, "State Property, No Trespassing." Betty agreed that some of the signs sound so restrictive and instead of people feeling comfortable about walking around the campus, they may feel hindered by such signs. Betty said engineering work needs to be done for the trellises by the Auditorium, Building #6, and Building #89.
 - D. Betty mentioned the cleanup of some of the buildings that the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) has been using as storage in addition to Willow Bill's reindeer in the Dining Hall. Betty said she spoke to SPWD Administrator, Gus Nunez, and they have decided to allow Willow Bill to pull the reindeer out at Christmastime and take them with him. Sherry asked Betty about designated storage and Betty said if storage is identified, everyone will need to pay a fee. Terri offered that perhaps storage could be utilized at the old prison.
 - E. Betty wants to create Request for Use forms because B&G doesn't have anything like that currently in place. Tim Bunting at Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) called Betty and asked to use part of the gym for training, permanently. The Committee disagrees with this idea because Stewart is going in a different direction and the NIC needs to make sure activities are conducive with the vision out here at Stewart. Meg asked if there have been other entities that want to use the gym. Sherry commented that a youth group from the Stewart Community will be using the gym regularly to play basketball. Betty stated that she really wants to work on not only creating a process in which the new form would be used, but can be reviewed and decided upon by a committee. Chris mentioned that it would be helpful for storage inquiries too. She told the Committee that not long ago, she had someone call and say that they heard the Stewart Facility was a place to store items no longer needed and Chris told the person that he was misinformed and shared what Stewart is all about. Chris went on to say that this subject should also be mentioned in the Master Plan. Sherry told Betty that the NIC would like to be part of the committee that decides which gym requests will be approved.

Buck shared that it would be great for a sign that says “Moccasin Square Garden” to be put up by the gym because that is what it used to be called.

VIII. Update from Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance

A. Neena introduced Lisa Menante as the new Secretary-Treasurer for SISPA and mentioned that she has a lot of experience, including working with Neena on a project to preserve Lake Tahoe. Neena reported that SISPA is beginning to work on grants and Sherry recommended that a meeting be held to prioritize projects for SISPA after August 23, 2016. Neena was happy to report that SISPA has received the non-profit status and will bring copies of all the documentation for the Committee to view at the next meeting. Neena said that she will do some pro bono lobbying for Stewart during the legislative session. Neena commented that Stewart sells itself and that it would be important to possibly invite the legislators to come to Stewart and have a luncheon for them. Neena suggested to Sherry that they meet to discuss possible schedules of when to invite the legislators out to Stewart. Sherry then mentioned the Tribal Legislative Forum that occurs each January before the legislative session begins and that legislators can come out and tour Stewart that day as well.

IX. Report on the 2016 Stewart Father’s Day Powwow, June 17-19, 2016

A. Sherry thanked Karyn for volunteering and reported to the Committee that the Powwow keeps getting larger every year, so it is very important to have volunteers help out, especially to help keep the grounds clean. Sherry reported that two grants helped fund the Powwow this year including a Division on Tourism Marketing Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 and a Nevada Arts Council Project Grant in the amount of \$4,691.00. Sherry went on to say that there were a total of eight drums, including the Blood River Singers from Porterville, CA as the host drum. They have been invited back for next year’s event. There were about 35 vendors and the T-shirt sales went well as there are only a few T-shirts left for purchase. Sherry stated that there was a new element to the powwow in which the Stewart Father’s Day Powwow Committee partnered with Community Cars of Carson City who gave away a vehicle to a family in need. Sherry commented that the Alumni Reception was held in the gym this year, but may not be used again next year as the gym was just too big. The honorees at the reception were Flora Greene, Walt Kizer of the Washoe Tribe, and posthumously awarded Andrew Allen of the Walker River Paiute Tribe. Sherry reported that the Powwow Committee had a debriefing meeting on July 21, 2016 to go over everyone’s thoughts on how the event went. During this meeting, the Host Staff and Host Drum were shared as well as some photos that may be used for 2017’s Powwow flyer. Sherry reported the data received from the surveys that the Division on Tourism compiled: 70% of people came from out of town; 27% said it was their first time attending the Powwow; 50% stayed in hotels; \$364.00 was spent per traveler; and 54% came to Carson City specifically for the Powwow. Sherry said she can now go into the community and utilize these statistics about how the Powwow is contributing to the economy. Karyn suggested that maybe next year the Powwow can have an ongoing recording station where the alumni can record their stories. Buck commented that everybody has a story.

- X. For Possible Action: Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - A. Review and Approval of August 12, 2016 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 - B. Master Plan Update
 - C. Grants Update
 - D. SISPA Update
 - E. American Indian Achievement Award Banquet and Silent Auction – November 19, 2016
 - F. Update on the status of the letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) requesting the Stewart Indian School collection be returned to the NIC.

- XI. For Possible Action: Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
 - A. Sherry said the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2016 from 9:00-11:00am at the Nevada Indian Commission.

- XII. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
 - A. Sherry reported that the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) will be holding its annual convention at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV. They will be holding a social powwow for all to attend on Friday, October 7, 2016.
 - B. Meg commented that Carson City has hired a new cultural coordinator and wonders whether they will be helpful to the NIC and Sherry replied that Terri McBride is on the Cultural Commission and has spoken about Stewart at the meetings. Sherry did say that he will have to be invited to the campus for a tour.
 - C. Sherry will be attending a Stewart Indian School reunion on November 5, 2016, in Arizona. The planning committee invited Sherry to attend and will also introduce her to tribal leadership there. She will share information on the Stewart Indian School and all of the exciting things that are happening.
 - D. Buck said he spoke to JoAnne Peden and she said that she is going to interview four alumni from McDermitt, NV. He also spoke solemnly about the fire at Sutcliffe, NV and said there was much devastation.
 - E. Meg complimented the NIC staff on the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Summit that was held on June 28-30, 2016. Sherry said a “Next Steps” meeting was held on August 10, 2016 and it was decided that a coalition will be formed and housed at the Nevada Indian Commission. The coalition will focus on the Bi-State area only. One of the topics that consistently came up was commercial pine nut picking and how the pickers often go before it is time for harvest. When the Indian people see these pickers, they don’t know who to call. Neena asked who the commercial pickers are and Sherry said she doesn’t know. Bill Dunkelberger, Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest Supervisor said that after hearing the concerns of the tribal people at the TEK Summit, his office will no longer issue commercial pine nut picking, with the exception of White Pine County. Unfortunately though, there are only six law enforcement officers to enforce these permits within the Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest. Sherry stated the other federal land management agencies are making phone calls and having these discussions as well. Sherry said that a balance needs to be made between the Native people and the land managing agencies so that areas can be set aside for protection. Neena suggested getting congressional representatives like Mark Amodei involved.

XIII. Final Public Comments

A. There were no final public comments.

XIV. Adjournment

A. Karyn motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Betty. Motion carried.

B. The meeting was adjourned at 11:19am.